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Socio-economic Analysis of Rural Youth Workers in Punjab

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This paper investigates to find socio-economic analysis of rural youth in Punjab. By using primary data which is collect through survey of 550 youth respondents of three districts of rural Punjab, this paper examines the profile of youth on the basis of caste, religion, age and type of family system. For this purpose, we randomly selected youth respondents between ages 15-29 year. The study makes an attempt to find out the socio-economic background of youth workers. The paper examines the living conditions of youth workers, their status of income and debt, size of family land holding and occupation of family. The paper also discusses about the literacy level of youth workers and their family.

[**Keywords :** Rural youth, Workers, Living conditions, Status of income and debt, Size of family land holding, Occupation of family]

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1. Introduction

Youth constitute an important segment of the society. Youth consist 16.2 per cent of the world population. One third of youth population lives in developing world. So, it is important to examines the socio-economic status of the rural households in which the rural youth living and grow up is regarded as the most important determinant of employment. No doubt, one can achieve the goal of life with sincere hard work and commitments, but it could not be possible without the sacrifices, commitments and favorable environment being provided by the family in which he is living and grow up. Therefore, it is very pertinent to examine the social and economic set-up of the sample households that directly or indirectly decides the employment pattern of the rural youth. Everyone tries to improve their socio-economic profile. The socio-economic conditions are vital role to formulate the policies regarding employment. In this paper, we discuss the socio-economic variables such as family composition, family size, income status of the households, status of drinking water, electricity, housing condition, land holding, occupation of family have been discussed. The results are discussed as under :

2. Social Profile

In India, society categorizes people based on gender, sex, class and religion. Religion and caste system is also considered as one of the prominent feature of society. So it becomes very important to look at the religion and caste wise distribution because the social hierarchy determined by the religion or caste is reflected in labour market (Chaudhry, 2013). The following table depicts the basic social profile of sampled youth workers in rural Punjab :

Table-1 : Basic Social Profile of sampled Youth Workers in Rural Punjab

Particulars	Ludhiana (N=71)	Sangrur (N=174)	Tarn Taran (N=305)	Total (N=550)
Caste				
General	53.52 (38)	55.75 (97)	59.67 (182)	57.64 (317)
SC	18.31 (13)	37.36 (65)	30.16 (92)	30.91 (170)
Other	28.17 (20)	6.90 (12)	10.16 (31)	11.45 (63)

Religion				
Sikh	77.46 (55)	90.23 (157)	97.70 (298)	92.73 (510)
Hindu	12.68 (9)	6.32 (11)	1.31 (4)	4.36 (24)
Muslim	9.86 (7)	3.45 (6)	–	2.36 (13)
Christian	–	–	0.98 (3)	0.55 (3)
Other	–	–	–	–
Type of Family				
Nuclear	88.73 (63)	79.89 (139)	82.62 (252)	82.55 (454)
Joint	11.27 (8)	20.11 (35)	17.38 (53)	17.45 (96)
No. of Family Members				
<4 members	19.72 (14)	6.90 (12)	15.08 (46)	13.09 (72)
4 to 6	71.83 (51)	75.86 (132)	77.70 (237)	76.36 (420)
> 6 members	8.45 (6)	17.24 (30)	7.21 (22)	10.55 (58)
Average Family size	4.72	5.34	4.62	4.86

Source : Field Survey, 2021-22.

Note : Actual figures are shown in parentheses.

