



AFGHANISTAN

Whole of Afghanistan Assessment (WoAA) 2020

Multisectoral and Sectoral
Factsheet Booklet

August-September 2020

Whole of Afghanistan Assessment (WoAA) key findings

September 2020
AFGHANISTAN

CONTEXT

Decades of conflict and recurrent natural disasters, compounded by chronic poverty and under-development only worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic, have led to devastating levels of need in Afghanistan. As the estimated number of people in need continues to grow year on year, the necessity of evidence-based decision making and prioritization through joint inter-sectoral analysis has only become clearer.

To ensure this evidence base, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)-led Inter-Cluster Coordination Team (ICCT) implemented the third round of the WoAA, facilitated by REACH Initiative (REACH). First conducted in 2018, the assessment, timed with key milestones in the Humanitarian Project Cycle (HPC), provides high-quality, representative data to humanitarian decision-makers and implementers to inform the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and multi-year Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). For more information, please consult the WoAA 2020 Terms of Reference ([ToR](#)).

METHODOLOGY

WoAA 2020 is a quantitative, household-level assessment, which targeted 13,147 households across all 34 provinces of Afghanistan, using stratified cluster sampling. Data collection took place from 08 August to 14 September 2020, by REACH and 11 partner organizations. Due to COVID-19, WoAA 2020 has a shorter questionnaire, no focus group discussions (FGDs), and fewer interviews compared to WoAA 2019. For further information regarding COVID-19 measures, please consult the [COVID-19 SOP](#). Findings are statistically representative of the displaced population (IDPs and cross-border (CB) returnees) at province level, with a 95% confidence level and 5% margin of error. Furthermore, findings for all population groups (listed in the 'assessment sample' below) are representative at the national level with a 95% confidence level and 5% margin of error.

The WoAA 2020 questionnaire included indicators covering all 11 active Clusters and Sub-Clusters in Afghanistan, including: Education in Emergencies (EIE), Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items (ES-NFI),

Food Security and Agriculture (FSA), Health, Nutrition, Protection, and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH). Indicators were selected by the ICCT and respective clusters and technical experts, and were aligned with core questions from the global Joint Inter-sectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF). To enable an overview of sectoral needs, REACH developed 'sectoral severity of need' composite indicators, in collaboration with clusters, where households were assigned a score of 1 (no or minimal need) to 4 (emergency). Each household was also assigned a multi-sectoral severity score equal to the highest of their 7 sectoral severity scores. As sectoral severity scores use different indicators and derive only from WoAA 2020 analysis, these scores may differ from HNO 2021 findings.

To ensure a truly comprehensive and nationwide evidence-base, a further 3,553 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) were conducted in 120 hard-to-reach (HTR) districts, spread across 25 provinces. HTR findings are indicative and cannot be generalized to the entire population living in HTR areas. Data was collected between 19 July 2020 and 02 August 2020.²

Assessment sample

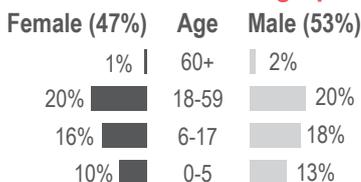
WoAA 2020 Component

Households	13,147
- Recent CB returnee	1,040
- Non-recent CB returnee	903
- Recent IDP	4,375
- Non-recent IDP	3,995
- Pakistani refugee	414
- Vulnerable non-displaced	2,420

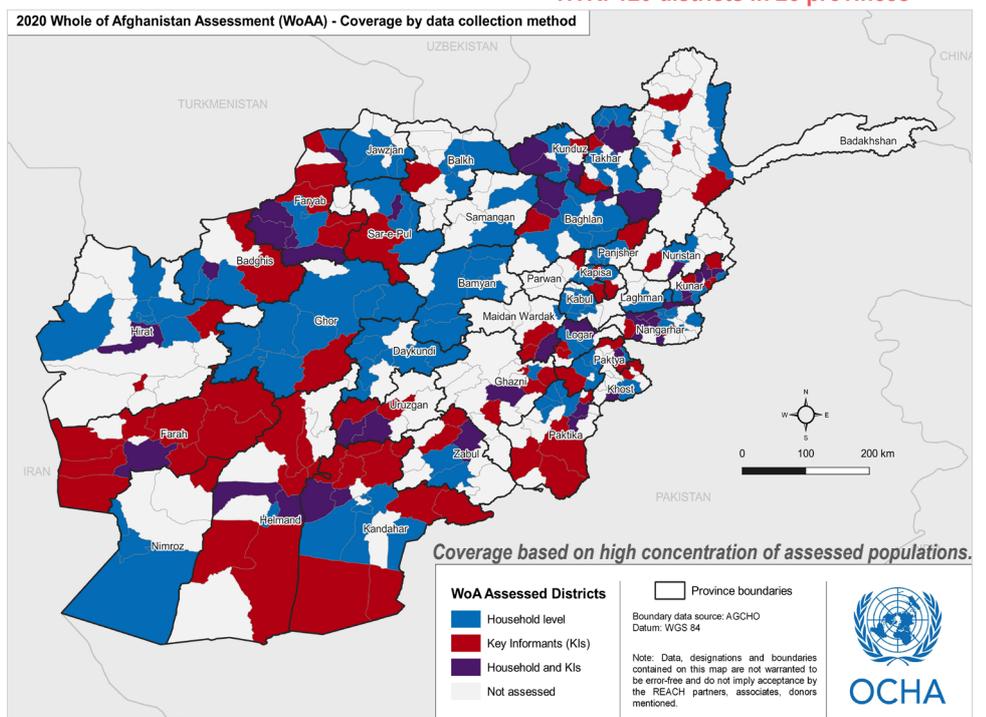
HtR Component

- KIIs:	3,533
- Settlements:	3,533
- Districts:	120

WoAA 2020 Demographics³



Coverage map



¹ Targeted population groups included recent (within the 6 months prior to data collection) and non-recent cross-border (CB) returnee households, recent and non-recent internally displaced (IDP) households, Pakistani refugee households, and vulnerable non-displaced households in [IPC 3/ FEWS NET 3](#) and [IPC 4/FEWS NET 4](#) provinces. Displaced populations refers to all CB returnee and IDP households.

² The HTR assessment is similarly an ICCT-led process facilitated by REACH to ensure comprehensive nationwide understanding of needs. Further details on the methodology can be found [here](#).

³ The following analysis only includes displaced populations.

% of displaced households with at least one sectoral need:¹

97%

% of displaced households per Multi-Sectoral Need Index (MSNI) severity score:²



90% Extreme (severity score 4)
7% Severe (severity score 3)
3% Stress (severity score 2)
0% None or minimal (severity score 1)

% of households with at least one sectoral need, per population group:

Recent IDP ³	99%	
Non-recent IDP	98%	
Recent CB returnee ³	96%	
Non-recent CB returnee	94%	
Pakistani refugee	100%	
Vulnerable non-displaced	96%	

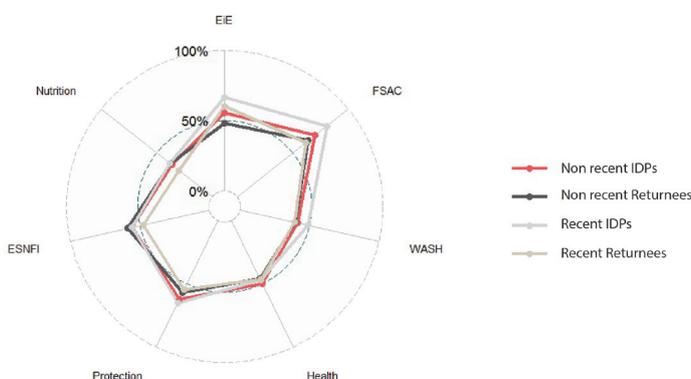
% of households per MSNI severity score, per population group:

	1	2	3	4
Recent IDP	0%	2%	5%	94%
Non-recent IDP	0%	2%	8%	90%
Recent CB returnee	0%	4%	5%	91%
Non-recent CB returnee	0%	6%	6%	88%
Pakistani refugee	0%	0%	0%	100%
Vulnerable non-displaced	0%	3%	12%	84%

% of households per number of sectoral needs³, per population group:

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Recent IDP	2%	4%	10%	22%	26%	23%	11%	2%
Non-recent IDP	3%	8%	15%	21%	24%	17%	10%	3%
Recent CB returnee	4%	11%	17%	22%	21%	18%	4%	2%
Non-recent CB returnee	6%	12%	18%	17%	18%	15%	12%	4%
Pakistani refugee	0%	1%	9%	24%	32%	26%	6%	2%
Vulnerable non-displaced	4%	16%	24%	23%	23%	8%	3%	0%

% of displaced households with sectoral need(s), per population group:



20% of displaced households were found to have a sectoral need and to be vulnerable.

% of displaced households with a vulnerability found to have at least one sectoral need, per vulnerability profile:

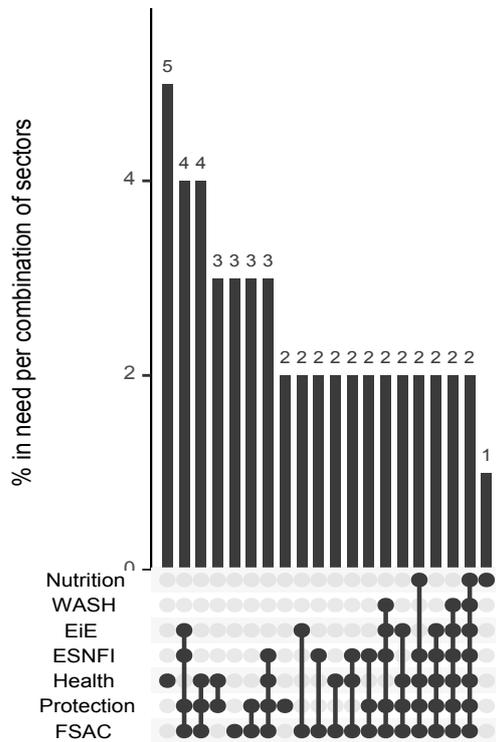
Households with a disability	99%
Elderly-headed households	97%
Female-headed households	99%

¹ The severity scoring system was inspired by the JIAF. To determine each household's sectoral severity score, "unmet need" was calculated according to scoring on several sector-dependent indicators. The final severity score ranged from 1 (no or minimal need) to 4 (emergency) for each sector. Households with severity scores of 3 or 4 were considered to have sectoral need. For more information on methodology, please see Annex 1.

² The MSNI severity score is based on the highest sectoral severity of needs score. For more information on the methodology, see Annex 1.

³ Recent CB returnee households are those which returned to Afghanistan in the 6 months prior to data collection. Non-recent CB returnee households are those which returned more than 6 months prior to data collection. Recent IDP households are those that most recently displaced in the 6 months prior to data collection. Non-recent IDP households are those which most recently displaced more than 6 months prior to data collection.

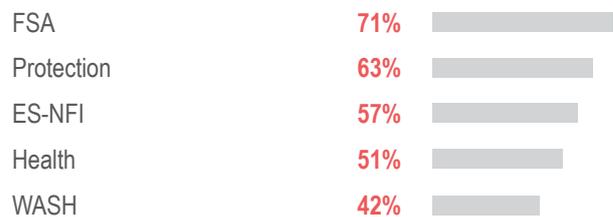
Most common combinations of one or more sectoral needs among displaced households with at least one sectoral need:¹



The figure on the left shows the **most common needs profiles**, to identify the **most common “combinations” of one or more sectoral needs**. Each household has only one needs profile so the percentages cannot add up to more than 100%.

The figure below shows the proportion of households in need **by type of sectoral need**, to identify the **most commonly occurring sectoral needs**. Each household can have needs in several sectors so the percentages can add up to more than 100%.

Among displaced households with at least one sectoral need, % of households with sectoral need:¹



Among subsets of displaced households with at least one sectoral need, % of households with sectoral need:²



Most common sectoral need profiles among households with at least one sectoral need, per population group:

Recent IDP

1. EiE, ES-NFI, FSA, Protection, WASH **4%**
2. ES-NFI, FSA, Protection, WASH **4%**
3. EiE, FSA, Protection **3%**

Non-recent IDP

1. EiE, ES-NFI, FSA, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH **3%**
2. FSA **3%**
3. EiE, ES-NFI, FSA, Health, Protection, WASH **3%**

Recent CB returnee

1. Protection **3%**
2. EiE, ES-NFI, FSAC, Health, WASH **3%**
3. EiE, FSA, Nutrition, Protection, WASH **3%**

Non-recent CB returnee

1. EiE, ES-NFI, FSAC, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH **4%**
2. Protection **3%**
3. ES-NFI, FSA, Health, Nutrition, Protection **3%**

Pakistani refugee

1. EiE, ES-NFI, FSA, Protection, WASH **11%**
2. EiE, ES-NFI, FSA, Protection **9%**
3. ES-NFI, FSA, Protection **8%**

Vulnerable non-displaced

1. Health **9%**
2. FSA, Health, Protection **7%**
3. EiE, ES-NFI, FSA, Protection **6%**

¹ This visual only includes assessed displaced households with one or more sectoral need. To determine each household's sectoral needs, "unmet need" was calculated according to scoring on several sector-dependent indicators. The final severity score ranged from 1 (no or minimal need) to 4 (emergency) for each sector. Households with severity scores of 3 or 4 were considered to have sectoral need. For more information on methodology, please see Annex 1.

² Education in Emergencies (EiE) and Nutrition figures were not calculated from the entire sample - only from subsets of the sample based on relevance for these indicators. For EiE, the percentage only includes displaced households with children 6-17 years. For Nutrition, the percentage only includes displaced households with children 0-12 years.

