



Needs and COVID-19 Impact Assessment

December 2020

Gawilan refugee camp - Iraq

Background and Methodology

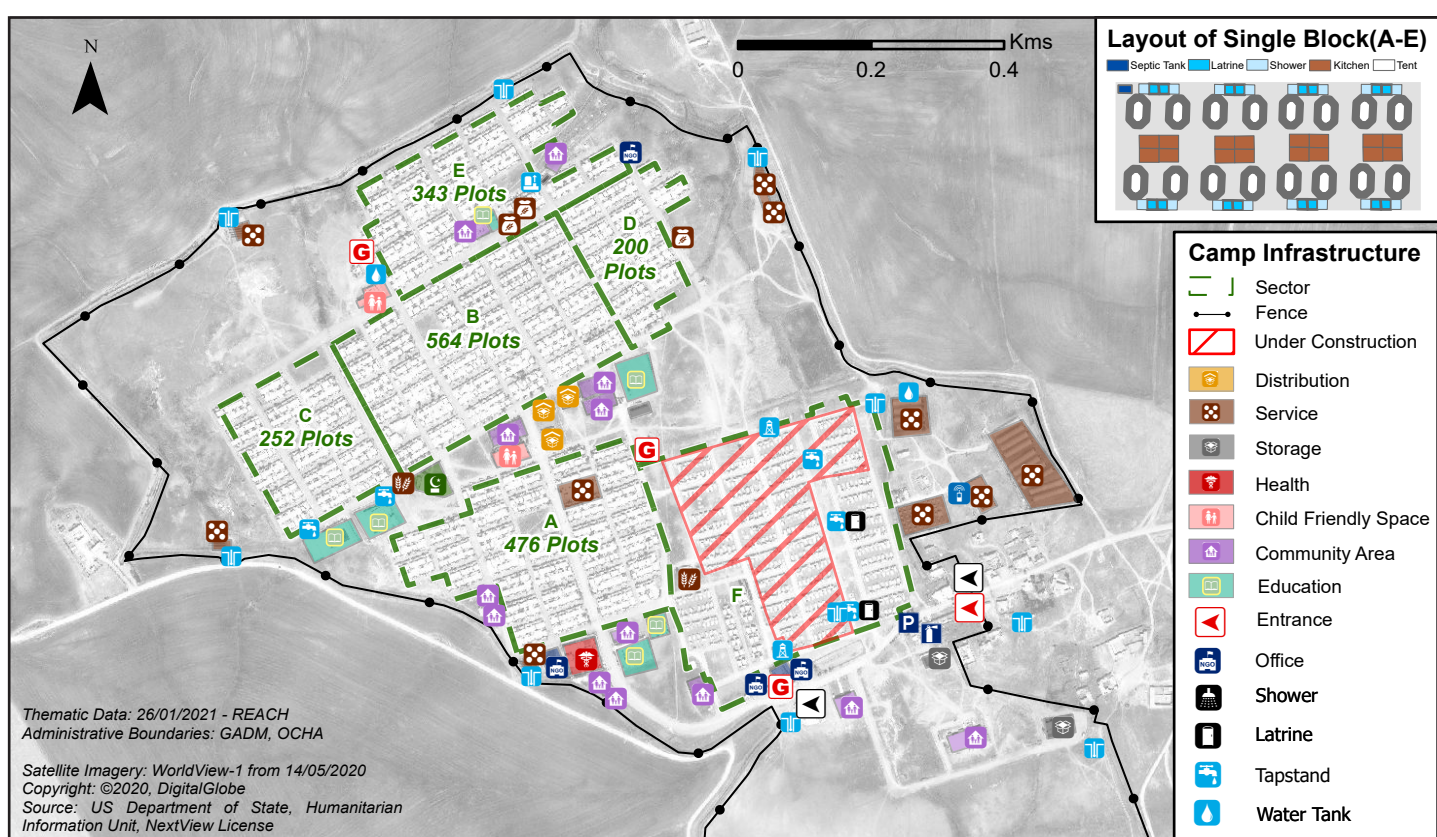
Since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak in Iraq, vulnerable¹ displaced families, including Syrian refugees in camps, have been among those most affected by the virus.² In February 2020, Iraq reported its first confirmed case of COVID-19, and according to the World Health Organization (WHO), as of 27 December 2020, 590,779 cases had been recorded throughout the country.² Between October 2019 and February 2020, REACH border monitoring flagged a considerable increase in movement from Syria to Iraq due to military interventions in northeast Syria (NES) on the 9 of October 2019.³ This movement gradually slowed until all border crossings were closed due to the pandemic on 2 March 2020.^{4&5} As of November 2020, the NES border with

