



A LARGE-SCALE SURVEY OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS FROM RURAL BANGLADESH

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#WORLD CUP 2018

PROMISES DELIVERED

QATAR AND MIGRANT LABOUR ABUSE
OF THE 2022 FOOTBALL WORLD CUP



QATAR FORCED



👤 = 1 worker death

London
2012 Olympics



Vancouver
2010 Olympics



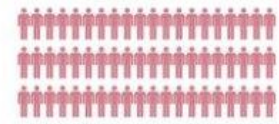
South Africa
2010 World Cup



Brazil
2014 World Cup



Sochi
2014 Olympics



Beijing
2008 Olympics



Qatar

Migrant worker deaths since Dec. 2010



What we know about Gulf migration

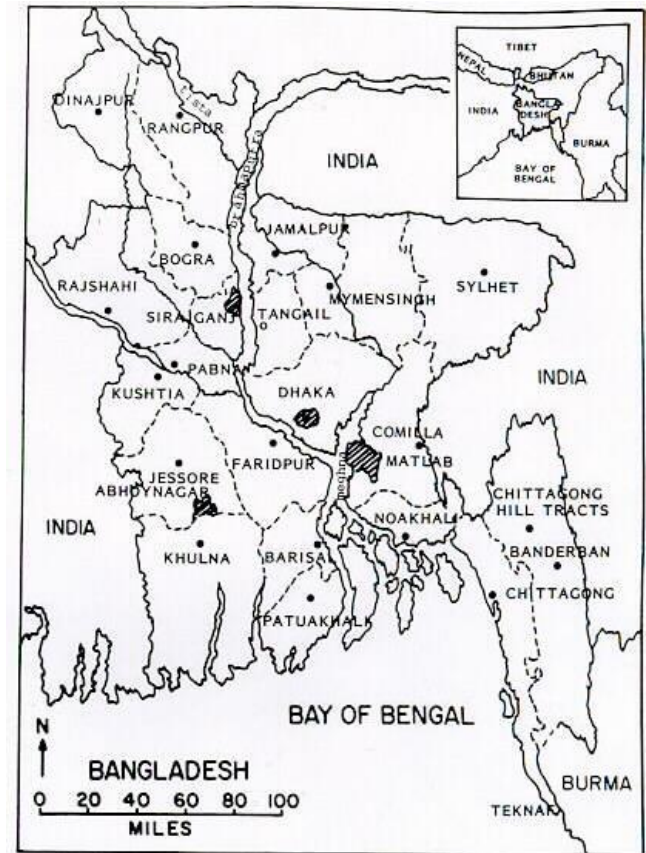
- Strictly curtailed human rights (esp under *kefala*); few legal protections, unstable tenure; indebtedness
- Health evidence
 - ▣ Some evidence on mental illness, depression, suicide
 - ▣ Evidence of unsafe working conditions, travel restrictions
- Methodology
 - ▣ Mostly small samples, some convenience samples
 - ▣ Representative samples of economic conditions (e.g. Kerala)
 - ▣ Few binational samples (another REALM project in Nepal)

Study aims: comparing *probashi* to their left-behind peers

- 1) Measure well-being of *probashi* in comparison to non-migrants, internal migrants with individual and family baseline controls**
- 2) Model covariates of *probashi* well-being and working/living conditions (e.g. destination, duration, human capital)**
- 3) Begin to explore the role of worker recruitment in explaining *probashi* well-being**

Matlab Thana

- Rural area 55km SE of Dhaka
- High rates of out-migration
- Site of effective mother/child health interventions
- Health and Demographic Surveillance System (HDSS) tracks vital events since 1974



Matlab Health and Socioeconomic Survey (MHSS)

- MHSS1 (1996): 11,500 respondents in 2700 households
 - ▣ Research on left-behind parents, children
- MHSS2 (2012-14): MHSS1 respondents, descendants
 - ▣ 2,700 hh → 10,500 hh
 - ▣ >30,000 respondents
 - ▣ High outmigration rates
 - ▣ Extensive out-migrant tracking



MHSS2 migrant followup

- Large share of *probashi* (e.g. 24% of age 23-34 cohort)
- In-person interviews in Eid festival (30%)
- Short phone survey for others (60%)
- Followup phone