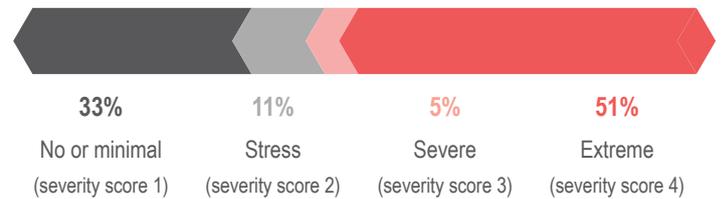


Education in Emergencies (EiE) Sectoral Need

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% of displaced households with an EiE sectoral need:¹ **56%**

% of displaced households per EiE sectoral severity score:



% of households with EiE sectoral need, per population group:²



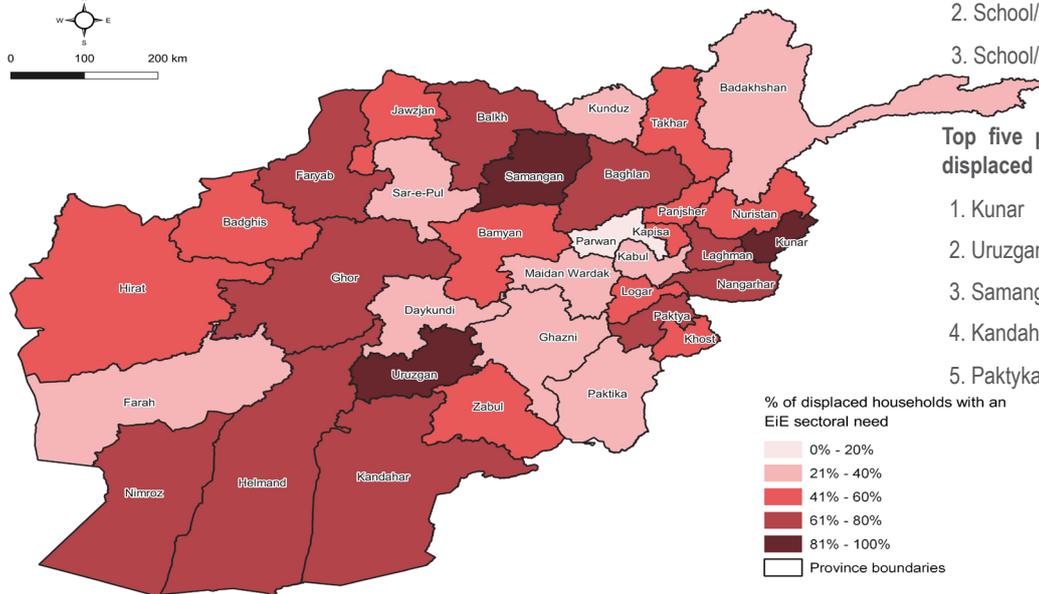
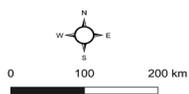
% of households per EiE sectoral severity score, per population group:

	1	2	3	4
Recent IDP	22%	11%	2%	65%
Non-recent IDP	33%	12%	5%	51%
Recent CB returnee	31%	8%	3%	57%
Non-recent CB returnee	38%	14%	5%	43%
Pakistani refugee	37%	8%	0%	55%
Vulnerable non-displaced	50%	12%	5%	32%

% of displaced households with EiE sectoral need, per vulnerability type:³



% of displaced households with EiE sectoral need, per province:



% of displaced households per main driver of EiE sectoral need:

1. HH has a child not enrolled in school or CBE⁴ **77%**
2. School/CBE has no heater **18%**
3. School/CBE has no handwashing facility **11%**

Top five provinces with the highest proportion of displaced households with EiE sectoral need:

1. Kunar **91%**
2. Uruzgan **88%**
3. Samangan **86%**
4. Kandahar **80%**
5. Paktyka **79%**

Only households with school-aged children (6-17 years) were included in the EiE sectoral need composite indicator.

¹ The EiE sectoral need composite indicator included pre-COVID-19 enrollment and attendance and indicators on whether children in the household attended schools without handwashing facilities or heaters. Only households with children 6 to 17 years old were evaluated. To determine the proportion of households with EiE sectoral need, households in the severe (3) or extreme (4) categories were aggregated. See Annex for detailed methodology.

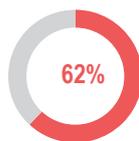
² Displaced populations included both recent (under 6 months) and non-recent (over 6 months) internally displaced persons (IDPs) and recent and non-recent crossborder (CB) returnees.

³ Vulnerabilities included households with at least one disabled member, elderly-headed households, and female-headed households. To define disability, respondents were asked the short form of the Washington Group Questionnaire. Elderly heads of household were defined as heads of household 65 years of age or older. For sectoral needs of other vulnerable groups, including households which reporting living in an informal settlement, see p.18 on the pre-existing vulnerabilities.

⁴ HH refers to household. Community Based Education (CBE) are informal schools jointly established by the Afghan Ministry of Education, communities, and facilitating partners to fill gaps in the formal education.



% of displaced school-aged children (6-18 years) not enrolled in CBE or formal schools in the school year prior to COVID-19:¹



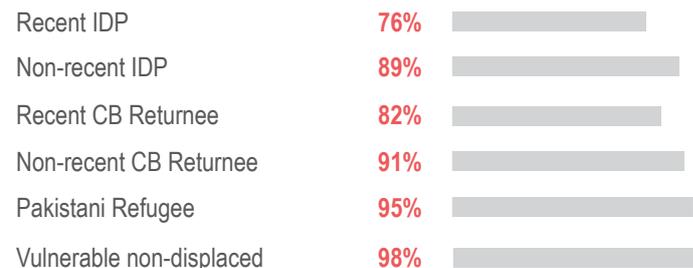
% of displaced households with enrolled children (6-18 years) attending school, per average days attended:



% of households with school-aged children (6-18) not enrolled in CBE or formal schools prior to COVID-19, per population group:



% of households with enrolled children (6-18 years) attending school at least 3 - 4 days per week, per population group:



% of displaced school-aged children (6-18) not enrolled in formal schools in the school year prior to COVID-19, by age and gender:

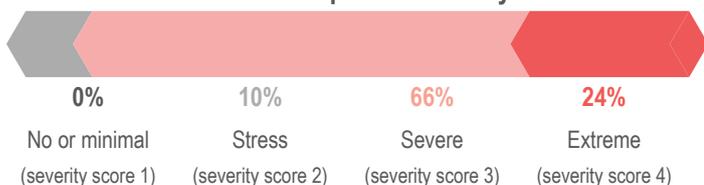


18% of all displaced households reported **at least one enrolled child attending classes in a school without a heater** and **11%** of all displaced households reported **at least one enrolled child attending classes in a school without handwashing facilities.**

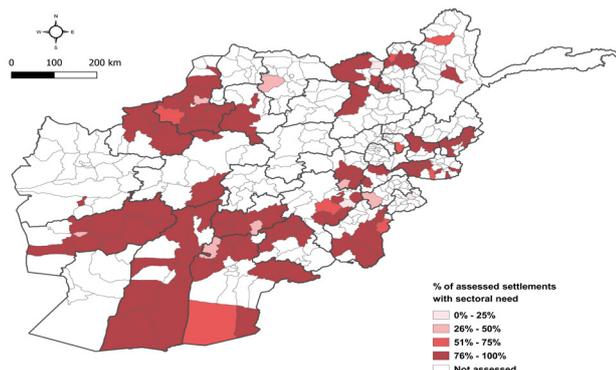
HARD-TO-REACH - EiE FINDINGS

% of assessed settlements with a sectoral need in EiE (severity score of 3 or 4): **90%**

% of assessed settlements per EiE severity score:



% of assessed settlements with a sectoral need in EiE per assessed HTR district:



see Annex for details on methodology

!! Hard-to-reach findings are based on interviews with KIs at settlement level and should be considered indicative only.

% of assessed settlements per driver of EiE sectoral need:²

- At least one boy/girl under 16 had been working in the settlement in the 3 months prior to data collection **95%**
- KI was not aware of any remote teaching/ learning activities while schools were closed due COVID-19 **66%**
- Girls, children with disabilities and/or chronic illness, children from IDP and/or returnee households, or children from minority ethnic groups had less access to remote teaching or learning activities: **24%**
- Boys, or children from poorer households had less access to remote learning activities **19%**

¹ Community Based Education (CBE) are informal schools jointly established by the Afghan Ministry of Education, communities, and facilitating partners to fill gaps in the formal education.

² Recall period for all HTR questions was 3 months prior to data collection.

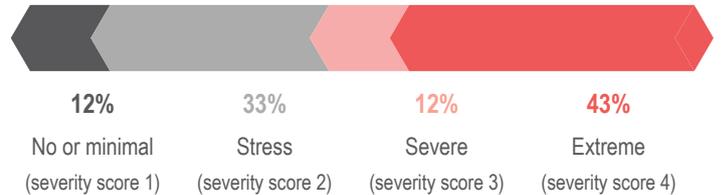


Emergency Shelter & Non-Food Items (ES-NFI) Sectoral Need

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% of displaced households with an ES-NFI sectoral need:¹ **55%**

% of displaced households per ES-NFI sectoral severity score:



% of households with ES-NFI sectoral need, per population group:²



% of households per ES-NFI sectoral severity score, per population group:

	1	2	3	4
Recent IDP	9%	35%	13%	43%
Non-recent IDP	12%	33%	12%	44%
Recent CB returnee	13%	39%	11%	36%
Non-recent CB returnee	16%	25%	15%	44%
Pakistani refugee	6%	30%	10%	53%
Vulnerable Non-displaced	14%	43%	13%	30%

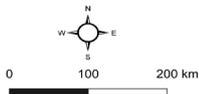
% of displaced households with ES-NFI sectoral need, per vulnerability type:³



% of displaced households with ES-NFI sectoral need, per province:

% of displaced households per main driver of ES-NFI sectoral need:

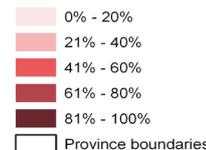
1. HH lives in a damaged shelter **85%**
2. HH relies on inadequate heating source **84%**
3. HH lives in shelter with enclosure issues **75%**



Top five provinces with the highest proportion of displaced households with ES-NFI sectoral need:

1. Ghor **92%**
2. Faryab **84%**
3. Sar-e-Pul **84%**
4. Parwan **83%**
5. Nimroz **80%**

% of displaced households with an ES-NFI sectoral need



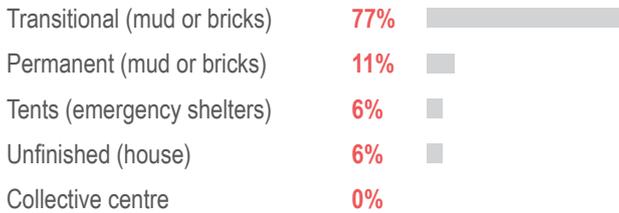
¹ The ES-NFI sectoral need composite indicator included indicators of shelter type, damage to shelter, access to key non-food items, number of blankets per household member, main energy source for winter, and shelter-related reasons for indebtedness. To determine the proportion of households with ES-NFI sectoral need, households in the severe (3) or extreme (4) categories were aggregated. See Annex for detailed methodology.
² Displaced populations included both recent (under 6 months) and non-recent (over 6 months) internally displaced persons (IDPs) and recent and non-recent crossborder (CB) returnees.
³ Vulnerabilities included households with at least one disabled member, elderly-headed households, and female-headed households. To define disability, respondents were asked the short form of the Washington Group Questionnaire. Elderly heads of household were defined as heads of household 65 years of age or older. For sectoral needs of other vulnerable groups, including households which reporting living in an informal settlement, see p.18 on pre-existing vulnerabilities.



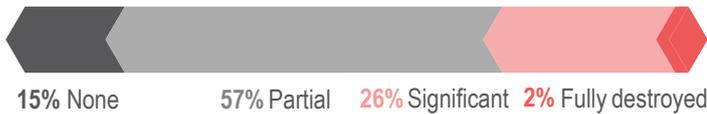
% of displaced households reporting living in inadequate shelters:¹



% of displaced households, by shelter type at the time of data collection:



% of displaced households by reported damage to shelter:

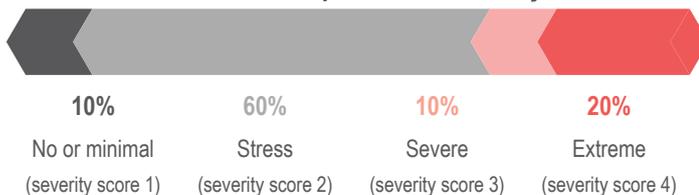


8% of displaced households reported **rent** and 5% of displaced households reported **shelter repair** as the primary reason for debt. **45,011 AFN** was the average reported debt among displaced households.²

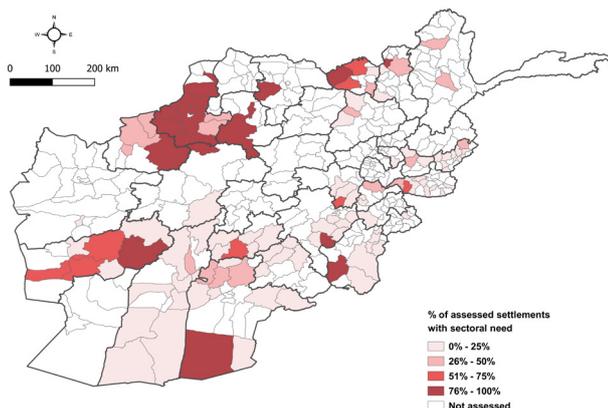
HARD-TO-REACH - ES-NFI FINDINGS

% of assessed settlements with a sectoral need in ES-NFI (severity score of 3 or 4): **30%**

% of assessed settlements per ES-NFI severity score:



% of assessed settlements with a sectoral need in ES-NFI per assessed HTR district:

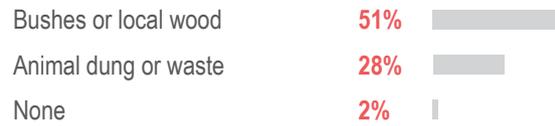


see Annex for details on methodology

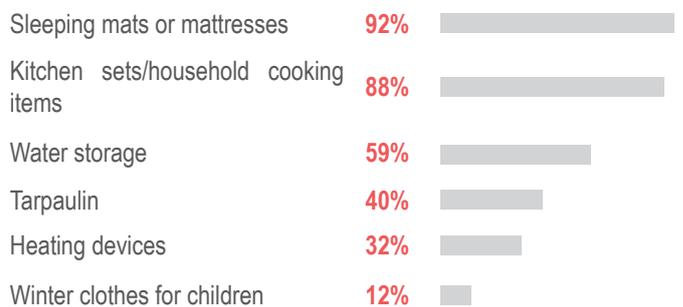
% of displaced households with an inadequate heating source:³



% of displaced households with an inadequate heating source, by primary reporting heating source:



% of displaced households per type of priority NFIs they reporting owning or having daily access to:



% of displaced households reporting having less than one blanket per member:



!! Hard-to-reach findings are based on interviews with KIs at settlement level and should be considered indicative only.