Data presented in the table above show that out of total respondents, 57.64 per cent are general, 30.91 per cent from SC and 11.45 per cent from other castes. The data also shows districts wise analysis of caste wise distribution. It is found that 53.52 percent, 55.75 percent and 69.67percent belongs to general caste in Ludhiana, Sangrur and Tarn Taran district respectively. The percentage share of respondents belongs to Schedule caste are highest i.e. 37.36 per cent in Sangrur district, followed by 30.16 per cent and 18.31 per cent in Tarn Taran and Ludhiana districts, respectively. The proportion of respondents from other caste is 28.17 percent, 6.90 percent and 10.16 percent in Ludhiana, Sangrur and Tarn Taran districts, respectively. The table also reveals the religion wise distribution of respondents. It is found that majority (92.73 per cent) of respondents belongs to Sikh religion. It is found that highest 97.70 per cent belongs to Sikh religion in Tarn Taran, followed by 90.23 per cent in

Sangrur and 77.46 per cent in Ludhiana district. The study highlights that 12.38 per cent, 6.32 per cent and 1.31 per cent belongs to Hindu religion in these respective districts. The highest share i.e. 9.86 per cent of Muslim respondents found in Ludhiana district followed by 3.45 per cent in Sangrur district. Out of total respondents, only 0.55 per cent belongs to Christian religion.

Another important factor which affects the economic status of household is family size and family type. It determines the expenditure on consumption and education as well as income. The large size of family can be more prone to fall under poverty. So, it is important to examine the family type and family size. The Table also shows the data related to family size and family type. The data shows that 82.55 per cent youth workers from nuclear families whereas 17.45 from joint families. It is found that most of respondents 88.7 percent are belongs to nuclear family and 11.2 percent belongs to joint family in Ludhiana district. The percentage of respondents belongs to nuclear and joint family is 79.89 percent and 20.11 percent in Sangrur district and 82.62 percent and 17.38 percent in Tarn Taran district respectively. The proportion of respondents those having nuclear families are highest in Ludhiana district and lowest in Sangrur district. The study shows that highest proportion 76.36 per cent respondents are from those families who have family members between 4 -6. The 13.09 per cent respondents have less than 4 members and 10.55 per cent have more than 6 members. The Table also shows that Ludhiana district has highest proportion (19.72) of those families which have less than four members whereas in Sangrur districts only 6.90 percent household belongs to this category. The proportion of those households who have more than 6 members in family is highest (17.24 per cent) in Sangrur districts and lowest (7.21 per cent) in Tarn Taran district. This shows the Joint family structure and more no. of family members found in Sangrur district. The study also shows average size of family. It is found that an average family size is 4.86, whereas it is highest 5.34 in Sangrur, followed by 4.72 in Ludhiana and 4.62 in Tarn Taran district.

3.   Housing Conditions

Another important factor which determines the socio-economic status of people is housing condition. Shelter is one of the basic requirements for survival of human beings. It provides social status and economic security for a person. Good housing conditions indicate

the standard of living of the family; it provides facilities for education, recreation and many other facets of life (GOI, 2013) The Table-2 depicts the housing conditions of respondents in rural Punjab. This shows that out of the total respondents 92.36 percent are living in Pucca houses and 7.63 percent respondents are living in semi Pucca houses. The percentage share of Pucca houses is highest 97.18 per cent in Ludhiana, followed by 91.95 per cent and 91.47 per cent in Sangrur and Tarn Taran districts, respectively. The table also shows no. of rooms in house. The data highlights that majority 62.73 of households have 3 to 4 rooms, 31.27 per cent house up to two rooms and only 6 per cent have houses more than 4 rooms. The paper reveals that highest 14.37 per cent households have more than 4 rooms in Sangrur district, followed by 5.63 per cent in Ludhiana and 1.31 per cent in Tarn Taran district. The paper also highlights the source of drinking water. It is found that 66.73 per cent households have main source of drinking water is water tap and remaining 33.27 per cent have Hand pump or submersible motor. It has been found that hundred percent electrified houses in rural Punjab. There is not a single sampled house without electricity is found. The data shows that highest 62.36 per cent households own the houses in average condition, 26 per cent owned houses in good condition and remaining 11.63 per cent own dilapidated houses. The proportion of those living in houses with average condition is highest in Ludhiana district (77.46 per cent) and those living in dilapidated houses are highest in Tarn Taran district (12.79 per cent). The proportion of those living in houses with good conditions is highest in Tarn Taran district (29.84 per cent), followed by Sangrur district (25.29 per cent) and Ludhiana district (11.26 per cent).

