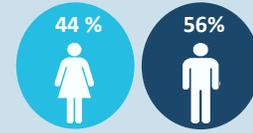




SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



In numbers



517 Households interviewed

99% of respondents are female

17% of respondents reported at least one **disabled person** at household level

99 % reported being at their **place of residence**

Only **16 %** of refugees declared having a **regular income**

85% knew where to seek for medical support

COVID-19 Household Impact Survey

Preliminary results

Highlights

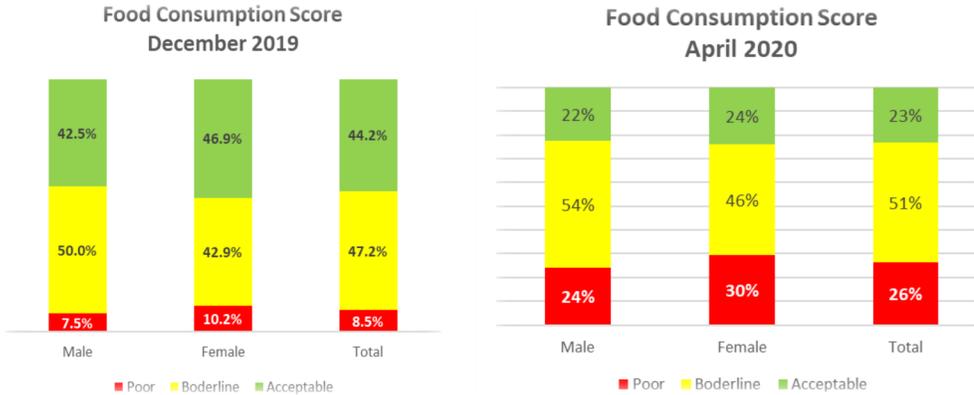
- **Poor Food Consumption Score** was registered at **26 %** of households interviewed, **51 %** at borderline score, a clear deterioration in comparison to the project baseline and latest monitoring data.
- **Access to basic humanitarian assistance has been guaranteed** under restriction of movements and with intensive sensitization campaigns and mobilization of humanitarian partners,
- Local authorities have taken all possible measures to prevent unjustified price increases, including the opening of points of sale to sell agricultural produce at reasonable prices.

Why this assessment?

The COVID-19 pandemic and its related containment and mitigation measures are expected to disproportionately affect livelihoods in contexts with limited capacity, such as the Tindouf refugee camps. It is having far-reaching impacts on people's ability to meet critical needs around the world and is likely to exacerbate the already difficult situation faced by the Sahrawi refugees in Algeria.

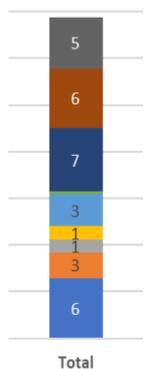
The COVID-19 household survey was launched by WFP in coordination with UNHCR and the Tindouf camp authorities to rapidly gather data on the potential impact on Sahrawi refugees' access to humanitarian assistance and their food security. Data was collected with support of NGO CISP from 24 to 30 April 2020 in all 5 refugee camps through interviews.

Impact on food consumption



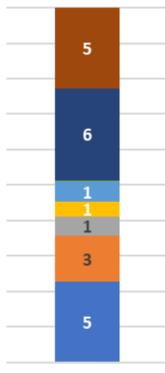
Poor Food Consumption Score increased since previous monitoring exercise.