the Kurdistan Region of Iraq is open for limited movement.⁶

To inform the humanitarian response on the ground, REACH conducted an assessment on the impact of COVID-19 on priority needs and access to services for the residents of Gawilan Camp.⁷

The findings are based on 72 household-level interviews with Gawilan camp residents, conducted between 25 and 26 December 2020. Data collection was undertaken remotely due to public health concerns and movement restrictions linked to the COVID-19 pandemic. Phone numbers were randomly selected from a list provided by UNHCR. Findings are representative for the Gawilan camp residents with a 90% confidence level and 10% margin of error.

Camp population: 8,627 individuals⁸



Demographics

Female household respondents **10%**

Male household respondents **90%**



Average household respondent age: **38.5**

Average household respondent age group: **30 - 39**

Respondents identifying themselves as heads of household:

Yes **94%**

No **6%**



Households reporting having children:

Yes **82%**

No **18%**



¹ Livelihood and Food Security Fund [Vulnerability Profiling definition](#), December 22, 2013

² Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) [COVID-19 Update, 4 August 2020](#), Accessed 13 September 2020

³ Assessment Capacities Project (ACAPS) [Crisi Update - Syria](#) - 20 November 2020

⁴ ReliefWeb, [North-East Syria Update](#) - October 2019 - April 2020

⁵ Reliefweb, [Iraq: COVID-19 Situation Report No. 6](#), 17 March 2020

⁶ Human Rights Watch, [Syria: Aid Restrictions Hinder Covid-19 Response](#), 28 April 2020

⁷ World Health Organization (WHO) [Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) Dynamic Infographic Dashboard for Iraq](#), Accessed 27 December 2020

⁸ UNHCR, Government of KRI, Barzani Charity Foundation (BCF) - Gawilan refugee camp board - 27 January 2021



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Displacement Profile

Most commonly reported governorates of origin, by percentage of households:

Al-Hasakeh	72%
Aleppo	17%
Damascus	7%
Ar-Raqqa	3%
Dara	1%



Households reporting family members were left behind in Syria:

