

**PATTERNS OF IN- AND OUT-MIGRATION IN
KANCHANABURI DSS AREAS**

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ABSTRACT

Internal migration has a crucial role in the process of development and urbanization, which is an aggregate, social and demographic phenomenon. Though Thai people are not very migratory, the issues of population movements and rapid urbanization are among the main concerns of the Thai Government. The current study describes patterns of in- and out-migration in Kanchanaburi Demographic Surveillance System areas and provides detailed information on the background characteristics and streams of in- and out-migrants. Kanchanaburi is the third largest province in Thailand and it shares a long border with Myanmar. This study provides valuable answers, which are essential for policy makers and for Thai development planners to achieve economic growth, sustainable development of the country, as well as to successfully design migration-related policies.

Data from the second round of Kanchanaburi Baseline Survey (2001) were used. According to the study both in- and out-migration were internal and inter-amphur movements, particularly within the Central region. Almost all migrants were young, with almost equal numbers of men and women. The majority of in-migrants were married and less educated, but more out-migrants are unmarried and educated. The Upland stratum was the main supplier and receiver of in- and out-migrants to Kanchanaburi DSS areas. There were 410 illiterate in-migrants from Myanmar. Rural-to-rural migration was the major stream of migration followed by rural-to-urban migration. There were more females in urban-ward migration than males. The main two reasons pushing in-migrants to KDSS areas were family ties and employment. Policy makers should design and maintain decentralizing policies to create more job opportunities in order to minimize in- and out-migration and to control the direction of movements.

KEY WORDS: IN-MIGRATION / OUT-MIGRATION / MIGRATION STREAMS / RURAL-TO-RURAL MIGRATION / RURAL-TO-URBAN MIGRATION / URBAN-TO-URBAN MIGRATION / URBAN-TO-RURAL MIGRATION / PATTERNS OF MIGRATION / INDIVIDUAL CHARACTERISTICS / KANCHANABURI DSS AREAS / THAILAND

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