% of assessed settlements per driver of ES-NFI sectoral need:⁴

1. Few or no shelters were repaired if they had been destroyed or severely damaged **88%**
2. Concerns regarding shelters were that shelters were overcrowded, did not have separate space for women, leaked or had no insulation, or were substandard shelters **87%**
3. At least one person was threatened or forced to leave their home **41%**
4. No market was accessible due to road being too dangerous (conflict or physical constraints), or distance **30%**
5. Most people lived in tents, open space, makeshift shelter or collective centers **20%**
6. Most displaced people lived in tents, open space, makeshift shelters or collective centers **13%**
7. Most people lived in unfinished shelters **3%**

¹ Inadequate shelters include collective centers, open spaces, and tents.

² 45,011 AFN is approximately 600 USD. [Da Afghanistan Bank](#), 10 December 2020.

³ Inadequate heating sources include animal dung or waste, bushes or local wood, and no heating source

⁴ Recall period for all HTR questions was 3 months prior to data collection.





% of displaced households with a FSA sectoral need:¹ **67%**

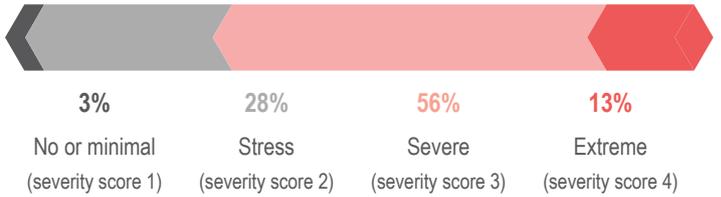
% of households with FSA sectoral need, per population group:²

Recent IDP	81%	<div style="width: 81%;"></div>
Non-recent IDP	71%	<div style="width: 71%;"></div>
Recent CB returnee	62%	<div style="width: 62%;"></div>
Non-recent CB returnee	64%	<div style="width: 64%;"></div>
Pakistani refugee	93%	<div style="width: 93%;"></div>
Vulnerable non-displaced	64%	<div style="width: 64%;"></div>

% of displaced households with FSA sectoral need, per vulnerability type:³

Households with a disability	72%	<div style="width: 72%;"></div>
Elderly-headed households	65%	<div style="width: 65%;"></div>
Female-headed households	66%	<div style="width: 66%;"></div>

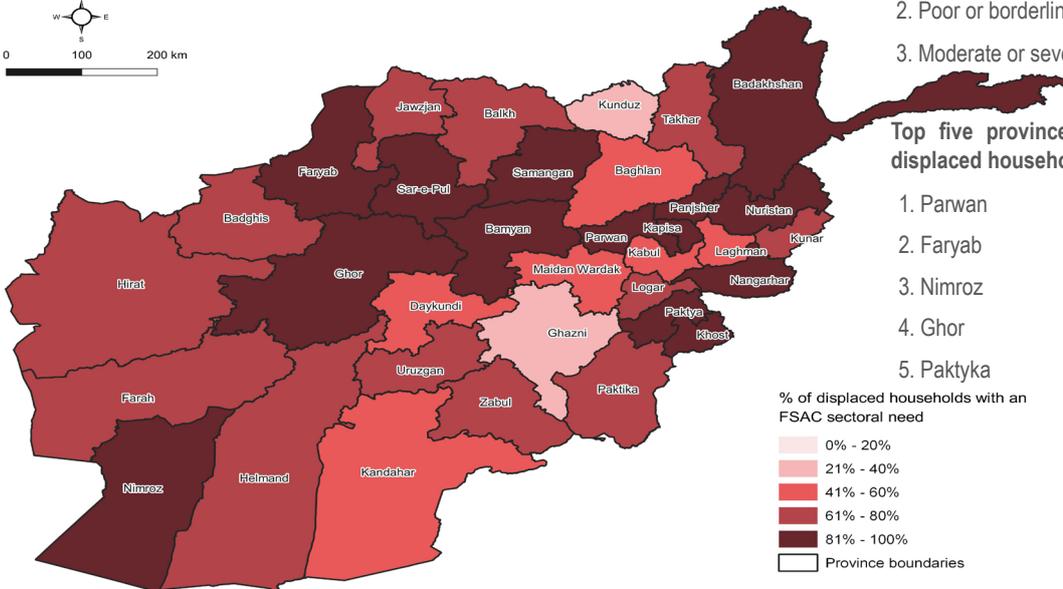
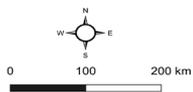
% of displaced households per FSA sectoral severity score:



% of households per FSA sectoral severity score, per population group:

	1	2	3	4
Recent IDP	2%	18%	63%	18%
Non-recent IDP	3%	27%	58%	13%
Recent CB returnee	3%	35%	51%	11%
Non-recent CB returnee	6%	29%	52%	12%
Pakistani refugee	0%	7%	72%	21%
Vulnerable Non-displaced	4%	32%	56%	8%

% of displaced households with FSA sectoral need, per province:



% of displaced households per main driver of FSA sectoral need:⁴

- 1. Medium or high rCSI score **91%**
- 2. Poor or borderline FCS **62%**
- 3. Moderate or severe HHS **39%**

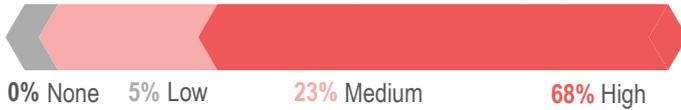
Top five provinces with the highest proportion of displaced households with FSA sectoral need:

- 1. Parwan **99%**
- 2. Faryab **99%**
- 3. Nimroz **98%**
- 4. Ghor **96%**
- 5. Paktyka **94%**

¹ The FSA sectoral need composite indicator included the Food Consumption Score (FCS), Household Hunger Scale (HHS), and the reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI). To determine the proportion of households with FSA sectoral need, households in the severe (3) or extreme (4) categories were aggregated. See Annex for detailed methodology.
² Displaced populations included both recent (under 6 months) and non-recent (over 6 months) internally displaced persons (IDPs) and recent and non-recent crossborder (CB) returnees.
³ Vulnerabilities included households with at least one disabled member, elderly-headed households, and female-headed households. To define disability, respondents were asked the short form of the Washington Group Questionnaire. Elderly heads of household were defined as heads of household 65 years of age or older. For sectoral needs of other vulnerable groups, including households which reporting living in an informal settlement and households which reporting a debt of 45,000 AFN or higher, see p. 18 on pre-existing vulnerabilities.
⁴ See p.10 footnotes for more information regarding these composite indicators.



% of displaced households per rCSI category:¹



% HHs with a high rCSI score, per population group:



% of displaced households per HHS score:²



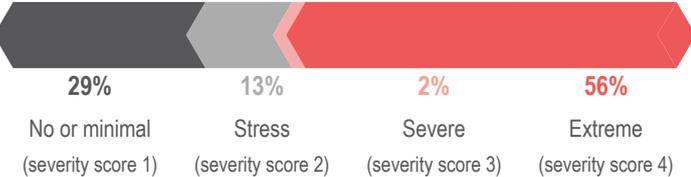
% HHs with a moderate or severe HHS score, per population group:



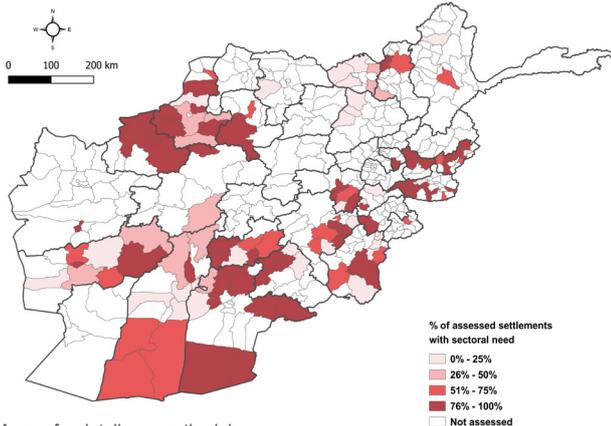
HARD-TO-REACH - FSAC FINDINGS

% of assessed settlements with a sectoral need in FSAC (severity score of 3 or 4): **58%**

% of assessed settlements per FSAC severity score:

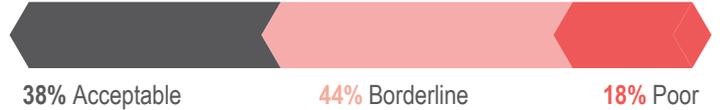


% of assessed settlements with a sectoral need in FSAC per assessed HTR district:

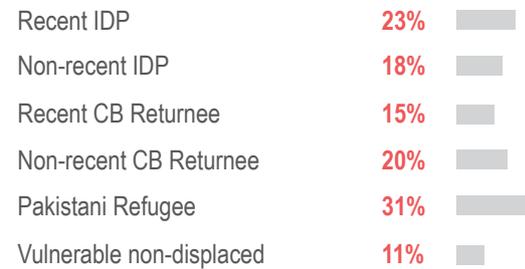


see Annex for details on methodology

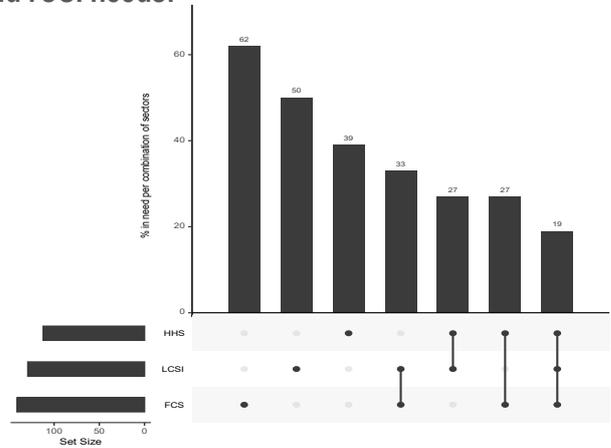
% of displaced households per FCS score:³



% HHs with a poor FCS score, per population group:



% of displaced households with overlapping FCS, HHS, and rCSI needs:⁴



!! Hard-to-reach findings are based on interviews with KIs at settlement level and should be considered indicative only.

% of assessed settlements per driver of FSAC sectoral need:

- Most people had reduced access to food because of an event/shock **88%**
- Most people were unable to access enough food to meet daily needs **56%**
- Level of hunger was bad or the worst for most people **50%**
- Coping strategy when food or money to buy food was not available - Most/all households borrowed/relied on help of friends or family **17%**
- Coping strategy when food or money to buy food was not available - Most/all households reduced food for adults so that small children can eat **14%**

¹ The reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) measures coping mechanisms used by households when there was not enough food or money to buy food in the 7 days prior to data collection.

² The Household Hunger Scale (HHS) measures household hunger during the 30 days prior to data collection.

³ The Food Consumption Score (FCS) measures the frequency of consumption of different food groups consumed by a household in the 7 days prior to data collection.

⁴ A household was considered in need if it was in one of the 2 most severe categories.