Yes	76%
No	24%

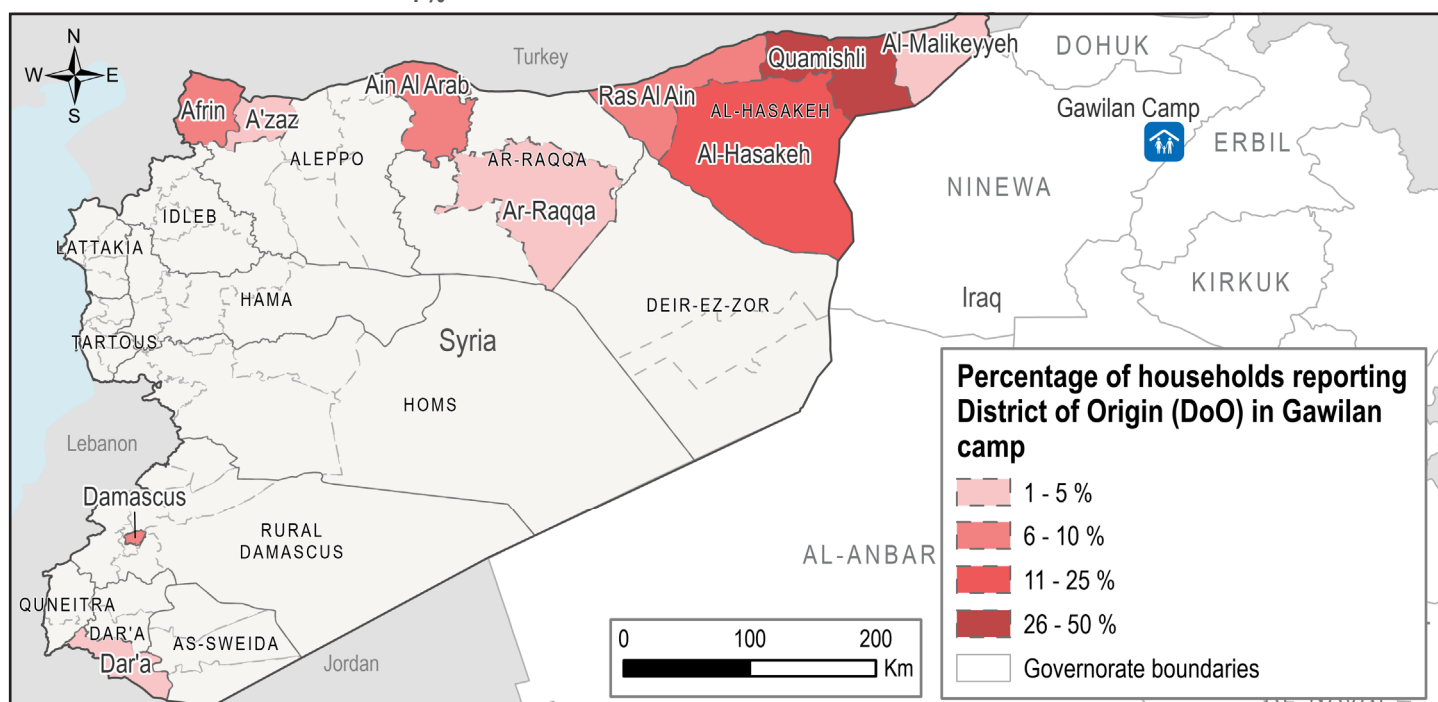


Most commonly reported districts of origin, by percentage of households:

Quamishli, Al-Hasakeh governorate	40%
Al-Hasekeh, Al-Hasakeh governorate	21%
Afrin, Aleppo governorate	8%
Ain Al-Arab, Aleppo governorate	7%

Of those reporting family members left behind in Syria, households reporting that family members will join them soon:

Yes	13%
No	69%
Do not know	18%



Movement Intentions

Households considering returning to Syria due to the COVID-19 restrictions in place in Gawilan camp:

Yes	50%
No	50%



Of those not considering returning to their area of origin (AoO) in Syria, the most commonly reported reasons by households:*

Perceived lack of livelihoods	72%
Perceived arrival of military	44%
Perceived fear of conscription	36%
Perceived destroyed/damaged houses	32%

Of those not considering returning to their AoO in Syria, the most commonly reported reasons to consider going back were:*

Sense of improved safety	89%
Perceived increase in access to livelihoods	86%
Perceived increase in access to services	79%

Most commonly reported sources of information about the situation in AoO, reported by households:*

Social media	60%
Contacts in country of origin	47%
Contacts in Kurdistan Region of Iraq	24%

* Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%.



