

Libyan Population Livelihoods Key Findings MSNA 2022

May, 2023
Libya

KEY FIGURES

- **39%** of Internally displaced households were more likely to be living below 50 per cent of median reported income.
- **20%** of internally displaced households reported relying on government subsidies to cover their needs.
- **32%** of households spent more than 30% of their expenditure on health in the 6 months prior to data collection which further implies that health prevails as the highest reported essential need across all regions.

KEY MESSAGES

- Households generally relied on unsustainable sources of income which highlights **the reduced economic resilience of the Libyan population.**
- **Access to cash was the main reported top priority need across regions** with 55% of households reported not having access to sufficient cash.
- Most households in Libya have resorted to using crisis or emergency coping strategies within the 30 days prior to data collection, indicating **a high level of economic vulnerability.**

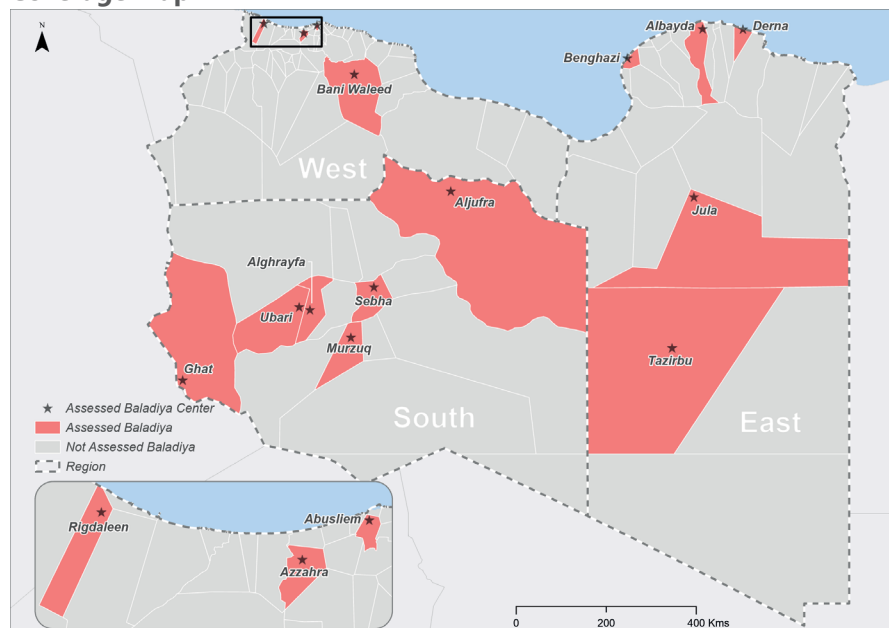
DATA COLLECTION* AND ASSESSMENT COVERAGE

Data collection took place between July 4th and October 4th, 2022 and covered a total of 3,758 households across 15 selected baladiyas. Findings are generalisable per population group and per baladiya with a 95 confidence interval and a 5% margin of error.** Findings relating to subsets of the sample are indicative only.

* Please refer to [the methodology overview](#) for more details.

** Except for Azzahra, Aljifara; where operational constraints led to under-sampling, findings are indicative only for this baladiya.

Coverage map



CONTEXT & RATIONALE

Since 2011, Libya has experienced significant political turmoil and conflict that have impacted the country's economy and the livelihoods of its population. Additionally due to the COVID-19 epidemic, and Russian-Ukraine war, the Libyan economy has been severely harmed.

The Libyan population's livelihoods have also been significantly impacted by the conflict, with many people displaced from their homes and livelihoods. Households in Libya have faced significant economic challenges, including a decline in household income, an increase in inflation, and a shortage of basic goods and services.

The high cost of living has placed a significant burden on households, who have had to bear the cost of essential services themselves. While the government has implemented policies aimed at addressing these challenges, progress has been slow, and ongoing conflict and instability continue to impact the economy and households.³

OVERVIEW

This factsheet contains key livelihoods findings from the 2022 Libyan Population Multi-Sector Needs Assessment based on indicators related to households income, expenditure, employment access to cash and markets and livelihood coping strategies.