Eid tracking



Phone survey

Preliminary analysis of MHSS2 data

Focusing on males age 25-54

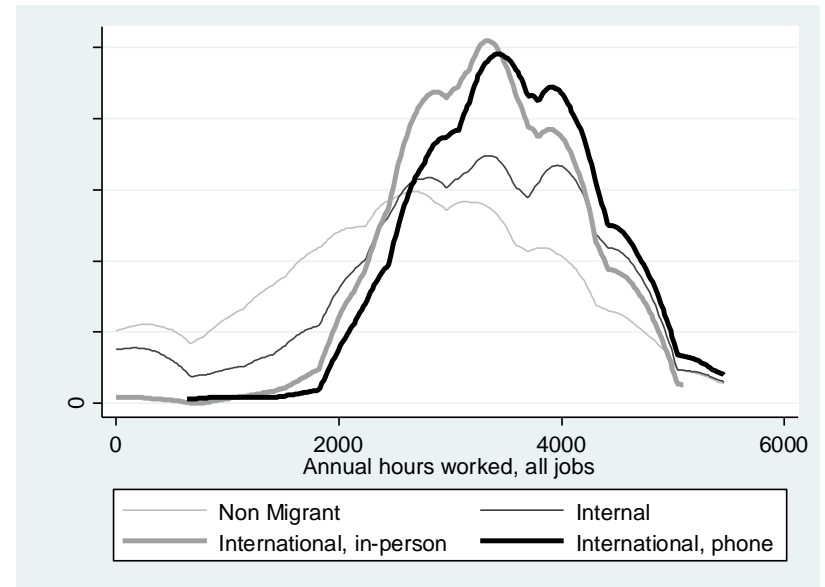
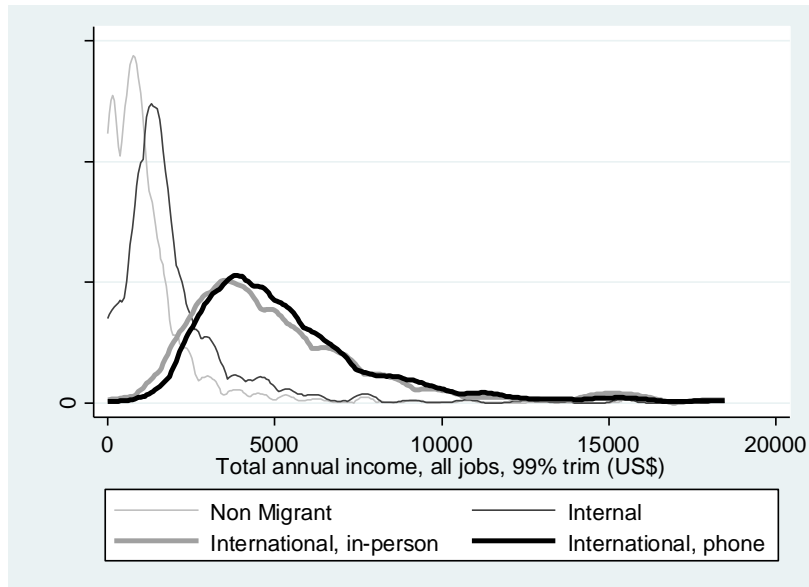
Aim 1: Assess data quality

Aim 2: Migrant vs. non-migrant outcomes

Group	Sample Size
Non-Migrant	2,333
Internal migrant	1,372
Overseas in 2012-2014	
Phone survey	561
Festival survey	282
Overseas in past 5 years	218