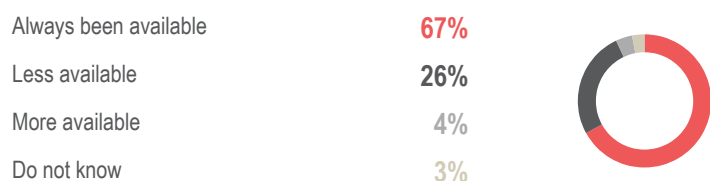
Healthcare Services

Primary Health Services

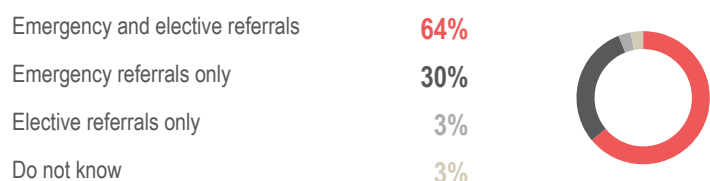
Household reporting the availability of primary health services in the camp:



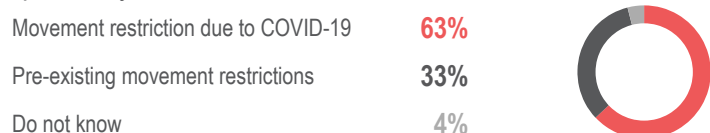
Change in availability of health services since the onset of COVID-19, reported by households:⁵



Household reporting the availability of referrals to a secondary health service provider:



If emergency or elective referrals only, most commonly reported restrictions that affected access to referrals, reported by households:

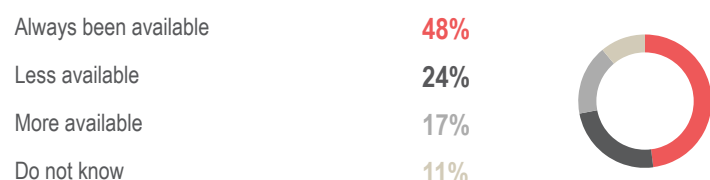


Sexual and Reproductive Health Services

Household reporting the availability of sexual and reproductive health services:



Change in availability of sexual and reproductive health services since the onset of COVID-19, reported by households:



Child Health Services

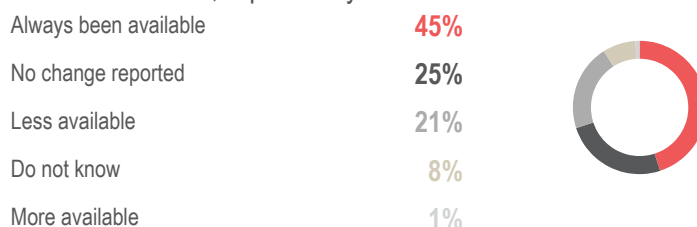
Household reporting the availability of child health services:



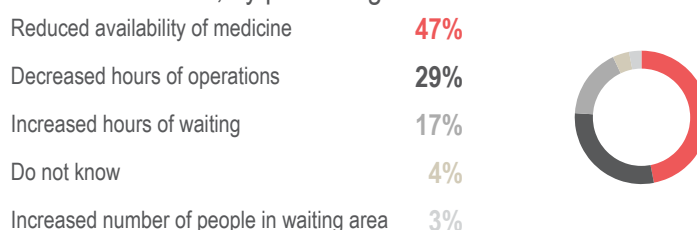
Most commonly reported type of child health services, reported by households:*



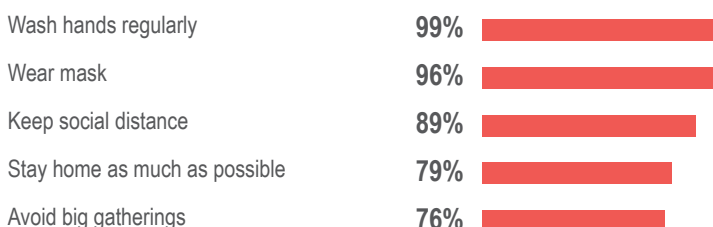
Change in availability of child health services since the onset of COVID-19, reported by households:



