Located in the north of Bangladesh, Panchagarh district lies under Rangpur division, and has an area of 1,405 square kilometres. The main rivers in the district are the Karatoya, Atrai, Tista, Nagor and Mahananda. Agriculture is the major source of income for people in this city, but tea cultivation is also a growing sector.

BRAC operates a few components at Panchagarh, such as microfinance, health, nutrition and population (HNPP), education (BEP), community empowerment (CEP), targeting the ultra poor (TUP), and human rights and legal aid services (HRLS). Among them, microfinance and HNPP have the largest network, serving the highest number of clients. BEP interventions target marginalised children, providing access to education through informal schools. CEP is strengthening the community institutions where as HRLS focusing on basic rights of marginalised women.

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**General information**

Population 1,046,212  
Sub-districts 5  
Unions 43  
Villages 825  
Children (0-15) 156,932  
Primary schools 610  
Literacy rate 52%  
Hospitals 5  
NGOs 34  
Banks 13  
Bazaars 52

**At a Glance**

(as of December 2016)

**Microfinance**

- Branches 19  
- Village organisations 1,715  
- Members 47,848  
- Borrowers 44,188  
- Progoti  
- Small enterprise clients 2,224

**Community empowerment**

- Community-based organisation (poll shomaj) 151  
- Union-based organisation (Union shomaj) 39  
- Popular theatre 5

**Health, nutrition and population**

- Health workers (shasthya kormi) 36  
- Health volunteers (shasthya shebika) 337

**Education**

- Pre-primary schools 85  
- Shishu niketon schools 189  
- ADP centres 42  
- Community libraries 36  
- Education support programme 35

**Human rights and legal aid services**

- Human rights and legal education (HRLE) shebikas 77  
- HRLE graduates 45,501  
- Legal aid clinics 4

**Targeting the ultra poor**

- Specially targeted ultra poor (STUP) programme 826  
- Other targeted ultra poor (OTUP) programme 1,145  
- Asset and training received 826  
- Healthcare availed 1,971  
- Soft loan received 1,145

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Although every effort has been made to include and verify the accuracy of relevant information in this fact sheet, users are urged to check independently on matters of specific interest. Report any discrepancies/suggestions to visitors@brac.net. This document was last updated on 31 December 2016, is revised yearly and made available on www.brac.net/visitors.