Phone vs. in-person data: Kernel density

Income and hours worked, age 25-54



Income, hours worked and wages

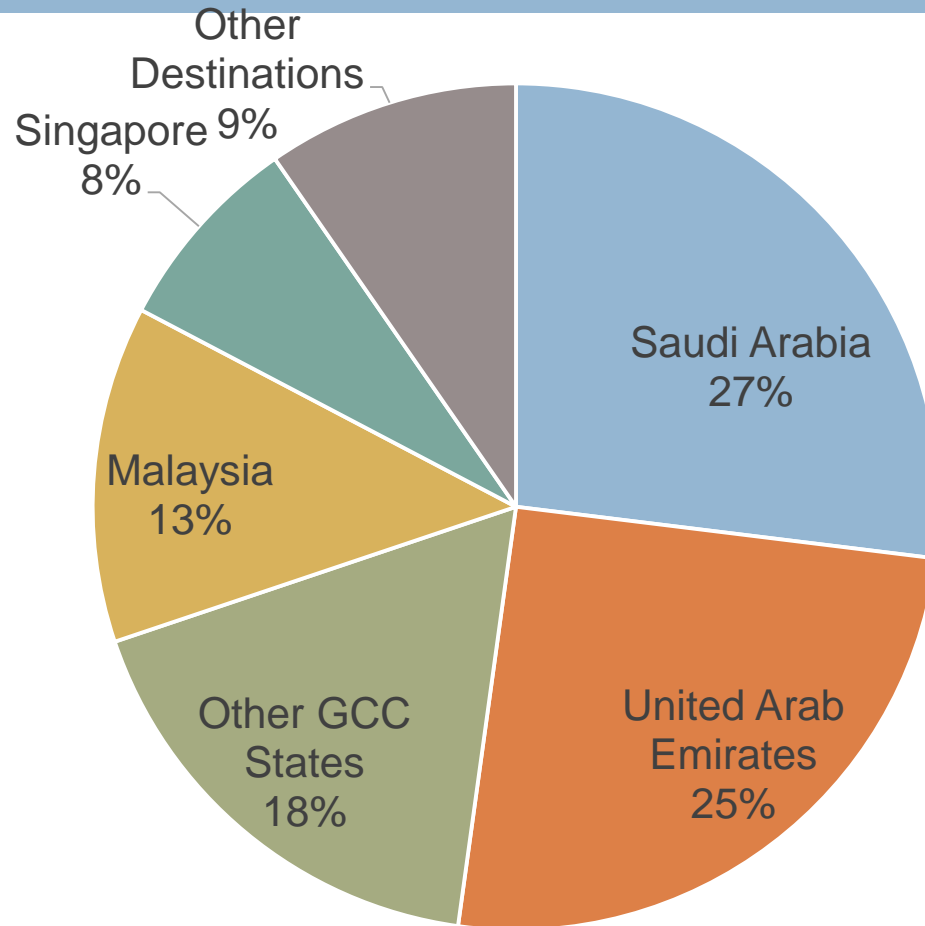
By migration status, age 25-54

	Income		Hours/50 wks		Wage/hr#
Non-migrant	\$1287		51		\$0.48
Internal migrant	\$1880 ***		60 ***		\$0.60
Int'l Mig Current	\$5017 ***		62 ***		\$1.56
Int'l Mig Return	\$1667		46 *		\$0.70

Statistical test of difference from non-migrant: *** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

- Computed from Income and hours

Location of current and return migrants, 2012-2014



Wages, costs by destination

MHSS2 estimates

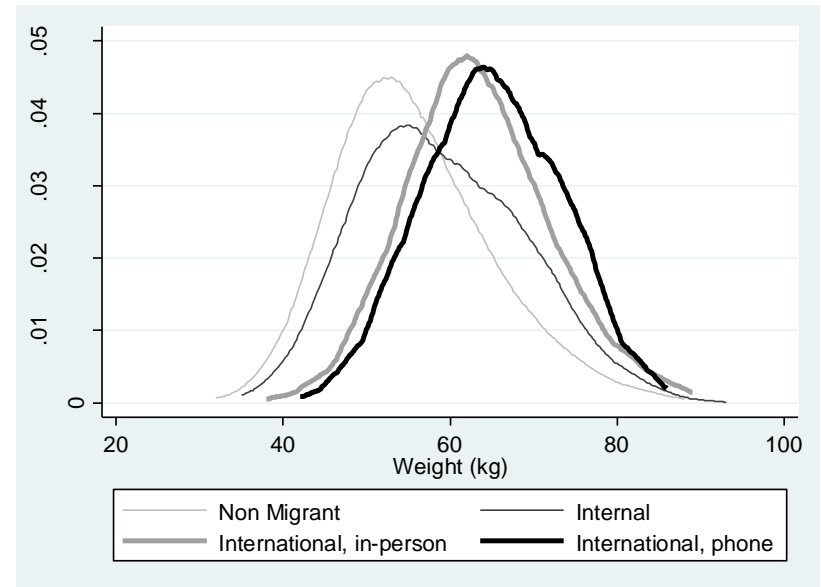
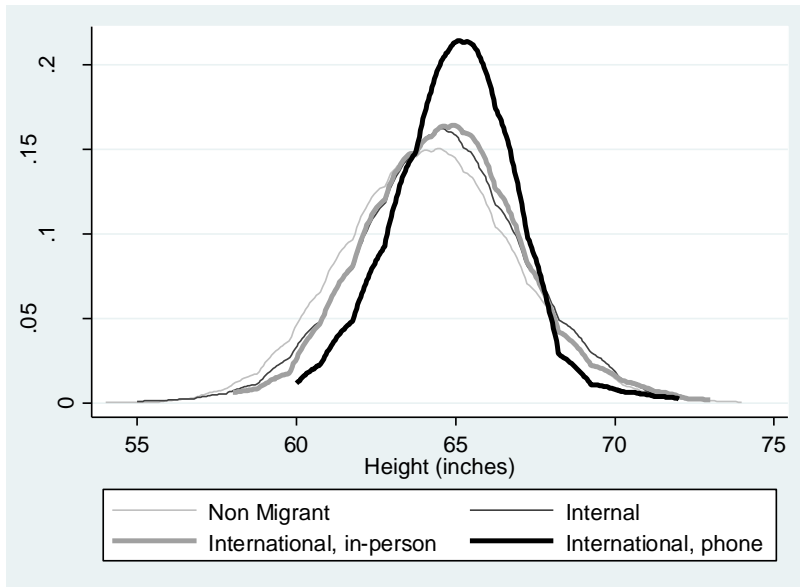
Country	Earnings		Hours / 52wks	Wages / Hr	Migration cost	Marginal ROI [#]
Saudi Arabia	\$5,637		67	\$1.63	\$3,889	\$2.60
UAE	\$4,436	***	66	\$1.29	\$3,312	\$2.14
Other GCC	\$4,910	*	68	\$1.40	\$3,798	\$2.18
SE Asia	\$6,379	*	68	\$1.80	\$4,298	\$2.78
Other	\$6,140		64	\$1.85	\$4,254	\$2.67