This document intend to give insight on the Libyan households' financial situation and economic vulnerabilities. It includes indicators from the [Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals](#) highlighted in **red boxes**

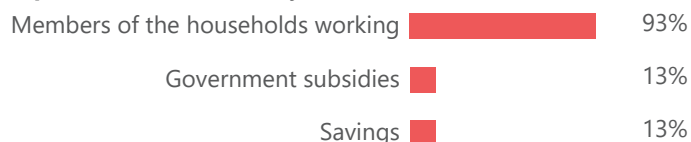
¹ [WorldBank Libya Overview](#), Wold Bank (April 2023)

² [IDP and Returnee Report, Libya DTM Round 42](#), IOM (May-June 2022)

³ [WorldBank Libya Overview](#), Wold Bank (April 2023)

HOUSEHOLDS' INCOME

Top 3 sources of income by % of households (Multiple choices question)

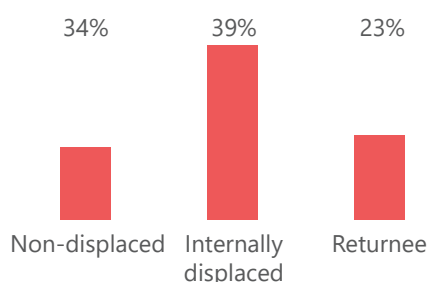


Overall, a **majority of households (55%) estimated their income to be between 950 and 1949 Libyan dinars.**

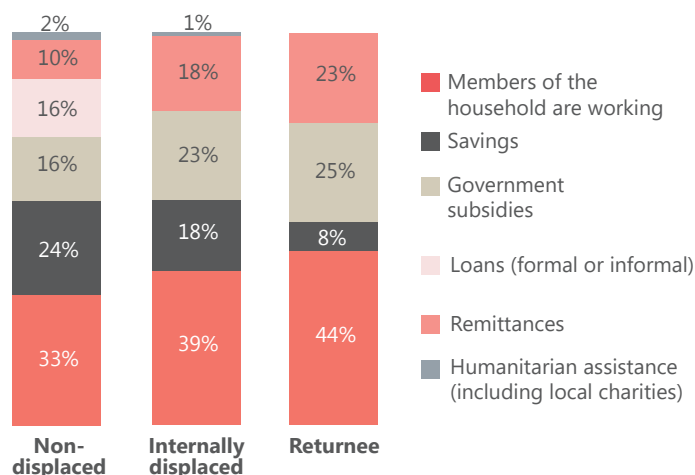
Comparatively, in the West region, a higher proportion of households (38%) reported incomes between 1550 and 1949 LYD, while in the East and South regions, the majority (28%) estimated their incomes between 950 and 1349 LYD.

These figures imply that households in the West may have a relatively better living conditions than those in the East and South regions based on their income levels. However, it is important to recognize that living conditions are influenced by various factors beyond income alone.

10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by displacement status



Household's income over the 30 days prior to data collection, by % from each source, by displacement status

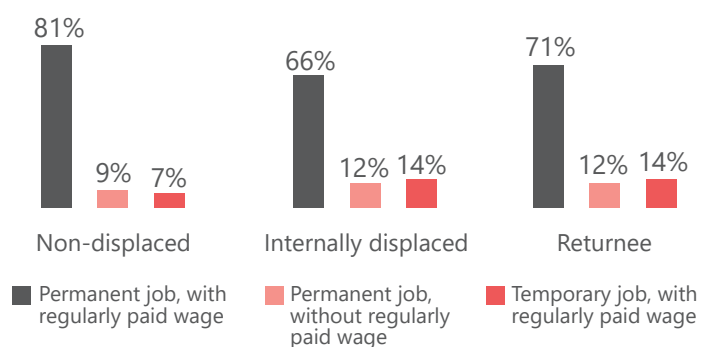


It is worth noting that when examining the overall income composition of households, salaries represented approximately 33% of their total income. However, a significant portion, **36% of households' income, was derived from unsustainable sources.** These sources include savings (19%), loans (16%) and humanitarian assistance (1%).

These findings shed light on the economic vulnerabilities experienced by the population. Relying on savings and loans to sustain a significant portion of household income indicates a reliance on temporary or one-time financial resources. Such reliance can lead to potential financial instability and challenges in affording basic needs.

EMPLOYMENT

Top 3 most reported types of employment per displacement status

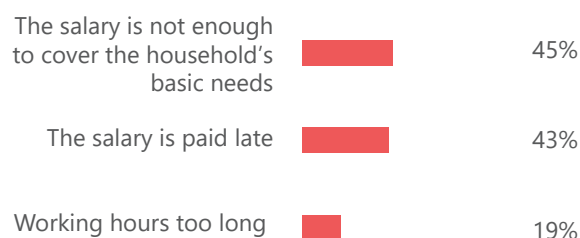


Overall, **93% of total respondents reported working as a main source of income:**

- Of those, **70% reported working in the public sector**, 16% working in the private sector for someone else, and 11% reported being self-employed
- Of those, overall, **85% reported having a written contract**, while 7% reported not having a verbal contract or not having any type of contract.