Table-2 : Basic Housing Structure and Facilities of Sampled Households of Rural Punjab

Particulars	Ludhiana (N=71)	Sangrur (N=174)	Tarn Taran (N=305)	Total (N=550)
Type of House				
Pucca	97.18 (69)	91.95 (160)	91.47 (279)	92.36 (508)
Semi-pucca	2.82 (2)	8.05 (14)	8.52 (26)	7.63 (20)
No. of Rooms				
Up to 2 rooms	18.31 (13)	20.11 (35)	40.66 (124)	31.27 (172)

3 to 4	76.06 (54)	65.52 (114)	58.03 (177)	62.73 (345)
> 4	5.63 (4)	14.37 (25)	1.31 (4)	6.00 (33)
Source of Drinking Water				
Hand Pump	29.57 (21)	22.41 (39)	40.33 (123)	33.27 (183)
Water tap	5070.43 (50)	77.58 (135)	59.67 (182)	66.73 (367)
Other	—	—	—	—
Whether house is Electrified				
Yes	100.00 (71)	100.00 (174)	100.00 (305)	100.00 (550)
No	—	—	—	—
Condition of household				
Average	77.46 (55)	64.94 (113)	57.38 (175)	62.36 (343)
Good	11.26 (8)	25.29 (44)	29.84 (91)	326 (14)
Dilapidated	11.26 (8)	9.77 (17)	12.79 (39)	11.63 (64)

Source : Field Survey, 2021-22.

Note : Actual figures are shown in parentheses.

4. Value of Household Inventory

The economic and social status of person is also related to household inventory. The household inventory includes facilities that available in house like mode of transportation, mobile, furniture, fridge, washing machine, AC etc. The data related to household inventory given in table-3. The data shows that the average value of household inventory owned by sampled households is ₹ 340766. Out of it, the highest average value has been recorded in case of mode of transportation (₹ 171705), followed by the value of bathrooms/ lavatory (₹ 31984), furniture (₹ 30426), kitchen (₹ 27935), and Mobile/telephone (₹16765), fridge (₹ 10736), TV/CD Player (₹10236), Washing machine (₹ 8903), Cooler/ Fans (₹ 9834), AC (₹ 7651), and Gas (₹ 0.88) . The districts wise analysis shows that total average value of household inventory is highest ₹ 3647711 in Tarn Taran and lowest in ₹ 258577 in Ludhiana district. When we see the percentage share of value, it is found that mode of transportation has

recorded highest (55.63 per cent) value in Tarn Taran, followed by 45.50 per cent and 34.04 per cent in Sangrur and Ludhiana Districts, respectively. The value of mobile phones is highest (6.88 per cent) recorded in Ludhiana district and lowest (4.30 per cent) in Tarn Taran district. The data shows that percentage share of value of kitchen among total value of household inventory is highest i.e. 11.19 per cent in Ludhiana followed by 8.89 per cent and 7.34 per cent in Sangrur and Tarn Taran district, respectively. The percentage share of value of bathroom is also highest in Ludhiana and lowest in Tarn Taran district.