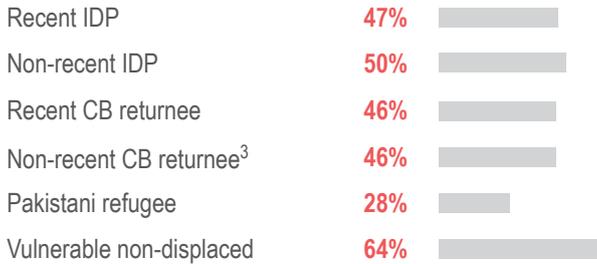
% of displaced households with a Health sectoral need:¹ **49%**

% of displaced households per Health sectoral severity score:



35%	16%	10%	39%
No or minimal (severity score 1)	Stress (severity score 2)	Severe (severity score 3)	Extreme (severity score 4)

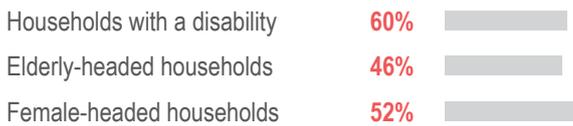
% of households with Health sectoral need, per population group:²



% of households per Health sectoral severity score, per population group:

	1	2	3	4
Recent IDP	33%	20%	11%	36%
Non-recent IDP	34%	16%	11%	39%
Recent CB returnee	37%	16%	9%	37%
Non-recent CB returnee	37%	16%	10%	36%
Pakistani refugee	54%	19%	5%	23%
Vulnerable Non-displaced	24%	12%	6%	58%

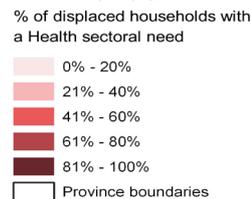
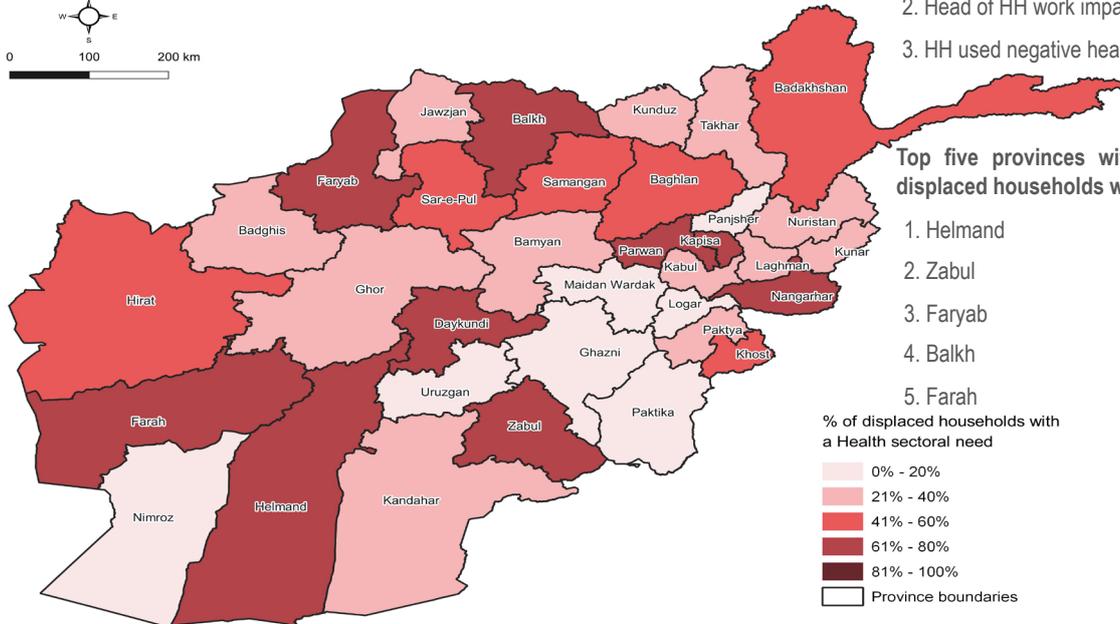
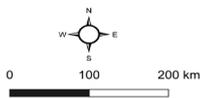
% of displaced households with Health sectoral need, per vulnerability type:³



% of displaced households with Health sectoral need, per province:

% of displaced households per main driver of Health sectoral need:

1. Change of behaviour of at least 1 HH member **64%**
2. Head of HH work impaired by distress **38%**
3. HH used negative healthcare coping strategy **32%**



¹ The Health sectoral need composite indicator included reports of acute watery diarrhea, access to a health facility, distance to the nearest health facility, use of coping mechanisms in response to illness, and behavior changes and severity of head of household distress. To determine the proportion of households with Health sectoral need, households in the severe (3) or extreme (4) categories were aggregated. See Annex for detailed methodology.

² Displaced populations included both recent (under 6 months) and non-recent (over 6 months) internally displaced persons (IDPs) and recent and non-recent crossborder (CB) returnees.

³ Vulnerabilities included households with at least one disabled member, elderly-headed households, and female-headed households. To define disability, respondents were asked the short form of the Washington Group Questionnaire. Elderly heads of household were defined as heads of household 65 years of age or older. For sectoral needs of other vulnerable groups, including households which reporting living in an informal settlement, see p. 18 on pre-existing vulnerabilities.



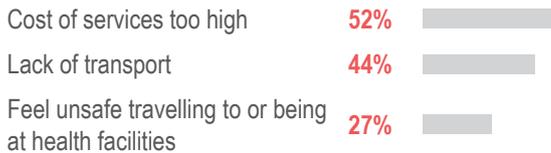
% of displaced households reporting not having had access to an active health centre close to or in their village where they could receive healthcare in the 3 months prior to data collection:



% of displaced households reporting no access to emergency care if a household member was seriously injured:



Most common barriers to accessing healthcare reporting by those households with no access:



% of displaced households per walking distance to the closest active health centre:

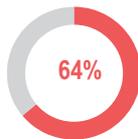


25% of displaced female respondents reporting that they would consult a family member or female community leader rather than a health center, NGO, or community midwife for a women's health issue.¹

32% of displaced households reporting a serious illness in the 30 days prior to data collection. Among displaced households reporting a serious illness, the following coping strategies were most frequently reporting:



% of displaced households reporting that at least one member developed one or more changes in behaviour (signs of mental health concern) in the year prior to data collection.²



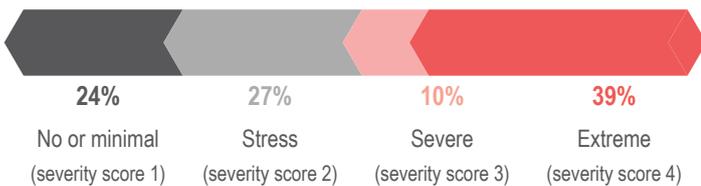
33% of displaced children (under 5) reportedly experienced acute watery diarrhea in the 2 weeks prior to data collection.

HARD-TO-REACH - HEALTH FINDINGS

% of assessed settlements with a sectoral need in health (severity score of 3 or 4): **49%**

!! Hard-to-reach findings are based on interviews with KIs at settlement level and should be considered indicative only.

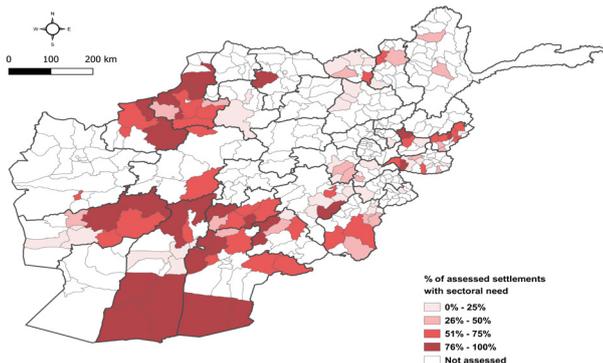
% of assessed settlements per Health severity score:



% of assessed settlements per driver of health sectoral need:³

- Most women in the settlement gave birth at home **55%**
- Barriers to access medicine - medicine was too expensive or pharmacies were closed due to COVID-19 **38%**
- Most children in the settlement were not vaccinated against polio **35%**
- Barrier to access medicine - medicine was not available: **31%**
- Barriers to access healthcare facility - residents felt unsafe travelling to/being at or that staff refused treatment **30%**
- Most people did not have access to a comprehensive health center in or close to the settlement **27%**
- Many/all households in the settlement had at least one member who felt sick due to COVID-19 (self-reported) **25%**
- Time to reach the nearest healthcare facility by walking was between 1 hour and 3 hours OR more than 3 hours **4%**

% of assessed settlements with a sectoral need in health per assessed HTR district



see Annex for details on methodology

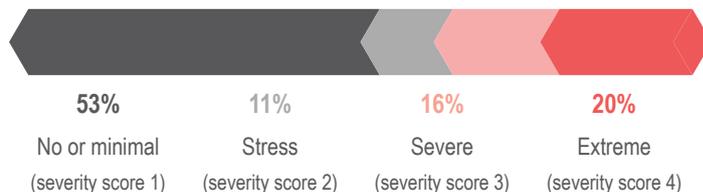
¹ Question was only asked to female interviewees by female enumerators.

² Behavioral changes included angry or aggressive behaviour, avoiding going to work, bedwetting, excessive sad mood or crying, other, significant social withdrawal or inability to be alone, substance abuse, or unhealthy increase/decrease in appetite or sleep.

³ Recall period for all HTR questions was 3 months prior to data collection.

% of displaced households with a Nutrition sectoral need:¹ **36%**

% of displaced households per Nutrition sectoral severity score:



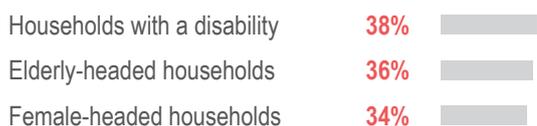
% of households with Nutrition sectoral need, per population group:²



% of households per Nutrition sectoral severity score, per population group:

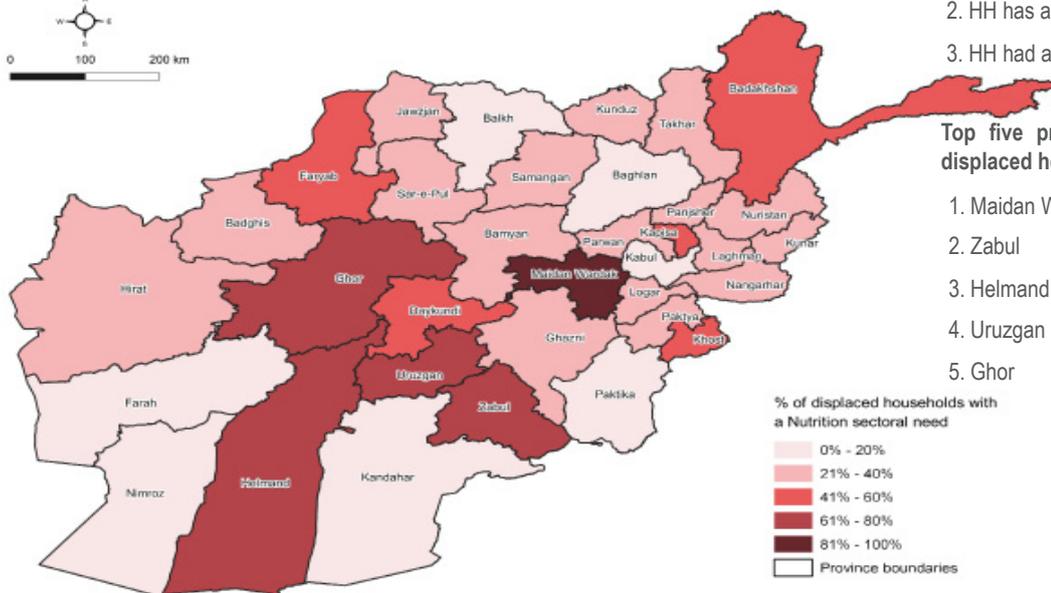
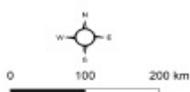
	1	2	3	4
Recent IDP	54%	8%	20%	18%
Non-recent IDP	52%	11%	16%	21%
Recent CB returnee	60%	10%	15%	15%
Non-recent CB returnee	52%	10%	16%	22%
Pakistani refugee	64%	8%	3%	25%
Vulnerable Non-displaced	71%	10%	6%	13%

% of displaced households with Nutrition sectoral need, per vulnerability type:³



% of displaced households with a Nutrition sectoral need, per province:

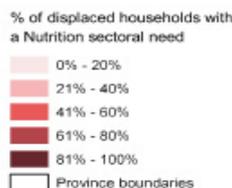
% of displaced households per main driver of Nutrition sectoral need:



1. HH has a child thinner than usual **38%**
2. HH has a child sleeper than usual **34%**
3. HH had a child that was ill in two weeks prior **27%**

Top five provinces with the highest proportion of displaced households with Nutrition sectoral need:

1. Maidan Wardak **80%**
2. Zabul **74%**
3. Helmand **71%**
4. Uruzgan **65%**
5. Ghor **61%**



Only households with children 0 to 12 years were included in the Nutrition sectoral need composite indicator.

¹ The Nutrition sectoral need composite indicator included the Minimum Acceptable Diet (MAD) for 6-23 month-olds, receipt of nutrition treatments, and signs of poor nutritional status. Households without children under 12 were not evaluated. To determine the proportion of households with Nutrition sectoral need, households in the severe (3) or extreme (4) categories were aggregated. See Annex for detailed methodology.

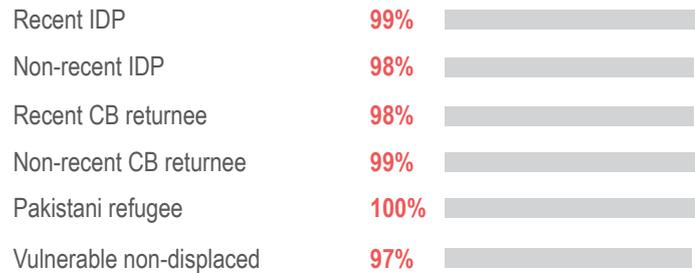
² Displaced populations included both recent (under 6 months) and non-recent (over 6 months) internally displaced persons (IDPs) and recent and non-recent crossborder (CB) returnees.

³ Vulnerabilities included households with at least one disabled member, elderly-headed households, and female-headed households. To define disability, respondents were asked the short form of the Washington Group Questionnaire. Elderly heads of household were defined as heads of household 65 years of age or older. For sectoral needs of other vulnerable groups, including households which reporting living in an informal settlement, see p. 18 on pre-existing vulnerabilities.