Statistical test of difference from Saudi Arabia: *** p<0.001; ** p<0.01; * p<0.05

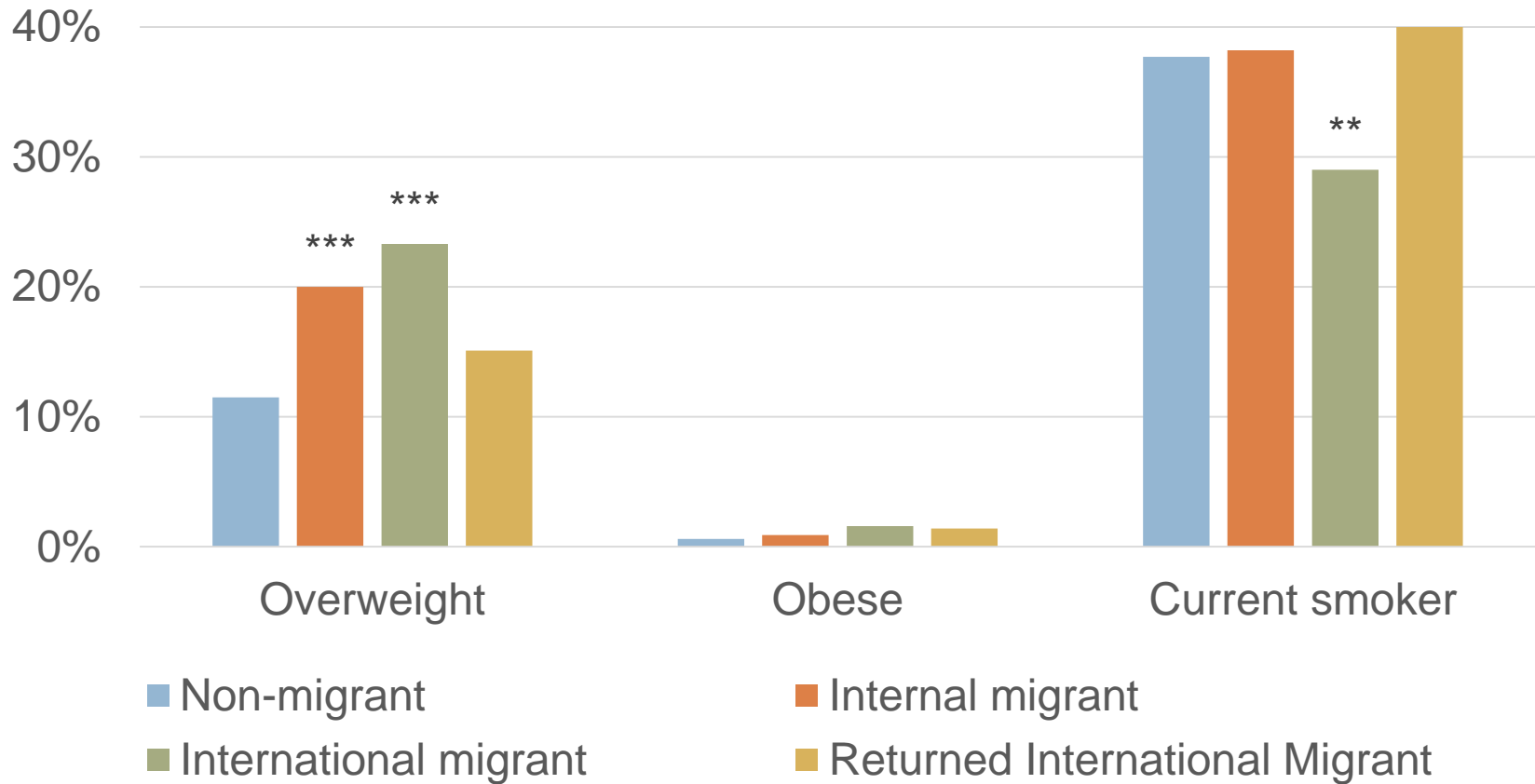
* - Assumes 2.5 years work at local average wage minus non-mig wage

REALM survey estimates will better account for duration, multiple trips, loans/interest rates, wage trajectories