Table-3 : Basic Household Inventory of Sample Households of Rural Punjab

Particulars	Ludhiana (N=71)	Sangrur (N=174)	Tarn Taran (N=305)	Total (N=550)
	₹/household (% to total)	₹/household (% to total)	₹/household (% to total)	₹/household (% to total)
Kitchen	28944 (11.19)	29540 (8.89)	26784 (7.34)	27935 (8.20)
Gas	3000 (1.16)	3006 (0.90)	3000 (0.82)	3002 (0.88)
Mode of Transportation	88028 (34.04)	151201 (45.50)	202882 (55.63)	171705 (50.39)
TV/Radio/CD player	8958 (3.46)	9948 (2.99)	10698 (2.93)	10236 (3.00)
Bathroom/ lavatory	33239 (12.85)	35454 (10.67)	29711 (8.15)	31984 (9.39)
Mobile/ telephone	17803 (6.88)	18224 (5.48)	15692 (4.30)	16765 (4.92)
Generator/ Inverter	10085 (3.90)	8511 (2.56)	6531 (1.79)	7616 (2.24)
Furniture	31901 (12.34)	34147 (10.27)	27961 (7.67)	30426 (8.93)
Fridge	10113 (3.91)	11454 (3.45)	10471 (2.87)	10736 (3.15)
AC	3944 (1.53)	8034 (2.42)	8295 (2.27)	7651 (2.25)
RO system	3127 (1.21)	2506 (0.75)	5007 (1.37)	3973 (1.17)
Washing Machine	11056 (4.28)	10023 (3.02)	7762 (2.13)	8903 (2.61)

Cooler/fans	8380 (3.24)	10282 (3.09)	9916 (2.72)	9834 (2.89)
Total	**258577 (100.00)**	**332330 (100.00)**	**364711 (100.00)**	**340766 (100.00)**

5. Land Ownership and Average Size of Farm

Agriculture land is one of the most important assets. It has significant effect on the social, political and economic life of human being. (Dantwala, 1987). So it becomes necessary to discuss about the land ownership of workers families. The following Table-4 shows the distribution of operational land holdings :

Table-4 : Distribution of Sample Households according to Operational Land Holdings

Land size (acres)	Ludhiana (N=71)	Sangrur (N=174)	Tarn Taran (N=305)	Total (N=550)
	No (%)	**No (%)**	**No (%)**	**No (%)**
Landless	56 (78.87)	84 (48.28)	127 (41.64)	267 (48.55)
Marginal (<2.5 acres)	11 (15.49)	14 (8.05)	31 (10.16)	56 (10.18)
Small (2.5-5.0)	4 (5.63)	34 (19.54)	84 (27.54)	122 (22.18)
Medium (5.0-10)	–	21 (12.07)	48 (15.74)	69 (12.55)
Semi-medium (10.0 -25.0)	–	15 (8.62)	14 (4.59)	29 (5.27)
Large (>25 acres)	–	6 (3.45)	1 (0.33)	7 (1.27)
Total	**71 (100.00)**	**174 (100.00)**	**305 (100.00)**	**550 (100.00)**

Source : Field Survey, 2021-22.

The above table shows that 48.55 per cent respondents belong to landless families at together. Among them majority 78.87 per cent of sampled respondents are landless in district Ludhiana, followed by 48.28 per cent and 41.64 per cent in Sangrur and Tarn Taran districts respectively. The study reveals that 15.49 per cent household has less than 2.5 acres and only 5.63 per cent household has land size between 2.5 -5 acres in Ludhiana districts. Whereas 8.05 per cent households has 2.5 acres, 19.54 per cent has land between 2.5 -5 acres, 12.07 per cent has 5-10 acres, 8.62 per cent has 10-25 acres and 3.45 per cent households has land ownership more than 25 acres in Sangrur districts. In Tarn Taran districts 10.16 per cent households has land size less than 2.5 acres, 27.54 per cent has

land ownership between 2.5-5 acres, 15.74 per cent has 5-10 acres and 4.59 per cent has 10-25 acres and only 0.33 per cent has land size more than 25 per cent. The paper shows that after landless respondents majority of respondents belong to those families who have land ownership between 2.5-5 acres.

Table-5 highlights the average farm size of households of rural Punjab. The study reveals that average farm size is 3.375 acres at together. It is found that average farm size is greater (4.64 acres) in Sangrur district and lower (0.44 acres) in Ludhiana districts. The average farm size is 3.34 acres in Tarn Taran district. The study also found that the average size of owned land of households is 2.80, average size of leased in land by households is 0.71 acres and average size of leased out land by household is 0.145 acres.