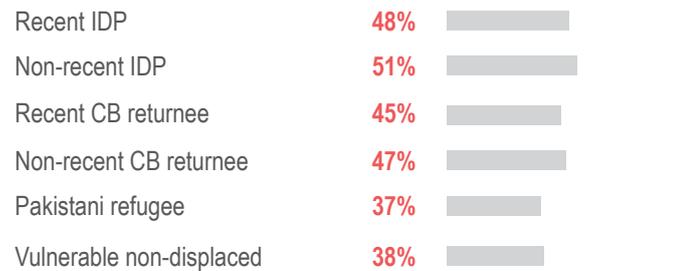
% of displaced households per Minimum Acceptable Diet (MAD) category:¹



% of households with an unacceptable MAD score, per population group:



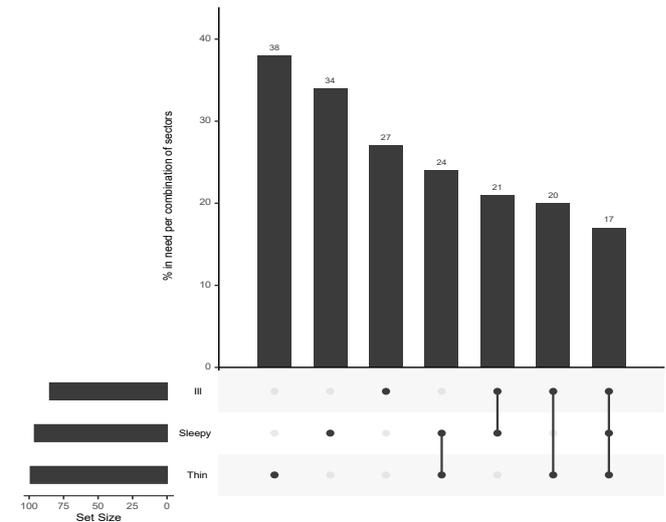
% of households with one or more children reporting a poor nutritional status, per population group:²



% of displaced households where a child aged 6 months to 5 years received nutrition treatment in the year prior to data collection:



% of displaced households per sign of poor nutritional status:²



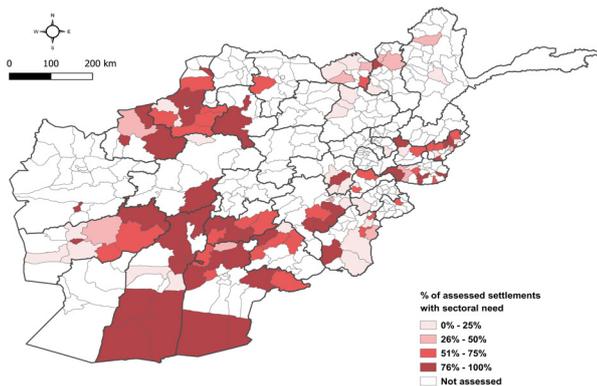
HARD-TO-REACH NUTRITION FINDINGS

% of assessed settlements with a sectoral need in nutrition (severity score of 3 or 4): **60%**

% of assessed settlements per Nutrition severity score:



% of assessed settlements with a sectoral need in nutrition per assessed HTR district:



see Annex for details on methodology

!! Hard-to-reach findings are based on interviews with KIIs at settlement level and should be considered indicative only.

% of assessed settlements per driver of nutrition sectoral need:

- Barrier to access nutrition treatment service facility - facility was too far or not available **42%**
- Barrier to access nutrition treatment service facility - transportation or treatment was too expensive, no health workers were available, could not access without a tazkira or facility was not accessible due to COVID-19 restrictions **18%**

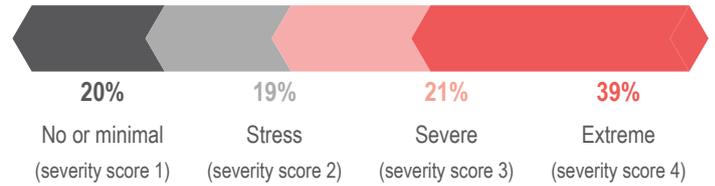
¹ Minimally Acceptable Diet (MAD) is a composite indicator which measures the nutritional intake of children 0 to 5 years. MAD includes the Minimum Diversity Diet (MDD), which assessed the types of food children are eating, and the Minimum Frequency Diet (MFD), which assessed the frequency of childrens' meals.

² Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, middle-upper arm circumference (MUAC) could not be measured. As a proxy for nutritional status, heads of household were asked if a children in the household had been unusually sleepy, vomited, or had experience loss of consciousness (sleepy), were currently sick or had a fever in the previous seven days, any children in the household were becoming too thin or had become thinner than before (thin).

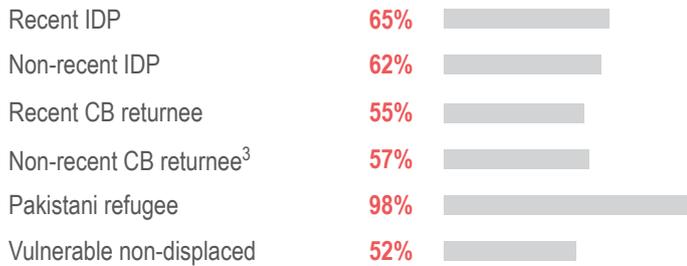
³ Recall period for all HTR questions was 3 months prior to data collection.

% of displaced households with a Protection sectoral need:¹ **61%**

% of displaced households per Protection sectoral severity score:



% of households with Protection sectoral need, per population group:²



% of households per Protection sectoral severity score, per population group:

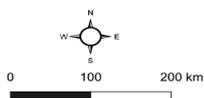
	1	2	3	4
Recent IDP	10%	25%	28%	37%
Non-recent IDP	18%	20%	23%	40%
Recent CB returnee	28%	17%	14%	41%
Non-recent CB returnee	25%	18%	17%	40%
Pakistani refugee	0%	2%	0%	97%
Vulnerable Non-displaced	26%	22%	30%	22%

% of displaced households with Protection sectoral need, per vulnerability type:³



% of displaced households with a Protection sectoral need, per province:

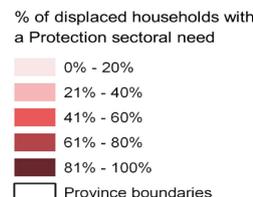
% of displaced households per main driver of Protection sectoral need:



1. At least one HH member lacks tazkira **87%**
2. HH under insecure tenancy agreement **52%**
3. HH has a protection concern within 30 days **50%**

Top five provinces with the highest proportion of displaced households with Protection sectoral need:

1. Helmand **100%**
2. Paktika **100%**
3. Parwan **96%**
4. Zabul **94%**
5. Uruzgan **93%**



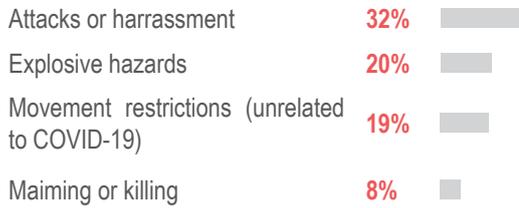
¹ The Protection sectoral need composite indicator included protection incident concerns, experience of protection incidents, child marriage, awareness of explosive hazards, type of tenancy agreement, child labor, and possession of a identity documents. To determine the proportion of households with Protection sectoral need, households in the severe (3) or extreme (4) categories were aggregated. See Annex for full methodology.

² Displaced populations included both recent (under 6 months) and non-recent (over 6 months) internally displaced persons (IDPs) and recent and non-recent crossborder (CB) returnees.

³ Vulnerabilities included households with at least one disabled member, elderly-headed households, and female-headed households. To define disability, respondents were asked the short form of the Washington Group Questionnaire. Elderly heads of household were defined as heads of household 65 years of age or older. For sectoral needs of other vulnerable groups, including households which reporting living in an informal settlement, see p. 18 on pre-existing vulnerabilities.



54% of displaced households reported experiencing a protection incident in the 3 months prior to data collection. Most frequently reported protection incidents by displaced households:¹



50% of displaced households reported a protection concern in the 3 months prior to data collection. Most frequently reported protection concerns by displaced households:²



52% of displaced households held an insecure tenancy agreement. % of displaced households that reported an insecure tenancy agreement, by type:



% of displaced households reporting being aware of the presence of explosive hazards near to their location in the year prior to data collection:



Among displaced households, **2%** reported that **no member** and **41%** reported that **no female member** possessed a legal identification document (tazkira).

% of displaced households reporting marrying at least one daughter earlier than intended because of a lack of food or money to buy food:¹



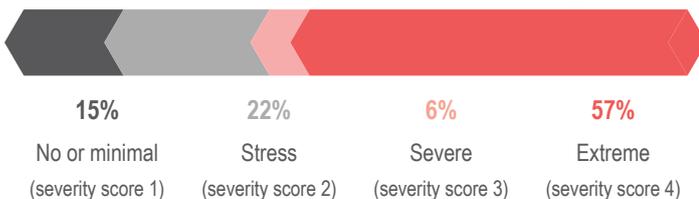
% of displaced households reporting at least one child (11-17) working outside the household in the 30 days prior to data collection:



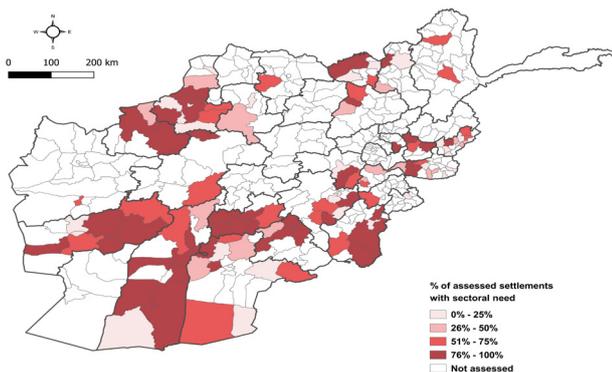
HARD-TO-REACH - PROTECTION

% of assessed settlements with a sectoral need in protection (severity score of 3 or 4): **63%**

% of assessed settlements per Protection severity score:



% of assessed settlements with a sectoral need in protection per assessed HTR district:



see Annex for details on methodology

!! Hard-to-reach findings are based on interviews with KIIs at settlement level and should be considered indicative only.

% of assessed settlements per driver of protection need:²

1. KI aware of at least one man, woman or child subjected to verbal threats, assaulted without weapons, movement restrictions, or forced to work **77%**
2. At least one girl under the age of 16 yrs was married **59%**
3. KI aware of area in or around the settlement that women and girls avoided due to safety reason **58%**
4. KI aware of at least one man, woman or child subjected to an assault with weapon, forcibly detained or recruited **54%**
5. Presence of explosive hazards resulted in either negative impacts on livelihood/income or the psychological well-being of residents or limited access to basic services³ **39%**
6. No, very few or some households only had at least one member holding a tazkira **47%**
7. Presence of explosive hazards resulted in the death or disability of residents³ **14%**

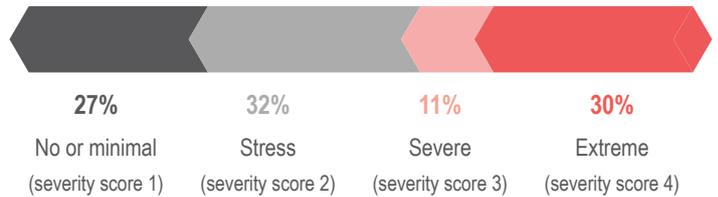
¹ Question was asked as part of the Living Coping Strategy Index (LCSI) which measures coping mechanisms used by households when there was not enough food or money to buy food in the 30 days prior to data collection.

² Recall period for all HTR questions is 3 months.

³ This is a subset of KIIs who were aware of explosive hazards in or within 5 km of their settlement.

% of displaced households with a WASH sectoral need:¹ **41%**

% of displaced households per WASH sectoral severity score:



% of households with a WASH sectoral need, per population group:²



% of households per WASH sectoral severity score, per population group:

	1	2	3	4
Recent IDP	19%	32%	15%	34%
Non-recent IDP	27%	31%	11%	31%
Recent CB returnee	27%	34%	10%	30%
Non-recent CB returnee	30%	30%	12%	28%
Pakistani refugee	27%	34%	4%	36%
Vulnerable Non-displaced	58%	31%	7%	4%

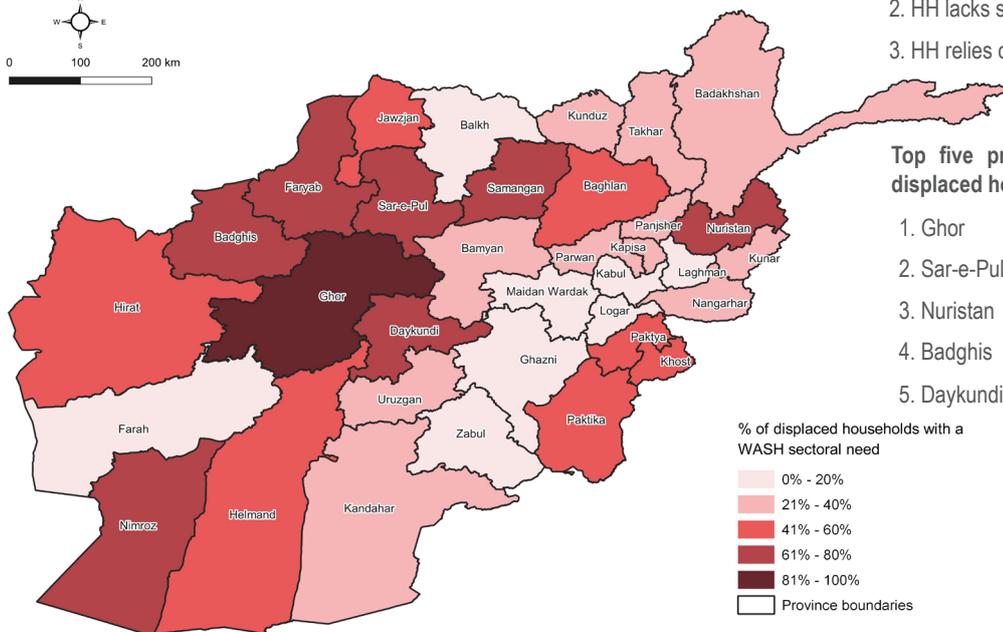
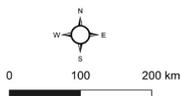
% of displaced households with a WASH sectoral need, per vulnerability type:³



% of displaced households with WASH sectoral need, per province:

% of displaced households per main driver of WASH sectoral need:

1. HH has barriers to water access **63%**
2. HH lacks sufficient water to meet basic needs **55%**
3. HH relies on an unimproved latrine **55%**



Top five provinces with the highest proportion of displaced households with WASH sectoral need:

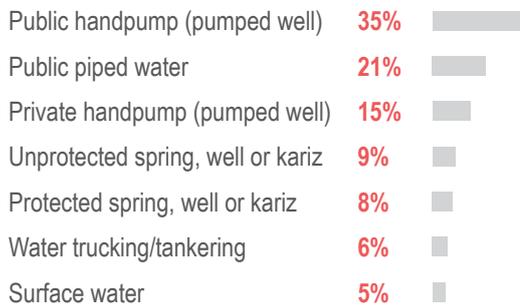
1. Ghor **84%**
2. Sar-e-Pul **78%**
3. Nuristan **72%**
4. Badghis **71%**
5. Daykundi **69%**

¹ The WASH sectoral need composite indicator type of drinking water source, distance to main water source, sufficient water for various needs, barriers to water access, access to soap, type of sanitation facility, and use of a shared sanitation facility. To determine the proportion of households with WASH sectoral need, households in the severe (3) or extreme (4) categories were aggregated. See Annex for detailed methodology.

