



ISSN 1391-4693
2003

RESULTS OF THE HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SURVEY

Conducted in **Northern and Eastern Province** - 2002/03
Department of Census and Statistics
Sri Lanka

Introduction

Household Income and Expenditure Survey is conducted once in every five years since 1980/81 by the Department of Census and Statistics. However, 1990/91 and 1995/96 surveys could not take place in Northern and Eastern Provinces due to the conditions prevailing in those areas and also due to the unavailability of a proper sampling frame (for household surveys, a proper sampling frame should consist of the list of all the housing units in the area concerned. Listing of housing units and all other units are usually done prior to the Census operation).

Census of Population and Housing 2001 provides the sampling frame for the household surveys. However, for Northern and Eastern provinces a complete sampling frame is not available. Therefore the information given in this bulletin does not properly represent the area as a whole.

Details of the sampling frame available for the above area is as follows:-

(1) Eastern Province

The lists of units are available in all the 3 Districts Ampara, Trincomalee and Batticaloa except for few isolated Grama Niladhari Divisions.

(2) Northern Province

The list of units which could be used for sample selection purposes are generally available as follows,

- (i) In all of the Divisional Secretariat Divisions (DSDD) in Jaffna District except for Thenamarachchy, Valikamam North and Vadamarachchy East and Delft DSDDD.
- (ii) In all of the DSDD in Vavuniya District except for Vavuniya North DSD.
- (iii) In "Mannar Town" DSD only but not in other 4 DSDD in Mannar District.

Further no lists of units are available for the Killinochchi and Mullaitivu Districts at all. In the Northern Province, about 60 percent of housing units are represented in the sample. To give proper survey estimates to any area, all the housing units in the area should be fully represented in the sample.

However, this survey was carried out to fill the data gap, which existed for a long period of time in the Northern and Eastern provinces with the given limitations. So the estimates given in this bulletin as "Northern (part)" refers to the area covered in the survey as described above.

(Note: It is to be noted here that the estimates given in this bulletin are based on the survey conducted in the Northern and Eastern provinces during the six months, September, 2002 to February, 2003.)

Income:

Table 1 shows that mean household income for the Northern province is Rs.8,155 per month for the year 2002. However, fifty percents of the households received less than Rs.5,858 per month.

For the Eastern province the mean household income is Rs.7,640 per month and fifty percent of households received less than Rs.5,500 per month. Households in urban sector of the both provinces received relatively higher income per month.

The poorest 20 percent of the households in Northern province receive less than Rs.3000 and their mean income is Rs.1907 per month while poorest 20 percent of the households in Eastern province received less than Rs.2,890 and their mean income is Rs.1,799 per month.

Poorest 20% of the households in Northern province received 4.1 percent of the total household income and the richest 20% of the households receives 51.5% of the total household income. Respective shares of the Eastern province are 4.7% and 50.2 % (Table-2).

Table 1 – Mean and median household income per month by province and Sector – 2002

Province & Sector	Mean Income Rs.	Median Income Rs.
Northern (part)	8155	5858
Urban	13105	7416
Rural	6877	5400
Eastern	7640	5500
Urban	10292	7560
Rural	6992	5108

Table 2 – Mean income and share of income by household income quintile and province – 2002.

Province & Sector	Mean income Rs.	Share of Income %
Income quintile		
Northern (part)	8155	100
Less than 3000	1907	4.1
3001-4860	3912	9.5
4861-6860	5867	14.3
6861-10148	8107	19.9
10149 & Above	21071	51.5
Eastern	7640	100
Less than 2890	1799	4.7
2891-4560	3743	9.9
4561-6407	5506	14.4
6408-10000	7984	20.9
10001 & Above	19212	50.2

Table 3 – Mean household income per month and the percentage share by source of income by Province – 2002

Source of Income	Northern province (part)		Eastern Province	
	Mean Income (Rs.)	Share of Income	Mean Income (Rs.)	Share of Income %
Total household Income	8155	100	7640	100
Monetary Income				
* Wages & Salaries	3894	47.7	3790	49.6
* Other cash Income	1582	19.4	1240	16.2
* Income from non-agricultural activities	1308	16.0	927	12.1
* Income from agricultural activities	734	9.0	620	8.1
Non-monetary Income				
* Agricultural activities	139	1.7	215	2.8
* Other non-monetary income	498	6.1	848	11.1

Household income consists of both monetary and non-monetary (in-kind) income received by all the members of the household, which can be earned or received through donations.

Table – 3 shows the mean household income by source of income. In the Northern province, 47.7 percent of household income is received from wages & salaries, which in the Eastern province is 49.6 percent. In the Eastern province the proportion of non-monetary income is 13.9 and for the Northern province it is 7.8.

Survey results reveal that the Average monthly household expenditure is Rs.9614 for the Northern province and for the Eastern province it is Rs.10,769 per household per month (Table 5).

Expenditure on food for the Northern province is Rs.6515 per household per month and it is 67.8 percent of the total household expenditure.

Table 4 – Per capita income per month - 2002

Sector/Province	Per capita income per month (Rs.)
(a) By Sector	
Northern (part)	1852
Urban	2928
Rural	1568
Eastern	1777
Urban	2292
Rural	1645
(b) By Household Income quintile (Rs.)	
Northern (part)	1852
Less than 3000	751
3001-4860	1139
4861-6860	1662
6861-10148	1974
10149 & Above	5384
Eastern Province	1777
Less than 2890	650
2891-4560	1022
4561-6407	1580
6408-10000	2135
10001 & Above	4569

Expenditure on food for the Eastern province is Rs.6327 per household per month and it is 58.8 percent of the total household expenditure.

Expenditure on liquor & tobacco for the Eastern province is Rs.226 per household per month and the Expenditure on education is Rs.221 per household per month.

Expenditure on liquor & tobacco for the Northern province is less than the Expenditure on education. Expenditure on liquor & tobacco and education are Rs.189 and Rs.254 per household per month respectively.

Expenditure on fuel and light for the Northern province is Rs.592 per household per month and it is 6.2 percent of the total household expenditure.

Expenditure on fuel and light for the Eastern province is Rs.509 per household per month and it is 4.7 percent of the total household expenditure.

Expenditure on housing for Eastern Province is Rs.641 and it is higher than that of the Northern Province (i.e Rs.503 per household per month).

Expenditure on Transport per month for the Northern Province is Rs.315 and it is for the Eastern Province is Rs.388.

Table 5 – Average monthly household expenditure by sector – 2002

Sector	Monthly Total Expenditure	
	Northern (part) (Rs.)	Eastern (Rs.)
Both Sectors	9614	10769
Urban	12001	1408
Rural	8998	9978

Table 6 - Household expenditure (average monthly) by item and province

Item	Monthly Total Expenditure	
	Northern (Part) (Rs.)	Eastern (Rs.)
All Items	9614	10769
Total food	6515	6327
Total (non-food)	3099	4442
Housing	503	641
Fuel & Light	592	509
Personal care expenses	186	218
Health expenses	130	248
Transport	315	388
Communication	58	63
Education	254	221
Recreation entertainment and cultural activities	26	70
Non-durable household goods	119	150
Household service	49	48
Clothing & textiles	201	339
Foot wear & other personal effects	24	49
Semi-durable goods	20	54
Durable goods	126	245
Liquor & Tobacco	189	226
Other expenses	307	973