Top 3 most reported work-related challenges, by % of households who reported working as their main source of income (n=3,387)*

(Multiple choices question)



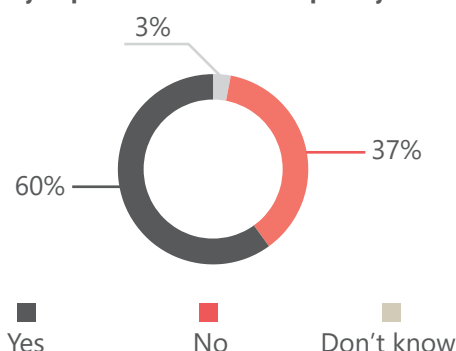
* Question asked only to those who reported work as their main source of income (93% of the overall sample)

The prevalence of the most commonly reported work-related challenges, namely insufficient salaries to cover basic household needs and delayed salary payments, suggests that **households often resorted to seeking additional income sources. This was frequently the case, even if some of these sources are unsustainable**, which highlights the limited economic resilience of the Libyan population.

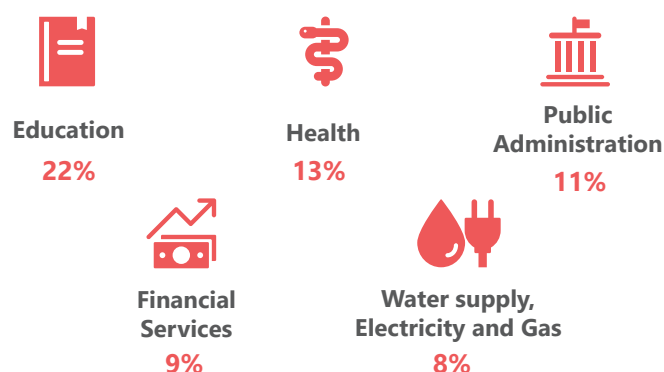
Overall, 60% of households reported having their social security pension paid by the employer. The sectors where majority reported their social security not being paid by their employer were:

1. Other unskilled labor
2. Army, police, and defense
3. Construction
4. Building
5. Real Estate
6. Metal Machinery
7. Cleaning
8. Retail
9. Restaurant

Social security or pension contributions paid by the employer



Top 5 most reported sectors of employment for the main income provider, by % of households reporting working as main source of income (n=3387)



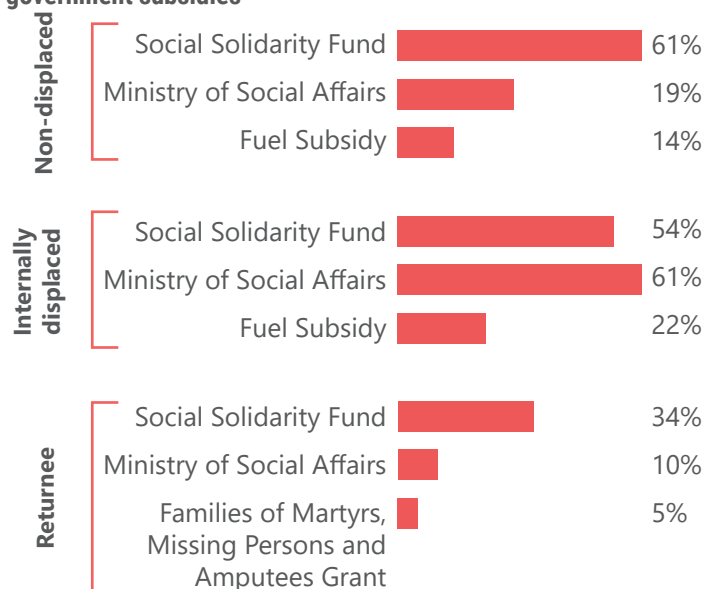
8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in total employment, by sector and sex

2%

of households had members working in Daily labour (unpredictable form of work, day-to-day knowledge of income source) and Temporary job (without regularly paid wage)

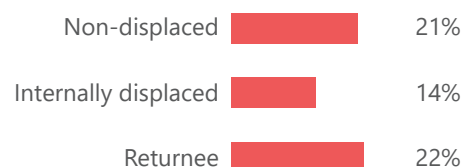
GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES

Top 3 types of government subsidies households rely on as main income source, by % of households reporting having received government subsidies*



*Question asked only to those who reported government subsidies as their main source of income (n=705)

% of households reporting receiving government subsidies per displacement status



1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable

% of households reporting relying on government subsidies as main source of income, per displacement status

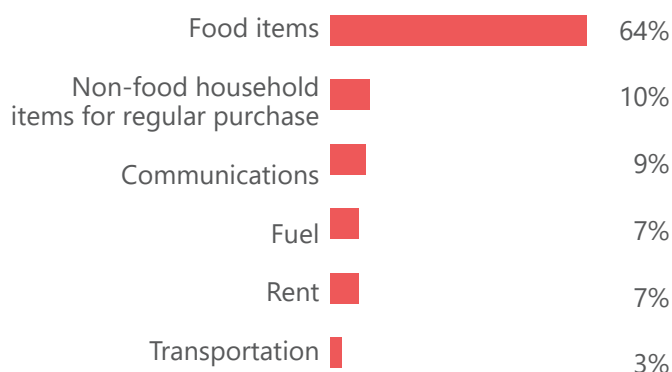


The analysis reveals an interesting trend regarding government subsidies and their utilization among different population groups. It is observed that **internally displaced households depended more on government subsidies compared to non-displaced individuals and returnees**. However, what is particularly noteworthy is that **internally displaced households were the least likely to report receiving government subsidies**, suggesting a potential challenge in their access to this crucial support.

This disparity suggests that there might have been barriers or obstacles preventing internally displaced individuals from effectively accessing the government subsidies they are entitled to. These barriers could encompass various factors, including administrative complexities, limited awareness of available subsidies, inadequate outreach efforts, or deficiencies in the mechanisms through which internally displaced households can access the support they need.

EXPENDITURE

Average proportion of reported monthly household expenditure, per expenditure category:



3.8.2 Proportion of population with large household expenditures on health as a share of total household expenditure or income

Proportion of households with health expenditure in the 6 months prior to data collection that exceeds 30% of total expenditure:



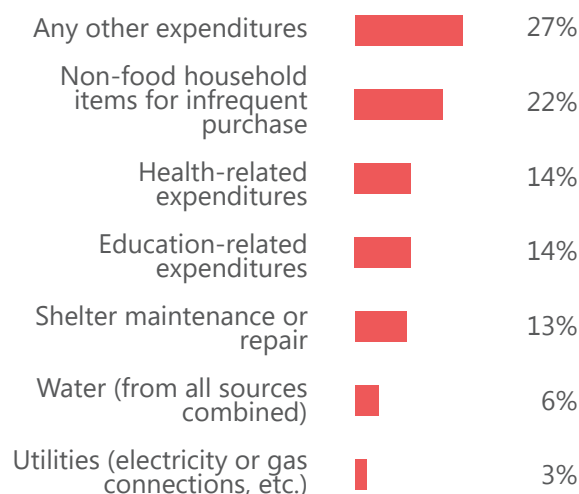
32%

of households spent more than 30% of their expenditure in the 6 months prior to data collection on Health

Expenditure over the 30 days prior to data collection:

Overall, internally displaced households reported having spent a considerably higher proportion of their total expenditure on rent (36%) compared to returnees (3%) and non-displaced (5%) in the past 30 days.

% of total reported outcome spent per expenditure category in the 6 months prior to data collection



Expenditure in the 6 months prior to data collection:

Overall, returnee households reported having spent a considerably higher proportion of their total monthly expenditure on shelter repairs (25%) compared to non-displaced (10%) and internally displaced households (11%) in the 6 months prior to data collection.

ESSENTIAL NEEDS

Top 5 most reported essential needs by % of households



Health prevails as the highest reported essential need across all regions.

The prevalence of such needs could be linked to the lack of medical supplies and damaged infrastructure with almost half of the healthcare facilities in the East being partially functional.*

A similar pattern of essential needs exists among various population groups, with one notable exception: internally displaced households. **In this subgroup, shelter takes precedence as the most frequently reported essential need, accounting for 69% of responses.** This finding aligns with the fact that the majority of internally displaced households (84%) resided in rented accommodations thus, the focus on shelter needs predominantly revolves around repair and maintenance.