² Displaced populations included both recent (under 6 months) and non-recent (over 6 months) internally displaced persons (IDPs) and recent and non-recent crossborder (CB) returnees.

³ Vulnerabilities included households with at least one disabled member, elderly-headed households, and female-headed households. To define disability, respondents were asked the short form of the Washington Group Questionnaire. Elderly heads of household were defined as heads of household 65 years of age or older. For sectoral needs of other vulnerable groups, including households which reporting living in an informal settlement, see p. 18 on pre-existing vulnerabilities.

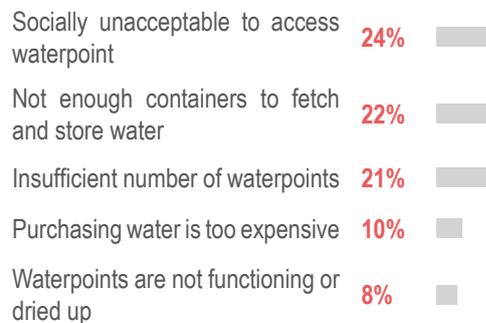
% of displaced households by primary source of drinking water reported by households in the 7 days prior to data collection:



% of displaced households reporting that fetching water from the main water source took more than 15 minutes:¹



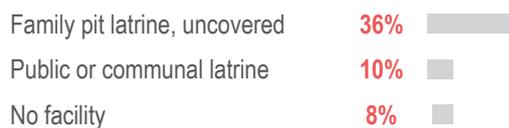
Among displaced households reporting a barrier to water access, 5 most common barriers reported:



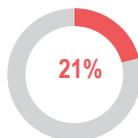
% of displaced households reporting insufficient access to water, per basic need:



% of displaced households reporting use of an unimproved sanitation facility,² by type of facility:



% of displaced households without soap at the time of data collection:



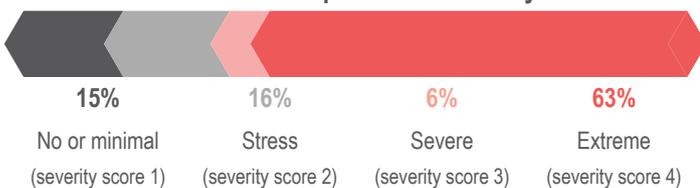
% of displaced households reporting sharing a sanitation facility:



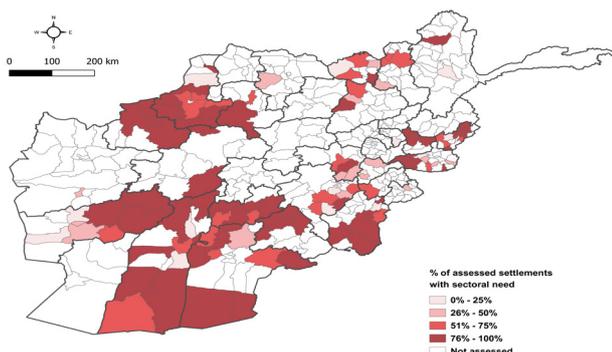
HARD-TO-REACH - WASH FINDINGS

% of assessed settlements with a sectoral need in WASH (severity score of 3 or 4): **69%**

% of assessed settlements per WASH severity score:



% of assessed settlements with a sectoral need in WASH per assessed HTR district:



!! Hard-to-reach findings are based on interviews with KIs at settlement level and should be considered indicative only.

% of assessed settlements per driver of WASH sectoral need:

1. Soap was not accessible or too expensive **93%**
2. Most people used surface water, unprotected spring, well or kariz as their main water source **45%**
3. Most people used unimproved latrines type such as family pit latrine without slab or community/ public latrine **41%**
4. Most people did not have access to a latrine facility **37%**
5. Most people were not able to meet daily water needs due to waterpoints being too far, dried up, not functioning, high risk to access, or there were social restrictions **11%**

¹ Respondents were asked how much time it took to fetch water from the main water source and return. Answer options included: on-premises, 5 - 15 minutes, 16 - 30 minutes, and more than 31 minutes.

² Unimproved sanitation facilities include: family pit latrine without slab / open, no facility (open field, dearan, bush), and other. For more information, please see the Joint Monitoring Platform (JMP) on [sanitation](#).

see Annex for details on methodology



PRE-EXISTING VULNERABILITIES¹

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% of displaced households with at least one sectoral need and vulnerability:²

20%

see Annex for details on methodology

% of displaced households, per driver of vulnerability:

- Household reporting at least one disabled member (15%)
- Household headed by an elderly head of household (6%)
- Household headed by a female head of household (3%)

% of households with a vulnerability, per population group:

Recent IDP	18%	<div style="width: 18%;"></div>
Non-recent IDP	22%	<div style="width: 22%;"></div>
Recent CB returnee ²	18%	<div style="width: 18%;"></div>
Non-recent CB returnee ²	13%	<div style="width: 13%;"></div>
Pakistani refugee	17%	<div style="width: 17%;"></div>
Vulnerable non-displaced	26%	<div style="width: 26%;"></div>

% of displaced households with a sectoral need, per sector and vulnerability profile:

% of displaced households....

	EiE	ES-NFI	FSAC	Health	Nutrition	Protection	WASH	Need in 1 or more sectors	Capacity gap
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Household head profile

With an elderly head of household:	51%	58%	65%	46%	36%	53%	45%	97%	48%
With a non-elderly head of household:	56%	55%	69%	49%	36%	61%	41%	97%	50%
With a female head of household:	48%	59%	66%	52%	34%	58%	53%	99%	49%
With a male head of household:	56%	55%	69%	49%	36%	61%	41%	97%	50%

Household profile

Living in an informal settlement (ISET):	62%	59%	66%	48%	43%	67%	51%	98%	54%
Not living in an ISET:	50%	51%	71%	50%	29%	55%	32%	96%	46%

Length of displacement/return

Recent displacement: ³	61%	49%	65%	47%	31%	57%	41%	96%	49%
Prolonged displacement/return: ³	60%	55%	73%	47%	37%	61%	38%	98%	47%
Protracted displacement/return: ³	50%	57%	67%	52%	36%	61%	44%	96%	53%

Disability profile

One or more members have a disability:	45%	65%	72%	60%	38%	57%	60%	99%	68%
No members have a disability:	58%	53%	68%	47%	35%	61%	38%	97%	47%

Identification documents (tazkira)

No members have a tazkira:	80%	59%	80%	61%	40%	100%	42%	100%	64%
Some members have a tazkira:	59%	57%	70%	50%	38%	64%	43%	98%	52%
All members have a tazkira:	32%	40%	59%	43%	18%	38%	31%	89%	38%

Socio-economic vulnerability

With debt less than 45,000 AFN (average debt):	58%	51%	66%	48%	35%	63%	37%	96%	48%
With debt of 45,000 AFN or more:	50%	64%	76%	50%	37%	54%	51%	98%	55%
No debt:	47%	42%	42%	26%	24%	55%	33%	92%	21%

¹ Vulnerabilities included households with at least one disabled member, elderly-headed households, and female-headed households. To define disability, respondents were asked the short form of the Washington Group Questionnaire. Elderly heads of household were defined as heads of household 65 years of age or older.

² Displaced populations included both recent (under 6 months) and non-recent (over 6 months) internally displaced persons (IDPs) and recent (under 6 months) and non-recent (over 6 months) crossborder (CB) returnees.

³ Recent displacement includes CB and IDP households displaced or returned less than 6 months from data collection. Prolonged displacement includes CB and IDP households displaced or returned from 6 to 24 months. Protracted displacement includes CB and IDP households displaced or returned for more than 24 months.

⁴ Unsustainable income sources included borrowing loans, daily labor without a contract, gift or remittances, government/humanitarian aid, or selling household assets as a primary or secondary source of income.



% displaced households with a CG but no sectoral needs:²

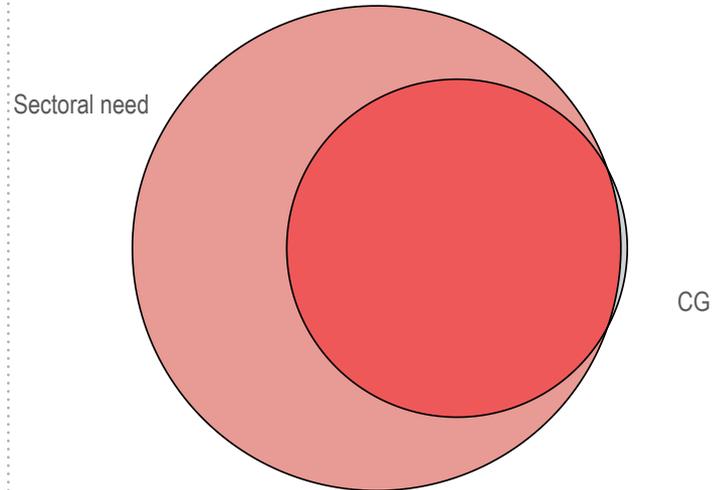
0%

see Annex for details on methodology

% of households with a CG, per population group:

Recent IDP	61%	<div style="width: 61%;"></div>
Non-recent IDP	51%	<div style="width: 51%;"></div>
Recent CB returnee ²	46%	<div style="width: 46%;"></div>
Non-recent CB returnee ²	43%	<div style="width: 43%;"></div>
Pakistani refugee	34%	<div style="width: 34%;"></div>
Vulnerable non-displaced	43%	<div style="width: 43%;"></div>

97% of displaced households were found to have at least one sectoral need and/or a CG:



47% of displaced households were found to have at least one sectoral need but no CG;

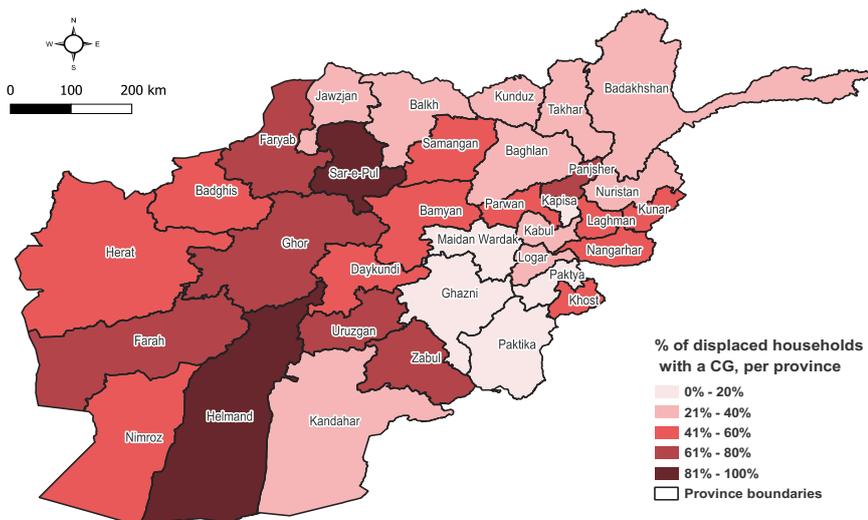
50% of displaced households were found to have both at least one sectoral need and a CG;

0% of displaced households were found to have no sectoral need but a CG.

13% of displaced households were found to have a CG and to be vulnerable at the time of data collection.³ Per population group:

Recent IDP	18%	<div style="width: 18%;"></div>
Non-recent IDP	22%	<div style="width: 22%;"></div>
Recent CB returnee ²	17%	<div style="width: 17%;"></div>
Non-recent CB returnee ²	13%	<div style="width: 13%;"></div>
Pakistani refugee	17%	<div style="width: 17%;"></div>
Vulnerable non-displaced	25%	<div style="width: 25%;"></div>

📍 % of displaced households with a CG, per province:



Top five provinces with the highest proportion of displaced households with a CG:

1. Sar-e-Pul **96%**
2. Helmand **92%**
3. Faryab **72%**
4. Ghor **67%**
5. Zabul **67%**

¹ The Capacity Gap (CG) includes all households found to be in the "crisis" or "emergency" categories of the Livelihood Coping Strategy Index (LCSI).

² Displaced populations included both recent (under 6 months) and non-recent (over 6 months) internally displaced persons (IDPs) and recent (under 6 months) and non-recent (over 6 months) crossborder (CB) returnees.

³ Vulnerabilities included households with at least one disabled member, elderly-headed households, and female-headed households. To define disability, respondents were asked the short form of the Washington Group Questionnaire. Elderly heads of household were defined as heads of household 65 years of age or older.



METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

WoAA 2020 is a quantitative, household-level assessment which relies on 13,147 household-level surveys in accessible areas of Afghanistan conducted from 08 August 2020 to 14 September 2020. Data was collected by REACH teams and 11 national NGO members of the Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief (ACBAR) Twinning Program. The IMPACT Data Cleaning Minimum Standards Checklist was used to outline the process and criteria for data deletion.

Sampling was performed using stratified random cluster sampling with the village as the primary sampling unit (PSU). The sample was drawn to generate a 95% confidence interval and 5% margin of error for all population groups at the national level and a 95% confidence interval and 9% margin of error for displaced populations at the province level for all 34 provinces of Afghanistan.

Analysis was a collaborative process led by the ICCT and supported by REACH. After a preliminary presentation of key findings, the Joint Analysis Workshop (JAW) led by the ICCT expanded on REACH's initial framework, with participants proposing key relationships and further findings relevant to their programming that they would like analysed.