Table-5 : Average Farm Size of Sample Households of Rural Punjab

S. No.	Particulars	Ludhiana (N=71)	Sangrur (N=174)	Tarn Taran (N=305)	Total (N=550)
		Area (acres/ household)	Area (acres /household)	Area (acres/ household)	Area (acres/ household)
A	Owned land	0.634	4.155	2.534	2.802
B	Leased-in land	0.000	0.624	0.941	0.719
C	Leased-out land	0.190	0.135	0.141	0.145
Average Size of Farm		0.444	4.644	3.334	3.375

Source : Field Survey, 2021-22.

6.   Age, Marital Status and Number of Childern

Age, marital status and number of children are other important factors which determine the employment status of person. The table-6 shows the age wise, marital status and number of children wise distribution of respondents. It can be observed from the table that 60 per cent of respondents fall in age group 18 to 25, 38.36 per cent and 1.64 per cent of respondents appears in the age group of 25-29 and 15-18 years, respectively. This ratio is 64.79 per cent in Ludhiana, 60 per cent in Tarn Taran and 58.04 per cent in Sangrur district. The table further shows information regarding marital status of sampled respondents of rural Punjab. The marital status of respondents reveals that 74.65 per cent, 70.69 per cent and 64.26 per cent persons

are unmarried or single in Ludhiana, Sangrur and Tarn Taran districts, respectively. Whereas overall percentage of unmarried respondents are 67.64. The percentage of married respondents is highest i.e. 35.41 per cent in Tarn Taran, followed by 29.31 per cent and 25.35 per cent in Sangrur and Ludhiana districts, respectively. The percentage share of widow or divorced persons only 0.18 per cent at together. Regarding number of children per sampled respondents, table reveals that the percentage of respondents having up to 2 children is 27.27 percent. The majority 71.27 per cent of respondents have no children because of they are unmarried or single. The percentage of the respondents who have more than 2 children is 1.45 per cent. The table further reveals that the percentage of respondents having up to two children is highest i.e. 32.13 per cent in Tarn Taran, followed by 24.14 per cent and 14.08 per cent in Sangrur and Luhiana district, respectively.

Table-6 : Age wise, Marital Status and No. of Children wise Distribution of the Sample Respondents of Rural Punjab

Particulars	Ludhiana (N=71)	Sangrur (N=174)	Tarn Taran (N=305)	Total (N=550)
	No (%)	No (%)	No (%)	No (%)
Age (years)				
< 18 Years	3 (4.23)	5 (2.87)	1 (0.33)	9 (1.64)
18 - 25	46 (64.79)	101 (58.04)	183 (60.00)	330 (60.00)
> 25	22 (30.99)	68 (39.08)	121 (39.67)	211 (38.36)
Total	**71 (100.00)**	**174 (100.00)**	**305 (100.00)**	**550 (100.00)**
Marital status				
Single	53 (74.65)	123 (70.69)	196 (64.26)	372 (67.64)
Married	18 (25.35)	51 (29.31)	108 (35.41)	177 (32.18)
Widow	—	—	1 (0.33)	1 (0.18)
Total	**71 (100.00)**	**174 (100.00)**	**305 (100.00)**	**550 (100.00)**
Number of children				
No children	60 (84.51)	129 (74.14)	203 (66.56)	392 (71.27)
Up to 2	10 (14.08)	42 (24.14)	98 (32.13)	150 (27.27)
> 2	1 (1.41)	3 (1.72)	4 (1.31)	8 (1.45)
Total	**71 (100.00)**	**174 (100.00)**	**305 (100.00)**	**550 (100.00)**

Source : Field survey 2021-22.

