

Table 1: REBA Scoring System

REBA SCORE	Risk	Action
1	Negligible risk	Corrective action including further assessment is not necessary
2-3	Low risk	Corrective action including further assessment may be necessary
4-7	Medium risk	Corrective action including further assessment is necessary
8-10	High risk	Corrective action including further assessment is necessary soon
11+	Very high risk	Corrective action including further assessment is necessary now

6. Results

a) Demographic Profile:

Age Distribution: Age of the participants in the study was between 20 to 50 years. From the data mean age was 35 years.

Sex Distribution: The gender distribution in the study was 2:5(20 males,50 females) workers

b) REBA scoring:(Table No:2)

From REBA method it is assessed that 92-95% handicraft workers have risks of MSDs. Among that 40% workers have high risks,7% have very high risks,30% medium risk,15% have low risk on (Rt) side. While on (Lt) side 15% have high risk,5% have very high risk, 45% have medium risks, 30% low risks. Workers from embroidery and patch working are at high risk, while in stitching, sampling, weaving are at medium risk of MSDs.

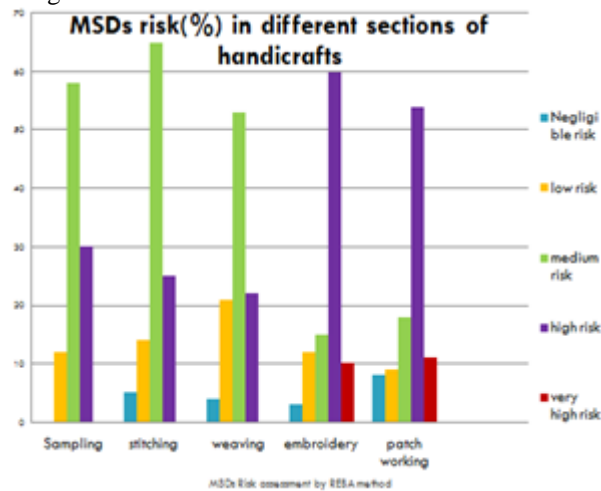


Figure 1

Table 2: REBA SCORE in Handicraft Workers

REBA SCORE (No. of workers distribution in each category of risk level)										
Sections	1		2 or 3		7-Apr		10-Aug		11+	
	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L
Sampling	0	0	2	4	7	3	3	3	0	0
Stitching	1	0	3	2	1	6	4	5	0	0
weaving	1	1	3	4	2	2	7	3	0	0
Embroidery	2	2	1	5	0	1	10	12	3	2
Patch working	1	1	2	5	0	1	6	9	2	2

7. Discussion

It was observed that in the small scale industries ergonomics is hardly given preferences as they have to assume specific positions repeatedly for prolonged period for their work. By using REBA method, it was observed that in every category of creating the art, many workers were under muscular stress. REBA methods of postural analysis closely co-relate with the awkward postures adopted by the workers. Study and Justification of Body Postures of Workers Working in SSI by Using Reba analysed by N. A. Ansari et al.(2013). They concluded that workstation modification is necessary in machining in the industries. This tool is found to be sensitive to the type of unpredictable working posture in health care and other service industries. Ira L. Janowitz et al. (2006) measure the physical demands of work in hospital setting by REBA. There is need for urgent improvement in the industries for betterment of the workers to perform their operations with minimum load and stress on their bodies.

8. Future Scope

- 1) As this was the pilot study sample size was small, study with larger population can be done.
- 2) Future study could be done on other areas of traditional small scale industries like handloom, sericulture, khadi village industries
- 3) Future study could be done on ergonomic modification in reference to REBA score

9. Conclusion

From REBA method it is assessed that 92-95% handicraft workers have risks of MSDs.

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Author Profile



Dr. Chandni B. Shah, Lecturer and Post Graduate teacher at Ahmedabad Physiotherapy College, Bopal, Ahmedabad. I have done my B.P.T & M. P.T (ORTHO) from Government Physiotherapy College, Civil Hospital, Ahmedabad. I have Academic Experience of 5 years. I have done this research under the guidance of Dr. Neeta J. Vyas (Ph.D.) during my Ph.D. course in Gujarat University, Gujarat



Dr. Neeta J. Vyas, Principal at S.B.B. College of Physiotherapy, Ahmedabad. She has done Ph.D. in physiotherapy. Presently she is reputed Ph.D. guide, at Gujarat University, Gujarat.

