



## Youth Migration from Punjab to Developed Countries

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### ABSTRACT

The wave of worldwide migration of Punjabis to industrialised nations such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Europe, the United Arab Emirates, and others is pushing the rural population to seek better opportunities elsewhere. People desire to migrate to industrialised nations to earn a healthy affluent amount for their existence and the family left behind as a result of the population boom and lack of work prospects. Loss of talent: The rising movement of Punjabi youth to other industrialised nations has resulted in brain drain, or the flow of young brains and talent from one country to another.

**Keywords:** Youth, Migration, Industrial,

### Introduction

Professionals, skilled, and unskilled workers from Punjab are increasingly migrating to other industrialised countries. The migration of individuals from Punjab to other industrialised nations has been classified into three patterns: (1) skilled labour, (2) unskilled labour, and (3) contract work. The wave of worldwide migration of Punjabis to industrialised nations such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Europe, the United Arab Emirates, and others is pushing the rural population to seek better opportunities elsewhere. During the 1960s, young Punjabis went to these western nations in search of better jobs and greener pastures. Later, the oil boom in the Gulf countries drew more Punjabi young to move to realise their goals of earning more money. It worked as both a push and a pull factor for rural labourers to relocate to these Gulf countries in search of a better way of life (Dhindsa, 1998). Later, in the 1980s, the notion of emigration emerged among the wealthy class of farmers, who began sending their sons to developed nations to marry the daughters of families already settled in developed countries in order to get immigration. It was also projected that of the 20 million Indians who had settled in other countries, 10% to 15% were Punjabis. Emigrants from Punjab to other nations such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Europe, and Canada were mostly of doaba ancestry (Kaur, 2006:1). The growing tendency of Punjabis relocating overseas has accelerated the growth process. The money sent from these wealthy nations to their family in Punjab has accelerated the pace of amenities and technical advancement. Punjab was on its way to become the country's healthiest state. Many rich Punjabis have made significant contributions to the Punjab's infrastructure by establishing philanthropic schools, hospitals, shelter homes, and other social amenities. Furthermore, remittances from these Punjabis were anticipated to be \$ 2-3 million each year, adding to the state's enrichment and growth (Singh 2001:20, World Bank 2004:2). The data utilised in this research article is secondary data gathered from various periodicals, magazines, government surveys and reports, economic surveys and publications, and other sources.

### Objectives of the study

1. To study the trends of migration of students from Punjab.
2. To comprehend the reasons behind migration.
3. To learn about the long-term effects of migration from Punjab.

### Review of Literature

According to Dhindsa (1998), the oil boom in the Gulf nations was another draw for Punjabi young to move in order to pursue their ambitions of earning more money. It worked as both a push and a pull factor for rural labourers to migrate to these gulf nations in search of a better life.

As reported by Sasikumar and Hussain (2008), migration of individuals from Punjab to other nations has been regarded as advantageous to the development of both their home country and their host country.

In the manner of Singh 2001:20 and World Bank 2004, the remittances of these Punjabis are expected to be \$ 2-3 million per year, contributing to the enrichment and growth of the state.

According to World Bank from 2011, the top migration destinations are the United States, followed by Germany and Europe, and gulf countries such as Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, and Bahrain have also seen an increase in their migrant flow from Indian states, particularly Punjab (rural Punjab).

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## Methodology of Research

This study is entirely descriptive in nature. This research report relied solely on secondary data. Secondary data was gathered from a variety of journals, research papers, Wikipedia, organisational publications, World Bank reports available online, and so on. We could depend on secondary data since it has already been vetted, published, and is freely available to the public.

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## Results

**Unemployment in Punjab:** One of the most important issues in Punjab is unemployment. Thousands of professionals graduate from various colleges but are obliged to relocate to various industrialised nations owing to a lack of prospects. As of 2019, the unemployment rate in Punjab was 22 per 1000 people.

**State government policies:** State government policies are quite tough and place a significant burden on the people, particularly the business class. If you are an entrepreneur or a businessman, the majority of your profits are taxed by the government in the form of a wealth tax. If you make Rs100, Rs98 of that amount is given to the government in the form of tax, leaving you with Rs2 as profit. This residual profit is insufficient for further growth and development, forcing businesses to go to other nations.

**Increasing population:** As the population of Punjab grows, individuals are obliged to labour for poor salaries in order to earn something. As a result, they are underemployed. Punjab's population in 2019 was 30.8 million, slightly higher than the 30.4 million recorded in 2018. People desire to migrate to industrialised nations to earn a healthy affluent amount for their existence and the family left behind as a result of the population boom and lack of work prospects.

**Better lifestyle and currency worth difference:** People in other nations have a far better lifestyle than people in Punjab. The technologies, clothes, trends, and inventions that have recently been introduced into India have already been used in other nations. Furthermore, the currency gap is significant, which adds to the appeal of relocation. The exchange rate between the Indian rupee and the US dollar is: [1 US dollar = 71.22 Indian Rupees], which implies you get 70 times more than you do in India. This better lifestyle and currency disparity entices individuals to relocate to foreign nations and live a lavish life with all the amenities they desire.

### *Effects of migration on Punjab*

**Loss of talent:** The rising movement of Punjabi youth to other industrialised nations has resulted in brain drain, or the flow of young brains and talent from one country to another. This exodus results in the loss of talent and has accelerated the growth of other countries while leaving their own country behind.

**Loss of home culture:** As the vast youth exodus continues, the rich domestic culture of Punjab is eroding. Today's young know very little about their rich culture, religious martyrs, religious knowledge, customs, state priorities, and so on. As young interests have switched to western culture, many ignore their culture, and others are embarrassed to show off their culture in front of their foreign friends, which is a great disappointment because we should be proud of our ever-rich culture and customs.

The host countries may face more cultural differences with the arrival of people with differentiated cultures. There is increase in the expenditure on social security services of the government of host country in the long run.

The most important economic drawback of ISM is the brain-drain (the impact of migration on sending countries – world finance). There is a fall in gross domestic product of sending countries because of fall in consumption which further has negative impact on macroeconomic aggregates.

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## Conclusion

Youth migration from Punjab to other industrialised nations has expanded considerably as a result of globalisation and is a market-driven activity. The globalisation of higher education at a lower cost and with more wealth, as well as current living styles, serve as motivators for students to study abroad. The desire among students to live permanently overseas has increased considerably. Previously, students would go overseas for postgraduate studies, but now even 12th graders choose to study abroad. However, studying abroad is no longer the only way to permanently relocate to another country. Furthermore, students are drawn to a sophisticated lifestyle that does not exist in Punjab. Migration to foreign nations has become a status symbol in some areas, such as rural Punjab. Punjab ranks first in India in terms of remittances from overseas, and these wealthy Punjabis work with the government to modernise rural Punjab and build infrastructure. A place where PR is difficult to obtain IELTS hoardings may be found on every street corner in Punjab, as well as highway ads. These billboards are attracting an increasing number of young students who want to settle overseas, earn better pastures, live a lavish life, and so on. The rising rush to these IELTS colleges demonstrates the youth's proclivity to migrate to foreign nations and settle permanently. Males make up 88 percent

of all students travelling overseas, a figure that has risen over time. Between 2011 and 2015, 41% of students left from Punjab in quest of a better future and better work possibilities. The major reason for young people travelling to these nations is to live permanently overseas. The major cause of this brain drain is excessive unemployment and underemployment, poor salaries, bureaucracy, corruption, quota system, growing population, lack of understanding of government programmes, fantasies of luxury lives, peer pressure, competitiveness, and so on.

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