Data validation: height and weight

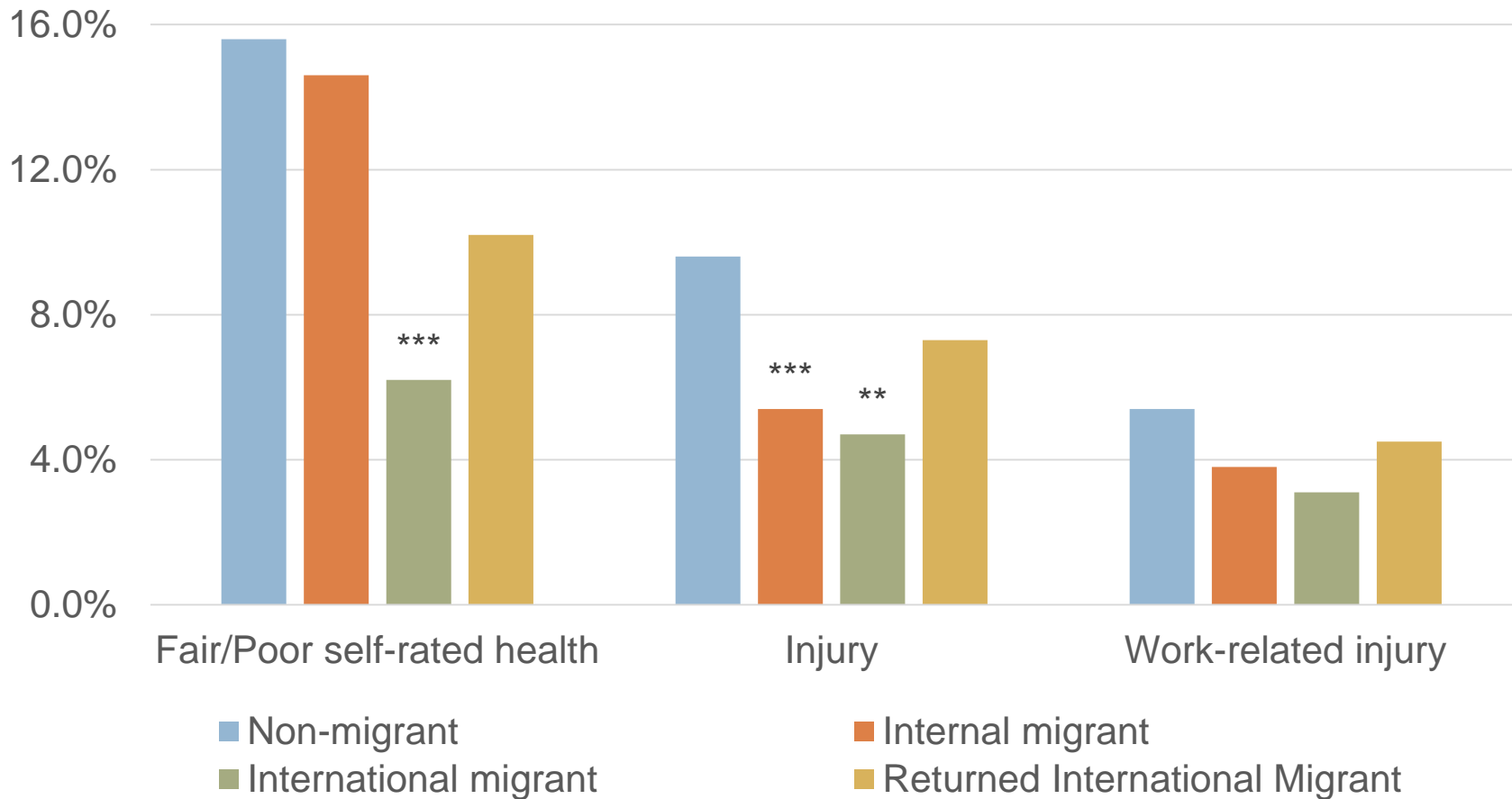


Health risk factors: Marginal estimates



Statistical test of difference from non-migrant: *** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