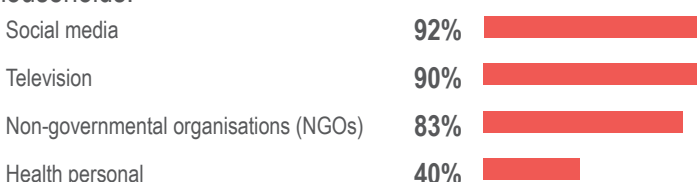
Reported impact of COVID-19 prevention measures on healthcare services, by percentage of households:



Most commonly reported measures taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19:*



Sources of information about COVID-19, reported by households:*



* Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%.

⁵ ReliefWeb, [Iraq: COVID-19 Situation](#) Report No. 6, 17 March 2020

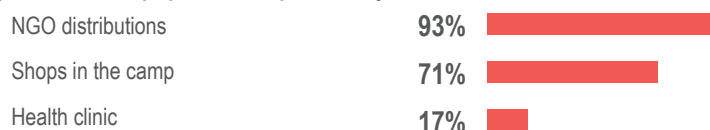


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Most commonly reported sources to access personal protective equipment, reported by households:*

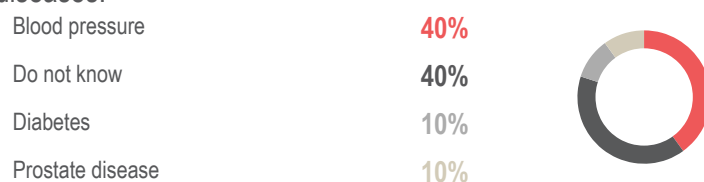


Chronic Disease Services

Households reporting at least one member having a chronic disease:



Of those reporting (10 households) at least one member having a chronic disease, most commonly reported diseases:



Of those reporting (10 households) at least one member having a chronic disease, reported change in quantity of medicine since the onset of COVID-19:



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Services

Main sources of drinking water reported by households:



Reported change in the availability of drinkable water since the onset of COVID-19, by percentage of households:



Households reporting satisfaction with the quality of the available water in the camp:



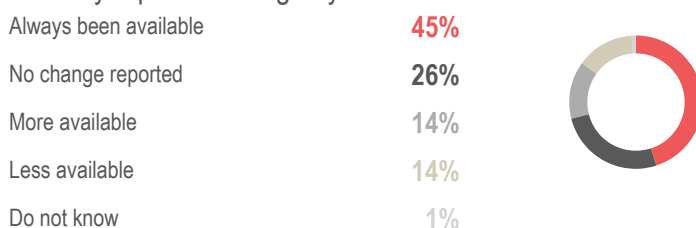
Of those reporting (12 households) dissatisfaction with the water quality, most commonly reported reasons by households:*



Reported existence of operating waste management structures for garbage collection in the camp, by percentage of households:



Of those reporting waste management structures for garbage collection since the onset of COVID-19, most commonly reported change by households:

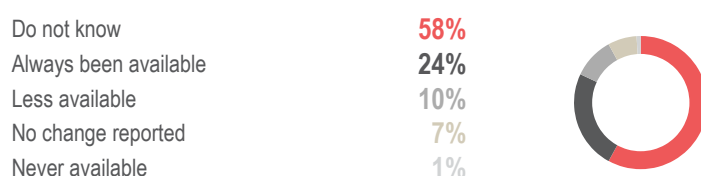


Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Services

Reported availability of MHPSS services in Gawilan camp, by percentage of households:



Reported change in the availability of MHPSS since the onset of COVID-19, by percentage of households:



* Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%.