7. Education Level

Education is one the leading determinant of employment and economic growth. Investment in education leads to the formation of human capital, comparable to physical capital and social capital and its make a significant contribution to economic development (Dickens et. al. 2006). Education determines the occupational choice and it plays a pivotal role as a signal of ability and productivity in job market (Cheswick, 1968). So, it becomes more important to discuss about the educational status of respondents and their families. The data related to the educational status of the respondents is given in table-7 below :

Table-7 : Education Level of the Sampled Respondents of Rural Punjab

Education level	Ludhiana (N=71)	Sangrur (N=174)	Tarn Taran (N=305)	Total (N=550)
	No (%)	No (%)	No (%)	No (%)
Education level				
Primary	1 (1.41)	13 (7.47)	19 (6.23)	33 (6.00)
Matric	11 (15.49)	27 (15.52)	90 (29.51)	128 (23.27)
High secondary	39 (54.93)	90 (51.72)	159 (52.13)	288 (52.36)
Graduation	9 (12.68)	19 (10.92)	15 (4.92)	43 (7.82)
Post-graduation	4 (5.63)	13 (7.47)	4 (1.31)	21 (3.82)
Diploma	5 (7.04)	7 (4.02)	6 (1.97)	18 (3.27)
Technical or vocational training	2 (2.82)	5 (2.87)	12 (3.93)	19 (3.45)
Total	**71 (100.00)**	**174 (100.00)**	**305 (100.00)**	**550 (100.00)**
Additional qualification				
No additional education	70 (98.59)	160 (91.95)	288 (94.43)	518 (94.18)
B.ed	–	5 (2.87)	5 (1.64)	10 (1.82)
B.P.ed	–	–	1 (0.33)	1 (0.18)
C.Ped	–	–	1 (0.33)	1 (0.18)
IELTS	1 (1.41)	7 (4.02)	9 (2.95)	17 (3.09)
M.P.ed	–	–	1 (0.33)	1 (0.18)
Ph.D	–	1 (0.57)	–	1 (0.18)
UGC. NET	–	1 (0.57)	–	1 (0.18)
Total	**71 (100.00)**	**174 (100.00)**	**305 (100.00)**	**550 (100.00)**

Source : Field Survey, 2021-22.

The study reveals that 6 per cent respondents have primary education, whereas 23.27 per cent, 52.36 per cent, 7.82 per cent and 3.82 per cent have education up to Matric, Higher secondary, Graduation and post-graduation level respectively. The study clearly reveals that the proportion of respondents with higher secondary level is higher among all three districts. In Ludhiana 54.93 per cent respondents are higher secondary, while 51.72 per cent and 52.36 per cent in Sangrur and Tarn Taran districts, respectively. The proportion of respondents with primary education is highest 7.47 percent in Sangrur, whereas 6 per cent in Tarn Taran and only 1.41 per cent in Ludhiana district. The study shows that the percentage of diploma holder is highest 7.04 per cent in Ludhiana districts and lowest 1.97 per cent in Tarn Taran district. The table also highlights additional qualifications of respondents. The data show that 3.09 per cent respondents have IELTS and want to go to aboard for their better future opportunity. This percentage is higher in Sangrur districts and lower in Ludhiana districts. The analysis brings out that the proportion of respondents has only formal education is higher than who have any technical or vocational education. This shows that our education system prepared the youth for only white colored jobs.

8. Status of Income and Debt

The table-8 shows the overview of income and indebtedness among rural Punjab. The paper shows that among total households highest i.e. 47.27 per cent have income less than 2.5 lakh, followed by 36.73 per cent fall in income group of 2.5-5 lakh, 12.18 per cent have 5-10 lakh, 3.64 percent have 10-20 lakh and only 0.18 per cent fall in income group more than 20 lakh. The table also highlights the districts wise income status of families. It is found that highest proportion 63.38 per cent household has less than 2.5 lakhs income in Ludhiana district, followed by 46.55 per cent and 43.93 per cent in Sangrur and Tarn Taran districts, respectively. The percentage of households belongs to income group 2.5 -5 lakh is highest i.e. 39.02 per cent in Tarn Taran followed by 34.48 per cent in Sangrur and 32.39 per cent in Ludhiana district. The households with income group 10-20 is highest i.e. 5.75 per cent in Sangrur district as compare to 3.28 per cent in Tarn Taran district. The study also reveals that only one household found in Sangrur district with income more than 20 lakh. The table also highlights the debt status of households in rural Punjab. It is found that 49.09 per cent households reported no debt.