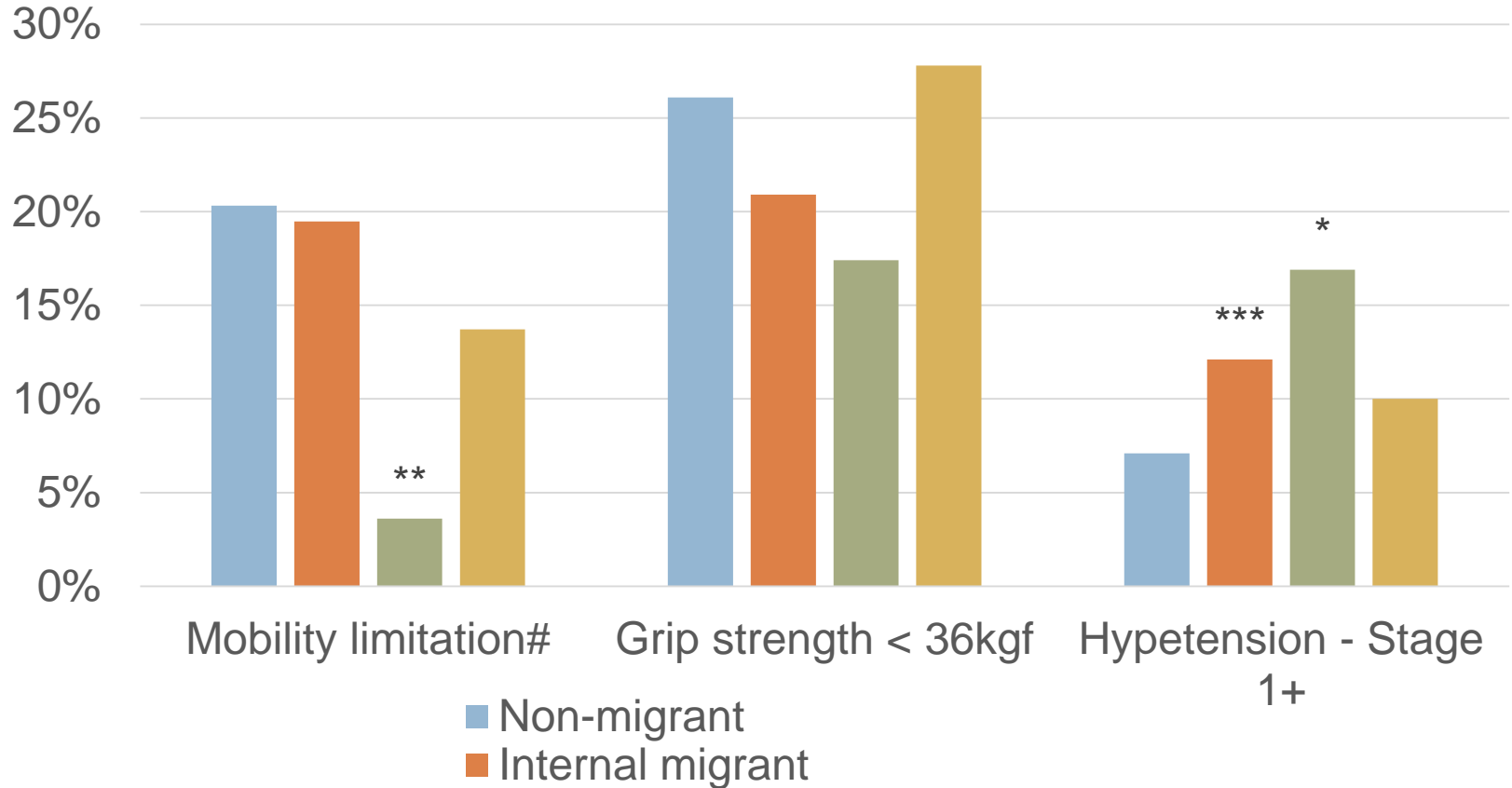
Reported health outcomes



Statistical test of difference from non-migrant: *** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