HOUSEHOLDS' DEBT



Overall, **45% of households reported accumulating debt during the 3 months prior to data collection.** 29% reported accumulating debt from friends and/or family. **Internally displaced households** were the population group with the highest proportion of households reported **accumulating debt during the 3 months prior to data collection (71%).**

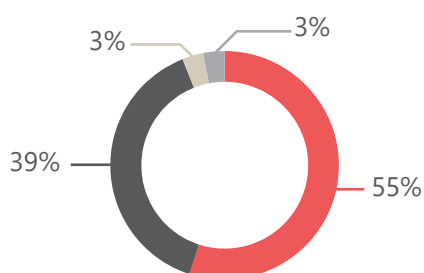
The primary reason for taking on debt are:

1. **47%** Paying for other basic needs
2. **46%** Paying for healthcare
3. **40%** Paying for food

For Internally displaced households, **the majority (76%) reported taking on debt to pay for rent,** especially in the baladiyas of Abuselim (97%) and Bani Waleed (88%).

CASH AND MARKETS

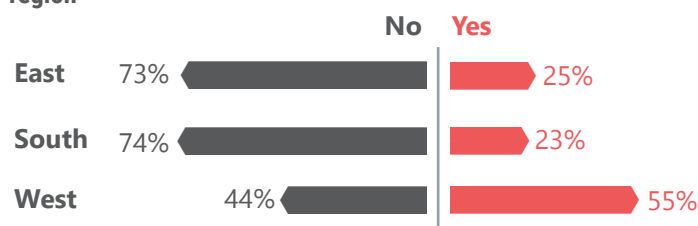
% of households reporting having been able to access sufficient amounts of cash to meet their basic needs in the 30 days prior to data collection



- No - did not have access to sufficient cash
- Yes - had access to sufficient cash
- Don't know
- Prefer not to answer

While there were no significant differences across regions, **internally displaced households were the population group with the highest proportion of households reporting not having access to sufficient cash (71%).**

% of households reporting having faced barriers accessing markets consistently in the 30 days prior to data collection per region



Most reported barriers to accessing markets, by % of households who reported having faced barriers (n=1066)



Lack of access to cash
59%



Prices at marketplace are too high
85%

97% of households reported having access to a marketplace or grocery store within 30 minutes travel time.

LIVELIHOOD COPING STRATEGIES

% of interviewed households per LCSL category per region and displacement status:

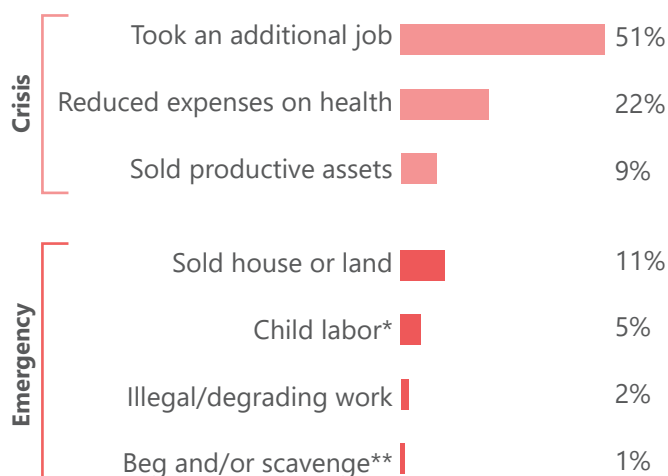
	None	Stress	Crisis	Emergency
East	11%	9%	60%	19%
West	43%	47%	9%	2%
South	24%	10%	56%	10%
Non-displaced	21%	18%	47%	13%
Internally displaced	11%	12%	60%	17%
Returnee	21%	20%	45%	14%

The use or exhaustion of coping strategies is an indication that a household is struggling to meet its needs. Overall, 79% of households reported having used or exhausted at least one of the livelihood coping strategies, indicating that the use of coping strategies is widespread in Libya.

The use of coping strategies did not differ between population groups. However, in terms of regions, in baladiyas assessed in the South and East, the proportion of households that reported having used or exhausted crisis and emergency coping mechanisms to meet their needs was higher than in assessed baladiyas in the West.

61% of households reported having used or exhausted crisis or emergency level coping strategies in the 30 days prior to data collection.

Reported crisis and emergency coping strategies used or exhausted in the 30 days prior to data collection, by % of interviewed households:



*Only households with members under the age of 18 years old were asked about this coping strategy (n=2808).

** Only households not having members under the age of 18 years old were asked about this coping strategy (n=949)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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