DEFINITIONS

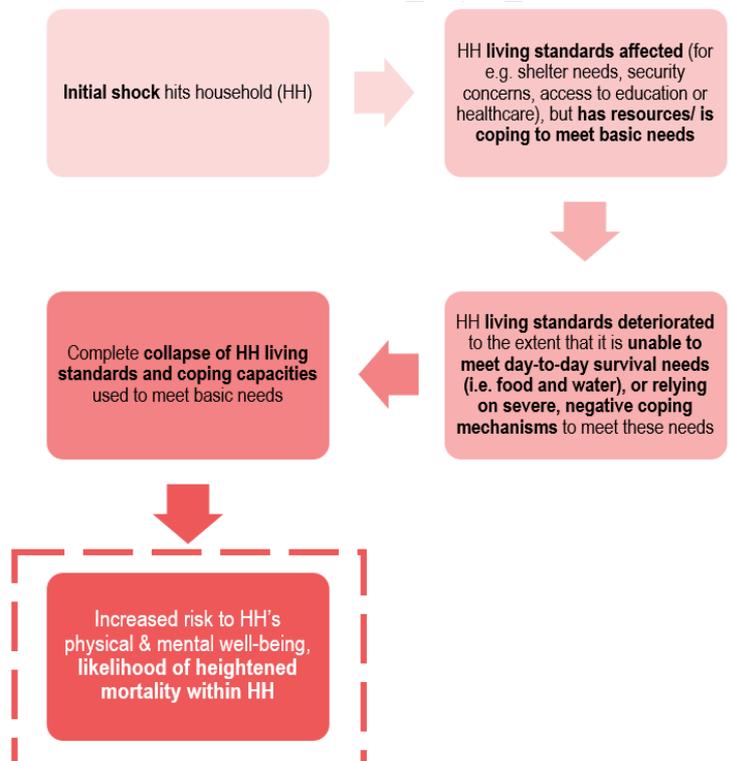
- **Sectoral need:** signifies an unmet need in a given sector, where the sectoral severity score is 3 or higher.
- **Capacity Gap (CG):** signifies that negative and unsustainable coping strategies are used to meet needs. Households not categorised as having a sectoral need may be maintaining their living standards through the use of negative coping strategies. This includes all households found to be in the “crisis” or “emergency” categories of the Livelihood Coping Strategy Index (LCSI).
- **Pre-existing vulnerabilities:** the underlying processes or conditions that influence the degree of the shock and influence exposure, vulnerability or capacity, which could subsequently exacerbate the impact of a crisis on those affected by the vulnerabilities. Pre-existing vulnerabilities include households with at least one disabled member, elderly-headed households, female-headed households, and households in informal settlements,
- **Severity:** signifies the “intensity” of needs, using a scale that ranges from 1 (none/minimal) to 4 (extreme).
- **Magnitude:** corresponds to the overall number or percentage of households in need.

SEVERITY SCALE

The severity scale is inspired by the draft Joint Inter-Sectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF), an analytical framework developed at the global level which aims to enhance the understanding of needs of affected populations. It measures a progressive deterioration of a household's situation, towards the worst possible humanitarian outcome (see figure 1 below).

While the JIAF severity scale includes 5 classifications ranging from 1 (none/ minimal) to 5 (catastrophic), for the purpose of the MSNA, only a scale of 1 (none/ minimal) to 4 (extreme) is used. A “4” score is used where data indicates that the situation could be catastrophic. This is because data that is needed for a score of 5 (catastrophic) is primarily at area level (for example, mortality rates, malnutrition prevalence, burden of disease, etc.) which is difficult to factor into household level analysis. Additionally, as global guidelines on the exact definitions of each class are yet to be finalized, and given the response implications of classifying a household or area as class 5 (catastrophic), REACH is not in a position to independently verify if a class 5 is occurring.

Figure 1: Rationale behind the severity scale

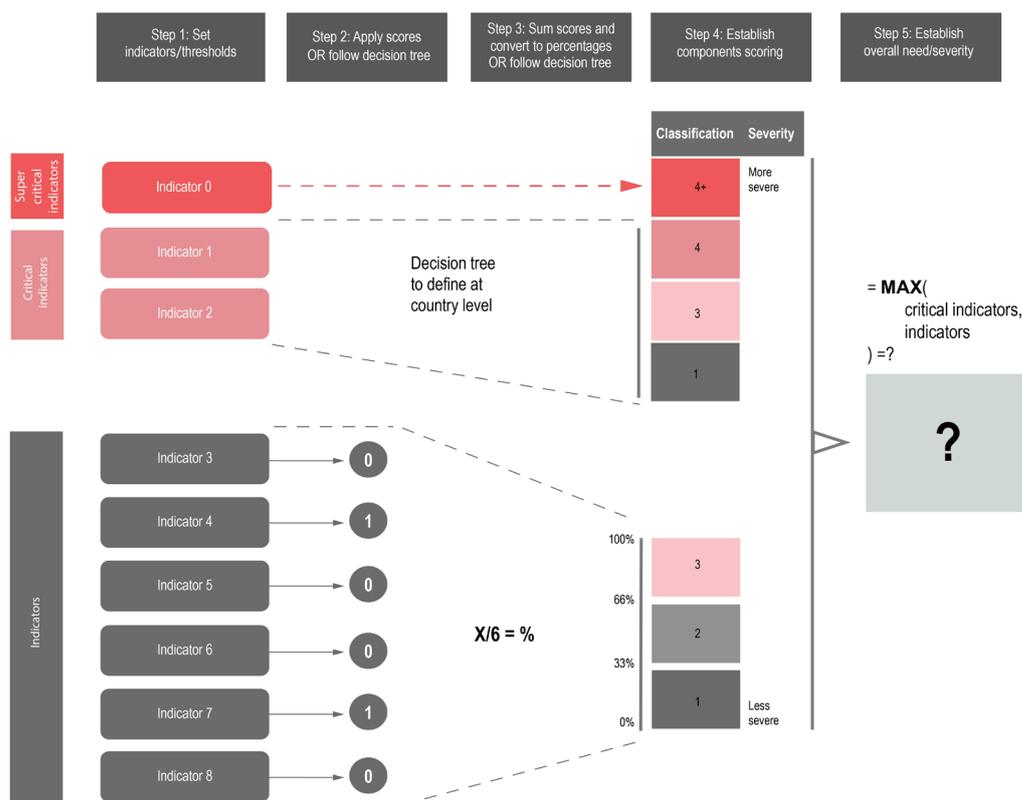




The sectoral severity score for a given sector is produced by aggregating unmet need. For the 2020 WoAA, a simple aggregation methodology was identified, building on the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) aggregation approach. Using this method, each unit (household for example) is assigned a “deprivation” score according to its deprivations in the component indicators. The deprivation score of each household is obtained by calculating the percentage of the deprivations experienced, so that the deprivation score for each household lies between 0 and 100. The method relies on the categorization of each indicator on a binary scale: does (“1”) / does not (“0”) have a gap. The threshold for how a household is considered to have a particular gap or not is determined in advance for each indicator. The 2020 WoAA aggregation methodology outlined below can be described as “MPI-like”, using the steps of the MPI approach to determine an aggregated needs severity score, with the addition of “critical indicators” that determine the higher severity scores. The section below outlines **guidance on how to produce the aggregation using household-level data**.

- 1) Identified indicators that measure needs (‘gaps’) for each sector, capturing the following key dimensions: accessibility, availability, quality, use, and awareness. Set binary thresholds: does (“1”) / does not (“0”) have a gap;
- 2) Identified critical indicators that, on their own, indicate a gap in the sector overall;
- 3) Identified individual indicator scores (0 or 1) for each household, once data had been collected;
- 4) Calculated the severity score for each household, based on the following decision tree (tailored to each sector);
 - a. “Super” critical indicator(s): could lead to a 4 if an extreme situation is found for the household;
 - b. Critical indicators: using a decision tree approach, a severity class is identified based on a discontinued scale of 1 to 4 (1, 3, 4) depending on the scores of each of the critical indicators;
 - c. Non-critical indicators: the scores of all non-critical indicators are summed up and converted into a percentage of possible total (e.g. 3 out of 4 = 75%) to identify a severity class;
 - d. The final score/severity class is obtained by retaining the highest score generated by either the super critical, critical or non-critical indicators, as outlined in the figure X below;
- 5) Calculated the proportion of the population with a final severity score of 3 and above, per sector. Having a severity score of 3 and above in a sector are considered as having a sectoral need in that sector;

Figure 2: Identifying sectoral severity with scoring approach - example



- 6) Identified households that do not have a sectoral need but that do have a CG;
 - a. Households in either the “crisis” or “emergency” category of the Livelihood Coping Strategy Index are considered to have CG.

As the WoAA 2020 severity scores use different indicators and only WoAA 2020 analysis, WoAA 2020 severity scores may differ from the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) 2021 estimations.



The MSNI severity score is a measure of the household’s overall severity of humanitarian needs (expressed on a scale of 1 – 4), based on the highest severity of sectoral needs identified in each household.

The severity score is determined through the following steps:

- 1) First, the severity of need for each of the sectors is calculated per household, as outlined in the annex 2.
- 2) Next, a final severity score is determined for each household by the highest sectoral severity scores identified in each household.

While determining the MSNI Severity Score, co-occurrence of need and overall sectoral need profiles across assessed households were determined, though coincidence of need played no role in the assignment of the severity score.

Figure 3: Examples of MSNI severity scores per household based on sectoral analysis findings

	Sectoral LSG Severity Score						Final MSNI
	Food Sec	Health	WASH	Protection	Education	Etc.	
HH 1	4	4	4	4	3	3	4
HH 2	2	2	4	2	1	1	4
HH 3	3	3	3	4+	2	1	4+
Etc.	2	3	1	1	2	1	3

Key limitation: regardless of whether a household has a very severe sectoral need in just one sector (e.g. WASH for HH2 above) OR co-occurring severe sectoral needs across multiple sectors (e.g. food security, health, WASH, protection for HH1 above), their final severity score will be the same (4). While this might make sense from a “big picture” response planning perspective (if a household has an extreme need in even one sector, this may warrant humanitarian intervention regardless of the co-occurrence with other sectoral needs), additional analysis should be done to understand such differences in magnitude of severity between households. To do that, additional analysis outputs have been produced, as shown on page 3.

Education in Emergencies (EiE)

Need in the EiE sector was measured using four indicators, which allow for measuring the accessibility, availability, quality, and use of education services. These four indicators are:

1. Percentage of school-aged children enrolled in formal schooling or Community Based Education (CBE) in the most recent school year
2. Average days per week children were attending school or CBE during the most recent school year prior to the COVID-19 outbreak
3. Percentage of children attending schools with a handwashing facilities
4. Percentage of children attending schools with a heater

After accounting for households with critical education need, households with three or four unmet needs were placed in severity score 3, households with two unmet needs in severity score 2, and households with one or no unmet needs into severity score 1.

	Question	Critical Indicator	Unmet Need Indicator
Education in Emergencies	Number of school-aged children enrolled in a public school or CBE in the most recent school year	No children in the household were enrolled in public school or CBE	Some children in the household were not enrolled in public school or CBE
	Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, how many days per week, on average, were school-aged children attending formal schooling or CBE in the most recent school year?	On average, school-aged children did not attend formal schooling or CBE in the most recent school year prior to the COVID-19 outbreak	On average, school-aged children attended formal schooling or CBE one or two days per week in the most recent school year prior to the COVID-19 outbreak
	Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, was there any child in the household attending a school that had handwashing facilities?		No children in the household attended a school that had handwashing facilities
	Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, did any child in the household attend school where there was a heater?		No children in the household attended a school where there was a heater



Emergency Shelter - Non Food Items (ES-NFI)

Need in the ES-NFI sector was measured using eight indicators to determine access to and the quality of shelter, heating, and non-food items. The eight indicators are:

1. Percentage of households with access to a safe and health housing enclosure unit: Shelter type
2. Percentage of households by shelter damage severity
3. Percentage of households with necessary Non Food Items (NFIs)
4. Percentage of households with less than 1 blanket per member
5. Percentage of households using an inadequate heating source
6. Percentage of households reportingly going into debt to pay for rent
7. Percentage of households living in over-crowded places
8. Percentage of households with access to a safe and healthy housing enclosure unit: Enclosure issues

After accounting for households with critical ES-NFI need, households with at least three unmet needs were placed in severity score 3, households with two unmet needs in severity score 2, and households with one or no unmet needs into severity score 1.

	Question	Critical Indicator	Unmet Need Indicator
Emergency Shelter - Non Food Items	What type of shelter do you currently live in?	Makeshift shelter or collective centre not intended for living	No conditions apply
	Does the shelter currently have any of the following defects?	Fully destroyed	Partial or significant damage
	Does your household have daily access to the following items: sleeping mat or mattresses, plastic tarpaulin, cooking pots of 5L or more, stainless steel cups, water storage containers, and/or winter clothes for all children?	Household does not have sleeping mats or a cooking set	Has three or fewer of the following items
	How many blankets does the household currently own?	Household does not have blankets	Less than one blanket per household member
	What is your main source of heating during winter?	Household has no heating source or reports using animal dung or waste	Archa wood, baloth wood, bushes, or local wood
	What is your household's primary reason for taking on debt?		Household reports rent or shelter repairs
	What is the average number of people per room in your household?	Greater than 9	8 or 9
	Does your shelter have any of the following enclosure issues?		Non-removable dirt, leaks during light rain, lack of insulation

Food Security and Agriculture (FSA)

Need in the FSAC sector was measured using three indicators to measure both the diversity and quantity of food and the coping mechanisms used when food is not available. These three indicators are:

1. Percentage of households at the borderline or poor threshold on the Food Consumption Score (FCS). FCS measures how often a household consumes different food groups in the 7 days prior to data collection
2. Percentage of households at the moderate or severe threshold of the Household Hunger Scale (HHS). HHS measures household hunger in the 30 days prior to data collection
3. Percentage of households in the high or medium category of the reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI). rCSI measures coping mechanisms used by households when there was not enough food or money to buy food in the 7 days prior to data collection

After accounting for households with a critical FSAC need, households with at least three unmet needs were placed in severity score 3, households with two unmet needs in severity score 2, and households with one or no unmet needs into severity score 1.