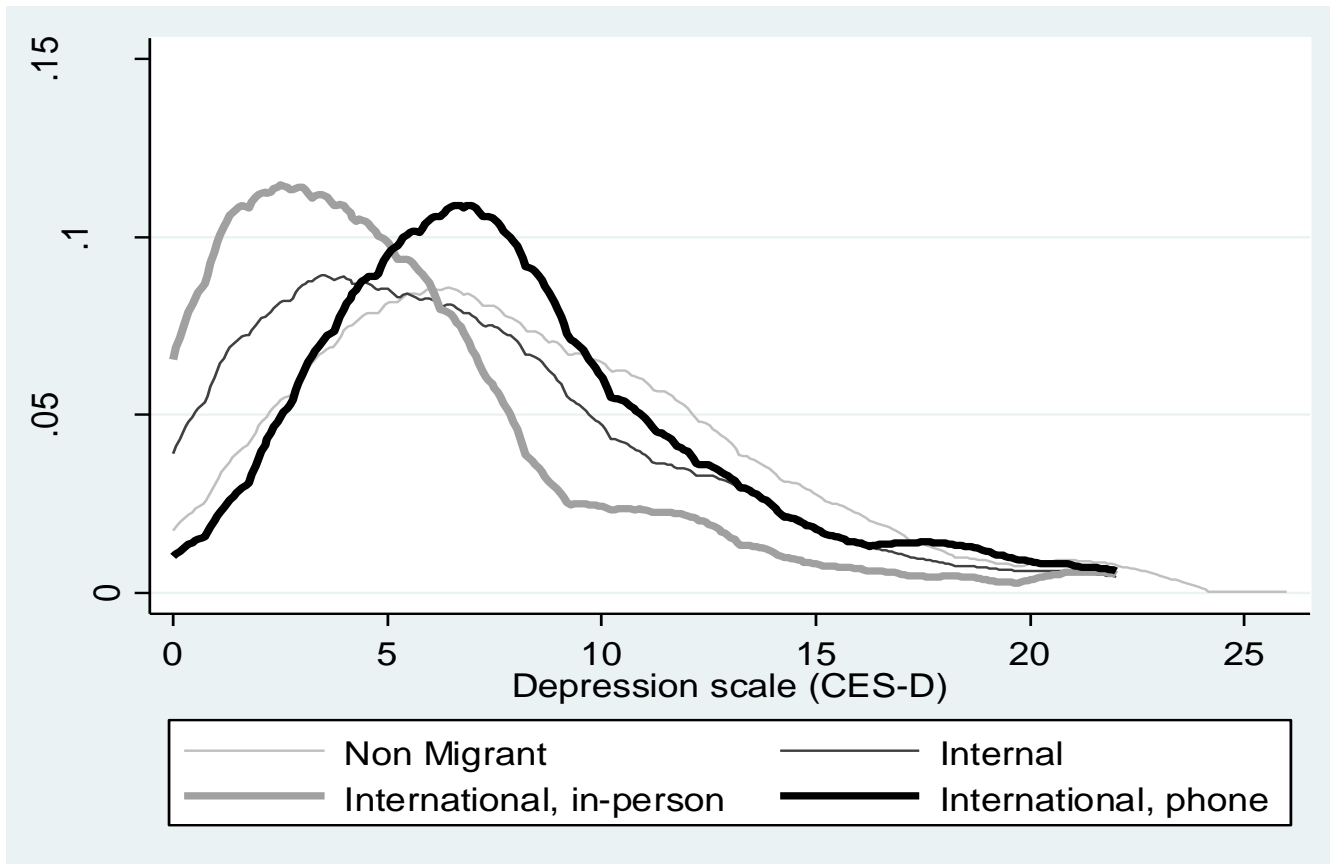
Objective health measures

Phone survey excluded



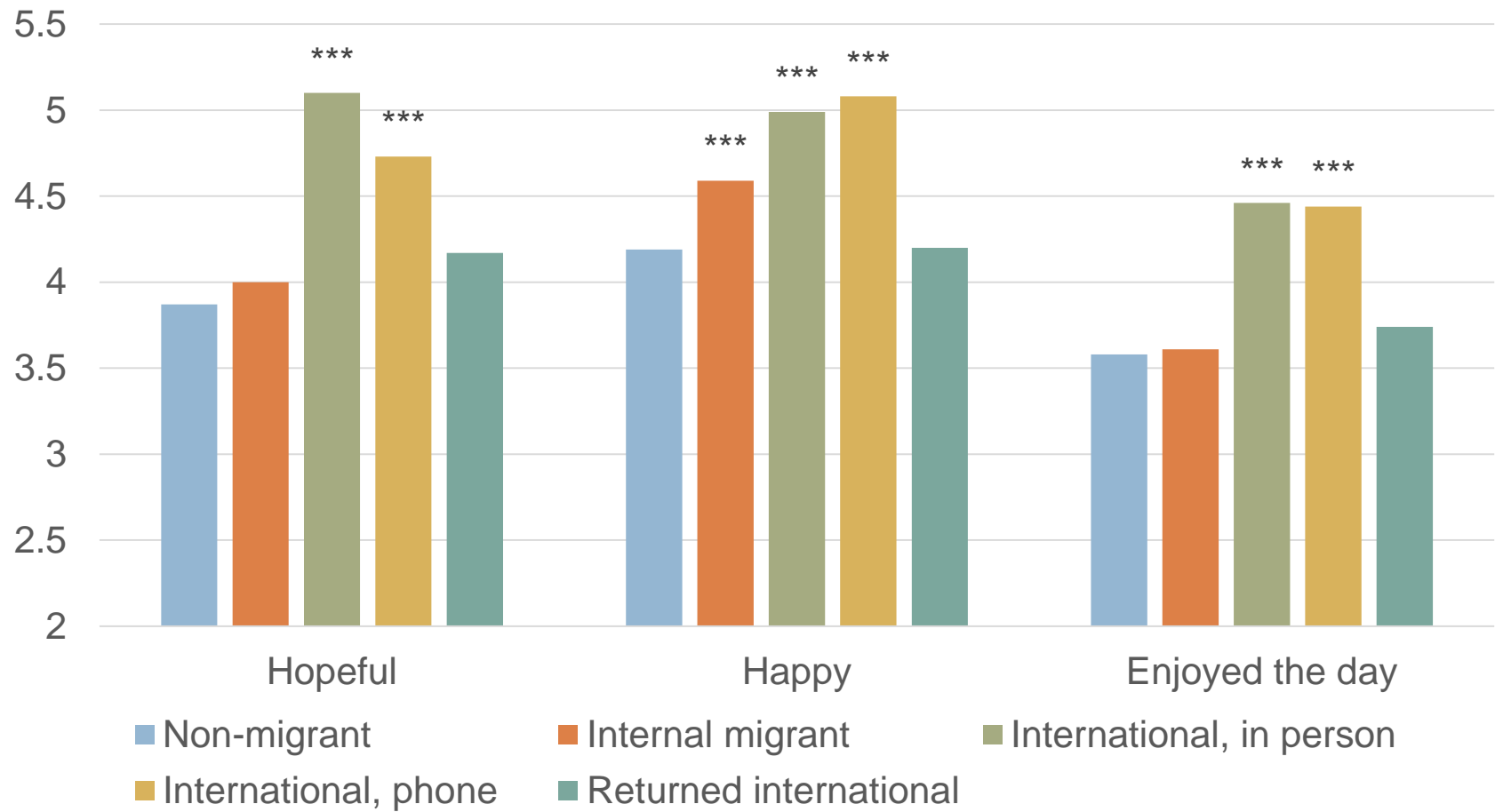
Statistical test of difference from non-migrant: *** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Data validation: Depression index