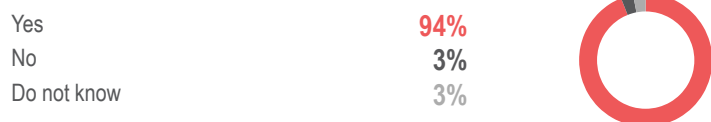
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Change in Mental Health since March 2020

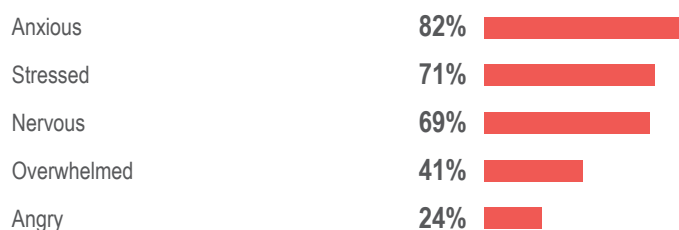
Households reporting facing greater than usual challenges since the onset of COVID-19:



Of those reporting greater than usual challenges, most commonly reported challenges by households:*



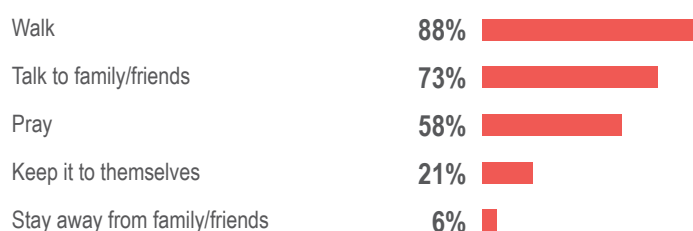
Of those reporting greater than usual challenges, most commonly reported feelings by households:*



Of the households reporting greater than usual challenges, proportion who reported taking action to cope with those challenges:



Of the households reporting taking action to cope with these feelings, activities performed:*



MHPSS Services Received

Households reporting to have received MHPSS since the onset of COVID-19:



Of those reporting receiving MHPSS services (5 households), most commonly reported services by households:*



Needed MHPSS Services

Additional MHPSS services needed for household members, reported by households who received services:*

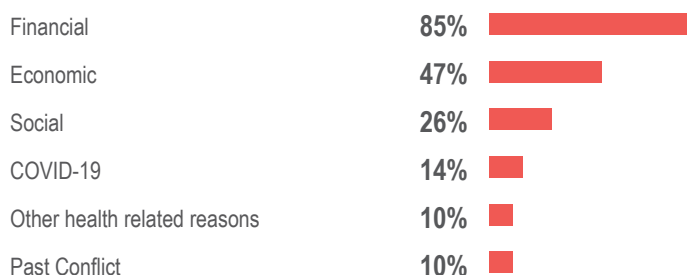


Household Mental Health Prior to Data Collection

In the two weeks preceding data collection, reported feelings or psychological state by households:*



In the two weeks preceding data collection, factors reported by households as contributing to those feelings:*



Households reporting that the above factors were impacted by the onset of COVID-19:



Households reporting that the onset of COVID-19 has affected their daily routine:



* Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%.



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Children's Mental Health since March 2020

Households reporting a behavioural change in children since the onset of COVID-19:

Yes	94%
No	3%
Do not know	3%



Of those reporting change in children behaviour, reported behaviour by households in the two weeks prior to data collection:*

Isolation/staying home	54%
Feeling annoyed	32%
Boredom	21%
Changing behaviour	21%

Coping Mechanisms (to financial impacts since the onset of COVID-19)

Households reporting selling assets:

Yes	38%
No	40%
Already sold valuable	14%
Not applicable/Prefer not to answer	8%



Households reporting selling means of transportation:

Yes	4%
No	32%
Not applicable/Prefer not to answer	64%



Households reporting spending savings:

Yes	47%
No	17%
Already spent saving	3%
Not applicable/Prefer not to answer	33%



Households reporting buying basic items on credit or borrowing money from family/friends:

Yes	93%
No	7%



Households reporting reducing expenditure on non-food items:

Yes	69%
No	25%
Not applicable/Prefer not to answer	6%



Households reporting family members returning to Syria:

Yes	2%
No	90%
Not applicable/Prefer not to answer	8%



Households reporting members participating in child labour:

Yes	1%
No	81%
Not applicable/Prefer not to answer	18%



Households reporting resorting to child marriage:

No	75%
Not applicable/Prefer not to answer	25%



Methods suggested by households to the people in the camp to help them with negative coping mechanisms:*

Talk to family/friends	33%
Praying	27%
Exercise	20%
Patience	14%

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Protection Services⁹

Households reporting avoiding certain areas due to concerns with safety and security:

No	99%
Do not know	1%



Reported changed in the overall safety situation for women and girls in the camp, by percentage of households:⁹

Always been safe	74%
Safer now	7%
Less safe now	7%
Do not know	12%



* Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%.

⁹ Responses could have been impacted by the limited gendered balance in respondents.



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Households reporting women and girls in the household are restricted or afraid to move outside at night:



Households reporting women and girls in the household are restricted or afraid to move outside during the day:



Households reporting women and girls are at risk of verbal intimidation:



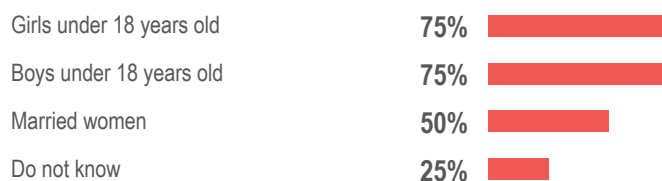
Of those who reported yes (4 households) to verbal intimidation, most commonly reported reasons by households:*



Households reporting women and girls are at risk of physical intimidation/violence:



Of those who reported yes (4 households) to verbal/physical intimidation, most commonly reported vulnerable groups by households:*



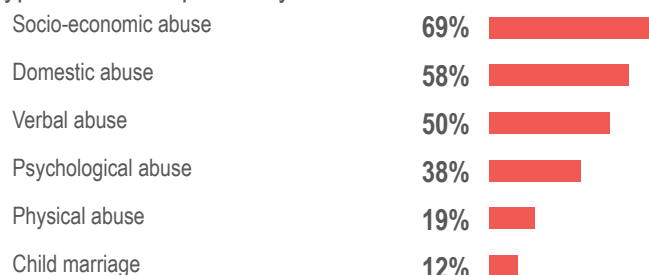
Household reporting change in the frequency/number of cases of GBV since the onset of COVID-19:



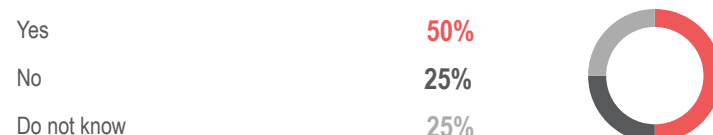
If yes, variation in the number of cases or frequency of GBV reported by households:



Of those reporting an increase in the number of cases of GBV, types of GBV reported by households:*



Households reporting support is available for women and girls who face GBV:



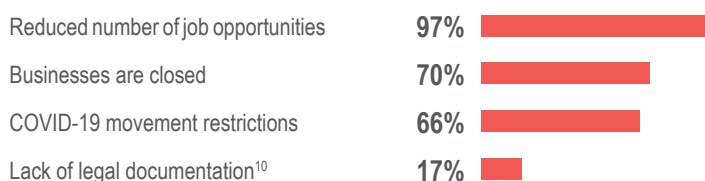
Livelihood Services

Availability of Livelihoods

Households reporting change in availability of livelihood opportunities since the onset of COVID-19:



Most commonly reported factors affecting the availability of livelihood opportunities, by percentage of households:*



* Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%.

