Migration and COVID-19: Uttar Pradesh and Bihar

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Historically, Uttar Pradesh (UP) and Bihar are the two highest out-migration states with a net migration rate of -1.9 to -1.

Data from our telephone survey suggests that 28% (n=1237+) of the households in the two states have a migrant worker living/working outside; with 37% among rural households and 18% among urban households.

Migration from these two states is mostly to metros in the states of Maharashtra, Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

The return migration before or potentially with relaxation in the lockdown, makes households and the rural healthcare systems highly vulnerable, because of 3 critical factors of concern.