	Question	Critical Indicator	Unmet Need Indicator
Food Security and Agriculture	Over the last seven days, how often has your household eaten any of the following foods? ¹	Household scores at poor threshold for both FCS and high or medium rCSI	Household scores at either borderline or poor threshold on FCS
	In the past 30 days, was there no food to eat of any kind in your house because of a lack of resources to get food? ²	Household scores at severe hunger threshold on HHS	Household scores at either moderate or severe hunger threshold on HHS
	In the past 30 days, did you or any household member go to bed hungry because there was not enough food? ³	Household scores at severe hunger threshold on HHS	Household scores at either moderate or severe hunger threshold on HHS
	In the past 30 days, did you or any household go a whole day and night without eating anything at all because there was not enough food? ⁴	Household scores at severe hunger threshold on HHS	Household scores at either moderate or severe hunger threshold on HHS
	In the past 7 days, how often has your household used any of the following coping mechanisms because there was not enough food or money to buy food? ⁵	Household scores at poor threshold for FCS and high or medium for rCSI	Household scores as high on the rCSI

¹ FCS measures how often a household consumes the following food groups: beans/nuts, butter/fat/oil, cereals/tubers, dairy, fish/meats, fruits, and sugar.

^{2,3,4} Questions included in the HHS.

⁵ rCSI measures how often a household used the following coping mechanisms when there was not enough food or money to buy food within 7 days of data collection: borrowed food, relied on less expensive foods, reduced portion sizes, reduced number of meals per day, reduced portions for adults so that children could eat.

Health

Need in the Health sector was measured using six indicators to measure healthcare access, mental health, and physical health. These six indicators are:

1. Percentage of households reporting access to an active health care centre in the 3 months prior to data collection
2. Percentage of households reporting negative coping strategies when a household member was seriously ill (self reporting) in the 30 days prior to data collection
3. Percentage of households reporting access to an active health care centre within an hour's walk
4. Percentage of households reporting a negative behavioural change indicating psychological distress and maladaptive coping strategies within 1 year of data collection
5. Percentage of households reporting that the head of household's mental state impeded head of household's daily activities within two weeks of data collection
6. Percentage of households reporting Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) among children under 5 years within two weeks of data collection

After accounting for households with a critical health need, households with at least three unmet needs were placed in severity score 3, households with two unmet needs in severity score 2, and households with one or no unmet needs into severity score 1.

	Question	Critical Indicator	Unmet Need Indicator
Health	In the past three months, have you had access to an active health centre where you could receive health services?	Household reports no access to active healthcare center	
	During the last 30 days, did your household undertake any of the following behaviours when a household member was seriously ill?	Household reports no treatment for seriously ill household member	Household reports any coping mechanism including no treatment or home treatment for seriously ill household member
	How long does it take for you to reach the nearest health facility by walking?		Household reports that nearest health facility is more than 3 hours walk
	Have any members of your household developed any of the following behaviour changes within the past year?		Household reports a behavioural change among at least one household member
	If household head has experienced distress, to what extent did the household head find it difficult to carry out household chores or work during these times of distress?	Head of household is too distressed to carry out household chores or work	Head of household reports some difficulty or a lot of difficulty working or carrying out household chores because of distress
	How many children under the age of 5 years experienced AWD within the past two weeks?		Household reports at least one child who experienced AWD

Nutrition

Need in the Nutrition sector was measured using five indicators to determine the nutritional health of children aged 0 to 5 years. These three indicators included:

1. Percentage of children (0 - 5 years) who experienced symptoms of poor nutrition including unusual levels of sleepiness, fever for more than 7 days, or weight loss
2. Percentage of households reporting at least one child received nutrition treatment within the last year
3. Percentage of children below the Minimum Acceptable Diet (MAD)

After accounting for households with a critical nutrition need, households with at least three unmet needs were placed in severity score 3, households with two unmet needs in severity score 2, and households with one or no unmet needs into severity score 1.

	Question	Critical Indicator	Unmet Need Indicator
Nutrition	In the past seven days, have any children felt unusually sleepy, not feeling well, vomiting everything, or lost consciousness? ¹		A child in the household felt unusually sleepy, unwell, vomitted everything, or lost consciousness within two weeks of data collection
	If any children in the household are sick or have any fever, has it been going on for more than 7 days? ²		A child in the household was sick or had a fever for more than 7 days within two weeks of data collection
	Do you think any children in the household are too thin or are becoming thinner than before? ³		A child in the household is too thin or becoming thinner than before
	Have any children in the household received RUTF/RUSF in the last 12 months?		A child in the household received nutrition treatment within the last year
	Calculation of 6 to 23 month olds with a Minimally Acceptable Diet (MAD)	75% or more of the children aged 6 to 23 months in the household score below MAD	

^{1,2,3} To determine the nutritional health of children aged 6 to 23 months, the nutritional status composite indicator measures the following: levels of fatigue, fever/illness, and weight loss.

Protection

Need in the Protection sector included seven indicators measuring frequency of and concern regarding protection incidents. These seven indicators are:

1. Percentage of households experiencing a protection incident within 3 months of data collection
2. Percentage of households experiencing a protection concern within 30 days of data collection
3. Percentage of households marrying a daughter earlier than intended because of a lack of food or money to buy food
4. Percentage of households aware of an explosive hazard in or near the community
5. Percentage of households without a tenancy agreement
6. Percentage of households reporting a child working outside the home
7. Percentage of households lacking valid identification documents

After accounting for households with a critical protection need, households with at least three unmet needs were placed in severity score 3, households with two unmet needs in severity score 2, and households with one or no unmet needs into severity score 1.

	Question	Critical Indicator	Unmet Need Indicator
Protection	Were any individuals subject to any of the following within the past three months?	Experience with an explosive hazard, forced recruitment/detention, killing or maiming, violent destruction of property	Abuse or exploitation, attacks or harassment, movement restrictions unrelated to COVID-19
	In the past 30 days, were household members concerned about the following in or around the community?	Experience with an explosive hazard, forced recruitment/detention, killing or maiming, violent destruction of property	Abuse or exploitation, attacks or harassment, movement restrictions unrelated to COVID-19
	During the past 30 days, did anyone in your household engage in any of the following behaviours due to a lack of food or money to buy food? ¹	Household married daughter earlier than intended	
	In the past year, was your household aware of any explosive hazards (mines, ERWs, PPIEDs,) in or closely around your community?		Household is aware of explosive hazards in or closely around the community
	What type of tenancy agreement do you have with your current shelter?		Household has no rental agreement, a Safayee rental agreement, or a verbal rental agreement
	Did any child aged 11 to 17 years of age work outside the home within the last 30 days?		A child in the household has worked within the 30 days prior to data collection
	Does anyone in your household have a valid tazkira?	No one in the household has a valid tazkira	Some household members do not have a valid tazkira

¹ This question is part of the Livelihoods Coping Strategy Index (LCSI). LCSI measures how often a household uses coping mechanism when there was not enough food or money to buy food within 7 days of data collection.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Need in the WASH sector was measured using seven indicators to determine access to and the quality of WASH supplies. These seven indicators are:

1. Percentage of households by main source of drinking water
2. Percentage of households with access to a primary water source within 500 meters
3. Percentage of households reporting sufficient water access for drinking, bathing/washing, and cooking
4. Percentage of households per barrier type to water access
5. Percentage of households with access to soap
6. Percentage of households with access to a functional and improved sanitation facility
7. Percentage of households using a shared sanitation facility

After accounting for households with a critical WASH need, households with at least three unmet needs were placed in severity score 3, households with two unmet needs in severity score 2, and households with one or no unmet needs into severity score 1.

	Question	Critical Indicator	Unmet Need Indicator
Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	What is the main source of drinking water for your household?	Household reports surface water as main drinking source	Household reports trucking, spring, or other as main drinking source
	How long does it take your household to go to your main water source, fetch water, and return (including queuing at the water source?)		Household reports that it takes 16 or more minutes to retrieve water from main water source and return
	Does your household currently have sufficient water to meet the following needs? ¹	Household does not have sufficient access to drinking water	Household does not have sufficient access to water for cooking, handwashing, or personal hygiene
	Does your household have soap?		Household does not have soap
	Does your household have problems related to accessing water? ²	Household reports that accessing water point is too high risk	Household reports any barrier to accessing water
	What kind of sanitation facility does your household usually use?	Household reports open defecation as primary sanitation facility	Household shares primary sanitation facility with other households

¹ Answer options included sufficient water for drinking, cooking, handwashing, personal hygiene, other domestic purposes, or not enough water for any of the following needs.

² Answer options included water points are too difficult to reach, movement restrictions related to COVID-19, too high risk to access water points, socially unacceptable to access water points, insufficient number of water points, water points are not functioning or are dried up, purchasing water is too expensive, not enough containers to store water, or other.

What is a Hard-to-Reach district?

While constraints on humanitarian access in Afghanistan are multi-layered and impact differently across districts, sectors, and individual organisations, there are common dimensions of inaccessibility that can help determine and distinguish Hard-to-Reach areas across the country. In 2019, the Humanitarian Access Group led a coordinated effort to identify a list of Afghanistan's HTR districts and defined them across three factors of inaccessibility: **(1) physical constraints, (2) conflict intensity and spread, and (3) complexity of actors**. Based on these dimensions, HTR districts are areas that humanitarian actors struggle to access and provide assistance to, due to **(1) their remoteness and poor infrastructure, (2) on-going armed clashes, and / or (3) the presence of one or multiple armed actors that actively limits access to areas under their control**.

From a humanitarian perspective, whether a district is hard-to-reach or not should not matter for an organisation's aim or decision to provide assistance, as this must be based on an impartial and neutral assessment of the corresponding needs of the people. Unfortunately, conventional data collection techniques (face-to-face / telephone interviews), which facilitate an evidence-based humanitarian response, are equally limited and undermined by the access restrictions that implementing partners face. Hence, the humanitarian community in Afghanistan lacks reliable data and monitoring tools to assess needs and vulnerabilities of people in HTR areas.

SAMPLING

The sampling frame was designed to strengthen the insights users can draw from the HTR data. First, in order to ensure all areas and populations of a HTR district are adequately taken into account, each district was mapped and divided into Basic Service Units (BSUs). Together with community representatives, BSUs were identified and mapped as geographic areas that have common demographic/socio-economic features and in which communities rely on the same basic services and facilities, such as health facilities, markets, and schools. Following the mapping, key informants were identified through snowballing from existing networks from previous assessments and purposefully sampled, based on their knowledge of the community. Key informants commonly included community elders, teachers, nurses, or maliks (village chiefs).¹ Once the BSUs were identified, Key Informants Interviews (KIIs) were conducted in all areas and for all communities that relied on the same set of basic services – allowing for an efficient, yet comprehensive, data collection coverage. Each KII was conducted in a separate settlement and at least 18% of each district's settlements were covered, resulting in an average of four KIIs per BSU. To reduce the exposure to COVID-19 for enumerators and participants, only three KIIs were interviewed in BSUs where face-to-face interviews had to be conducted. For more information, please see the Terms of Reference ([ToR](#)).

DATA COLLECTION

Using Open Data Kit (Kobo Toolbox), 133 REACH enumerators conducted 3,533 KIIs across 3,533 settlements between 19th July and 2nd August 2020. Of these, 1,176 were conducted face-to-face, while 2,357 were conducted over the phone.

Senior Field Officers (SFOs) monitored the collection of data and followed up with enumerators on issues, challenges and delays on a regular basis, to ensure the collection of high quality data. Additionally, settlement data was cleaned on a daily basis, with recommendations for improvements regularly fed back to enumerators and data changes logged for transparency purposes.

In order to ensure the safety of enumerators doing face-to-face data collection during COVID-19, a number of measures were taken:

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for all enumerators;
- Transport to assessed settlement only in personal vehicles;
- Guidelines on COVID-19 preventive measures and daily follow-up, reminders and tracking of face-to-face data collection.

¹ More information on Basic Services Units mapping can be found in the map collection: for [North and North-East](#), for [South](#), for [Capital and South-East](#), for [West](#) and for [East](#).

² The AoK approach was used in Farah (Pur chaman), Ghor (Charsadra), Nangarhar (Hesarak, Sherzad), Paktika (Wazakhwah, Wormamay).

ANALYSIS

The unit of analysis that each key informant was asked to report upon was the settlement they resided in. Findings and data hence reflect the needs of settlements as a whole, and cannot be further broken down to specific population groups or the household level. However, findings can be aggregated to the district or national level and be compared across districts with different inaccessibility score for the three dimensions of hard to reach: (1) Physical Constraints, (2) Conflict Intensity, (3) Complexity of Actors.

Analysis of the HTR data was conducted using R's statistical packages. As there was no reliable information on the exact population within individual settlements, the analysis weighted the data by the number of settlements within a district, rather than the population within a district.

LIMITATIONS

- In all but six districts, the assessment was conducted within the district, by local enumerators. In six HTR districts, data collection was not possible in person or via the phone, due to security restrictions and/or a lack of a reliable phone network. In those districts, the assessment relied on an Area of Knowledge (AoK) approach, interviewing Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) that had recently left from different BSUs within the assessed district.²
- Findings rely on the knowledge of key informants responding on their settlements. The findings are therefore indicative and may not always reflect fully the situation on the ground.
- Weighting of data by the number of settlements within a district, rather than the population, may result in an under- or over-representation of any particular settlement population.
- While the settlement functions well as a 'unit of analysis' for issues related to access to services, it is difficult to adequately assess aspects such as nutrition and food consumption for a settlement as a whole. Therefore, for certain indicators, high proportions of settlements with needs, may not automatically translate to high proportions of the population with needs and vice versa.

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About REACH:

REACH Initiative facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. The methodologies used by REACH include primary data collection and in-depth analysis, and all activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT).

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