

The Impact on Low-Income Hawker-Stall Merchants: A Case Study of the Hawker-Stall Cancellation Policy in Bangkok

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ABSTRACT

The implementation of the Hawker-Stall cancellation policy has both positive implications for maintaining order in public areas, particularly on roads, while negatively impacting the economy of direct stakeholders. Low-income people are more affected than those with higher income levels because they have less adaptability and may be severely impacted. The objective of the study is to determine whether the Hawker-Stall cancellation policy affects low-income people in Thailand and to estimate the value of this impact. The study focuses on the Bangkok area, where strict enforcement has increased due to the cancellation of many designated areas from mid-2014 to 2018. The results estimate that the Hawker-Stall Cancellation Policy in the Bangkok area affects 3,128 low-income hawker-stall merchants, including 12,251 members of their households. The economic value lost due to income loss for these merchants is estimated to range from 436 to 567 million baht, while the total increase in expenses for all low-income customers is estimated at 2,757 million baht.

Keywords: low-income hawker-stall merchants, low-income customers, financial liquidity