Among the total households 32 per cent household has debt less than 2.5 lakh, 14.55 per cent has debt between 2.5 lakh -5 lakh, 3.27 per cent debt between 5-10 lakh, 0.91 per cent has 10-20 and 0.18 per cent has more than 20 lakh. Disparities in debt status also found at district level. Households of district Ludhiana has low debt burden but in Sangrur district household has high debt burden. This is found only due to the disparities in ownership of landholding. Land is the only asset on the basis of this bank issue the loan to households. The percentage of households those has no debt is highest 57.75 per cent in Ludhiana, followed by 52.46 per cent and 39.66 per cent in TarnTaran and Sangrur districts, respectively.

Table-8 : Distribution of Sample Respondents according to Family Income and Loan status of Rural Punjab

Particulars	Ludhiana (N=71)	Sangrur (N=174)	Tarn Taran (N=305)	Total (N=550)
	No (%)	No (%)	No (%)	No (%)
Family Income (₹ lakh/annum)				
₹ 2.5	45 (63.38)	81 (46.55)	134 (43.93)	260 (47.27)
2.5 - 5.0	23 (32.39)	60 (34.48)	119 (39.02)	202 (36.73)
5.0 - 10.0	3 (4.23	22 (12.64)	42 (13.77)	67 (12.18)
10.0 - 20.0	—	10 (5.75)	10 (3.28)	20 (3.64)
> 20.0	—	1 (0.57)	—	1 (0.18)
Debt status of the family (₹ lakh)				
Nil	41 (57.75)	69 (39.66)	160 (52.46)	270 (49.09)
₹ 2.5	25 (35.21)	60 (34.48)	91 (29.84)	176 (32.00)
2.5 - 5.0	5 (7.04)	27 (15.52)	48 (15.74)	80 (14.55)
5.0 - 10.0	—	13 (7.47)	5 (1.64)	18 (3.27)
10.0 - 20.0	—	4 (2.30)	1 (0.33)	5 (0.91)
> 20.0	—	1 (0.57)	- -	1 (0.18)

Source : Field Survey, 2021-22.

9.   Conclusion

The socio-economic analysis of youth in rural areas of Punjab, highlights that out of total sampled youth workers majority are follower of Sikh religion which is highest in Tarn Taran and lowest in Ludhiana district. Out of total sampled workers, majority belongs to General class, then from SC class and then from OBC. It is found that

most of the youth workers belongs to nuclear families. It can be observed from the study nuclear family system exists in majority of the district Ludhiana and percentage of joint family system is highest in Sangrur district. The average size of family of sampled youth workers is 4.86. The analysis also indicates the living conditions of youth workers. Out of total sampled youth workers, majority of living in Pucca houses and used water tap as a major source of drinking water. The analysis regarding land ownership reveals that majority of rural workers are landless and among them highest proportion of youth workers belongs to landless families in district Ludhiana. The average farm size is 3.375 acres. Most of the sampled youth workers are unmarried. While we analyze the education level of youth workers, it is found that majority has higher secondary level of education, and only few per cent have technical and vocational training and diploma holder. Most of the respondents have formal education and the percentage of those who have professional/technical education is very low. The study reveals that among total sampled youth workers are belongs to those families whose annual income is less than 2.5 lakh and less than one per cent workers are from those families whose income is more than 20 lakh.

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