¹⁰ UNHCR, [Civil Documentation and Residency](#)



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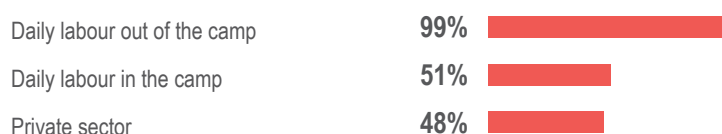
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Main Source of Income

Most commonly reported sources of income, by percentage of households:*

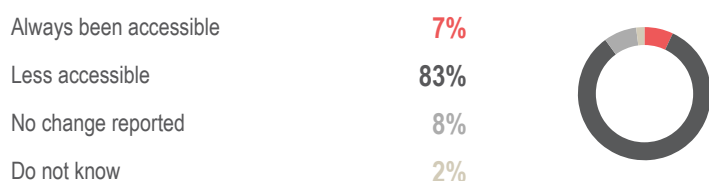


Most commonly reported sources of income affected by the onset of COVID-19, by percentage of households:*



Access to Cash and Essential Goods

Households reporting change in access to cash since the onset of COVID-19:



Households reporting change in access to essential goods since the onset of COVID-19:



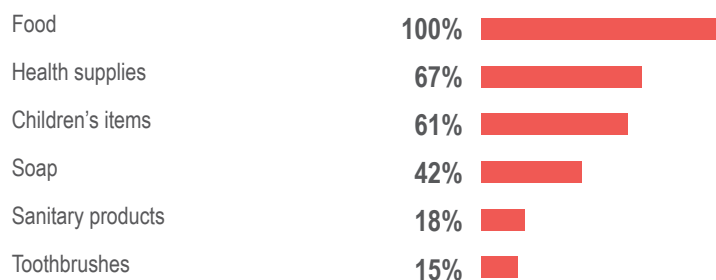
Households reporting change in prices of essential goods since the onset of COVID-19:



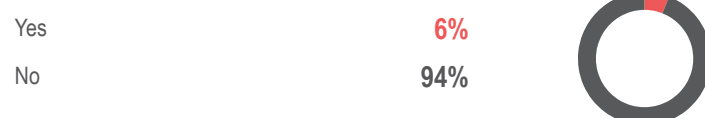
Of households reporting changes in prices of essential goods, most commonly reported type of change by households:



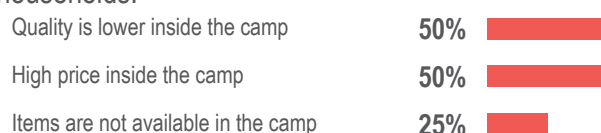
Most commonly reported items whose price changed since the onset of COVID-19, by percentage of households:*



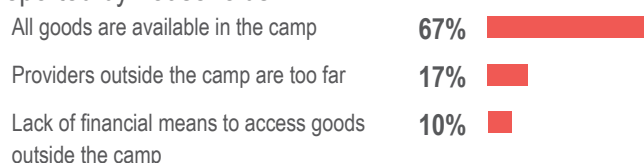
Households reporting moving outside the camp to access essential goods:



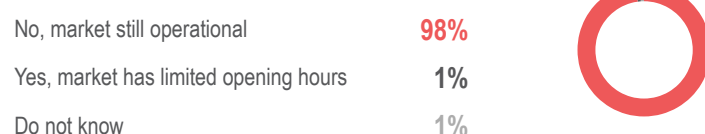
Of those reporting moving outside the camp (4 households) to access essential goods, most commonly reported reasons by households:*



If no, reasons to not leave the camp to buy essential goods reported by households:*



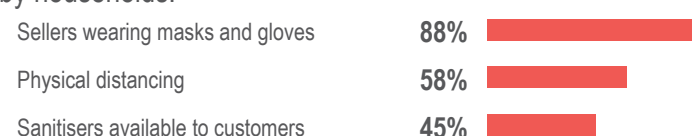
Households reporting change in market accessibility since the onset of COVID-19:



Households reporting COVID-19 prevention measures are in place in the markets:



Of those reporting COVID-19 prevention measures in place in the markets, most commonly reported measures by households:*



* Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%.