Days of week with positive feelings

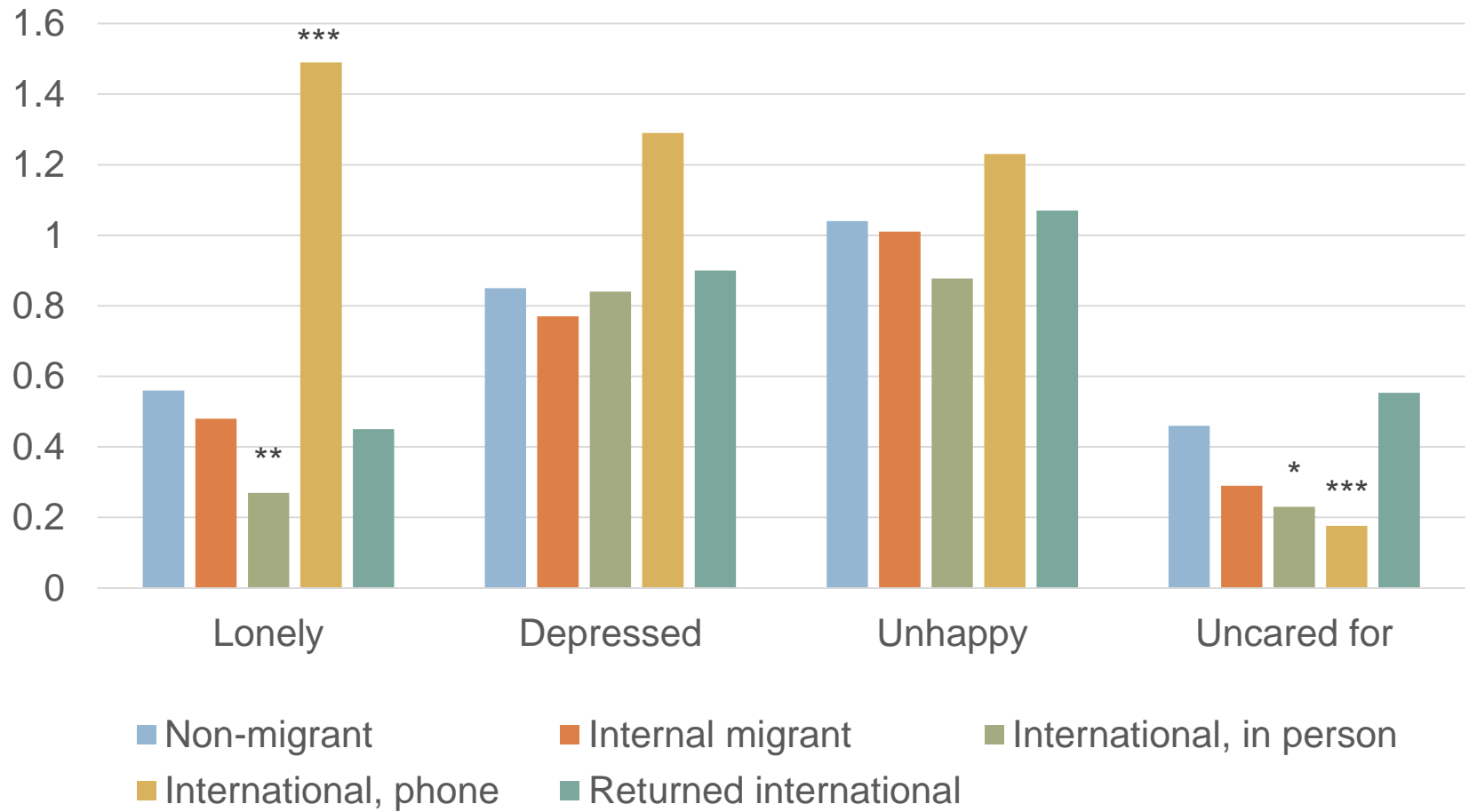
By migrant status



Statistical test of difference from non-migrant: *** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Days of week with negative feelings

By migrant status



Statistical test of difference from non-migrant: *** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Conclusions & Some Next Steps

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- Phone survey data quality is high
- *Probashi* have predictable income returns; returnee earnings moderately increased
- *Probashi* healthier, likely due to selectivity
 - ▣ Hypertension, overweight increased; injury risk lower
- Need panel controls for self-selection
- Followup phone survey will add new data

Followup phone survey

- Livelihoods
 - Recruitment, networks
 - Employment and living conditions
 - Remittances and investments
- Health
 - Occupational health risks, injuries
 - Abuse, rights violations
- Life chances
 - Full mental health
 - Attitudes towards migration
 - Agency - supervision, chain migration

Next step: Probashi Lives Study

- Many burdens must be measured in micro-temporal scale (e.g. stress, heat, sleep, mobility, social contact)
- Smartphones allow this
- *Probashi* are highly motivated to share their stories