Consumption food group 2019



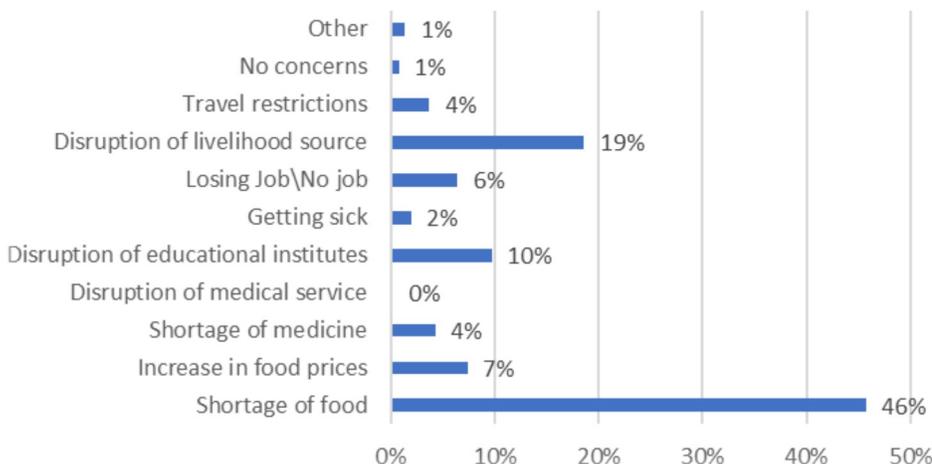
■ Staples ■ Pulses ■ Dairy
■ Protein ■ Vegetable ■ Fruit
■ Fat ■ Sugar ■ Gofio

Consumption food group 2020



■ Roots ■ Beans ■ Milk
■ Meat ■ Vegetable ■ Fruits
■ Fat ■ Sugar

What is your most important concern under the current circumstances?



Food security

Poor food consumption score (FCS) has increased among the most vulnerable to food security, data shows that a portion of the acceptable category registered in December 2019 has moved to poor FCS category.

Compared to 2019, **refugees consumed roots, sugar and fats around 5 days the week** preceding the survey, **pulses counted for 3 days**. Although **meat/fish/eggs, dairy have been consumed once** during the recall period, **fruit have not been consumed at all**.

88% of beneficiaries with an exposure to poor food consumption reported **not being able to purchase food because of not having sufficient cash**.

81% stated **movement restriction as a potential concern to access markets** in the future.

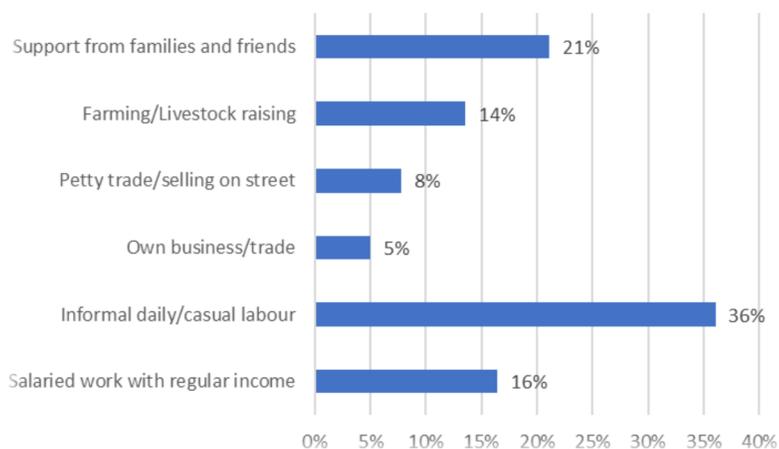
63% of refugees recognized **not having sufficient stocks of food**.

81% are **worried about food stocks**.

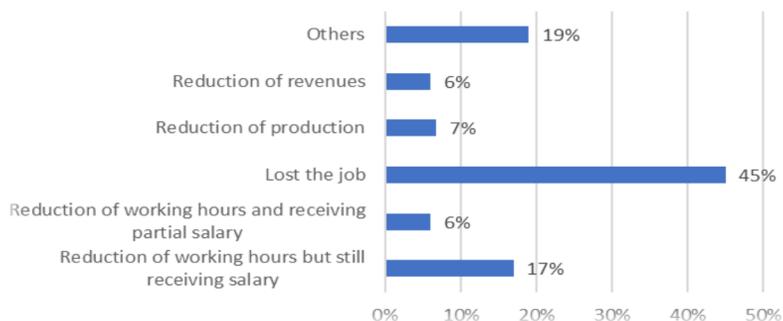
46% food related concerns are their main concern under the current situation.

Impact on income

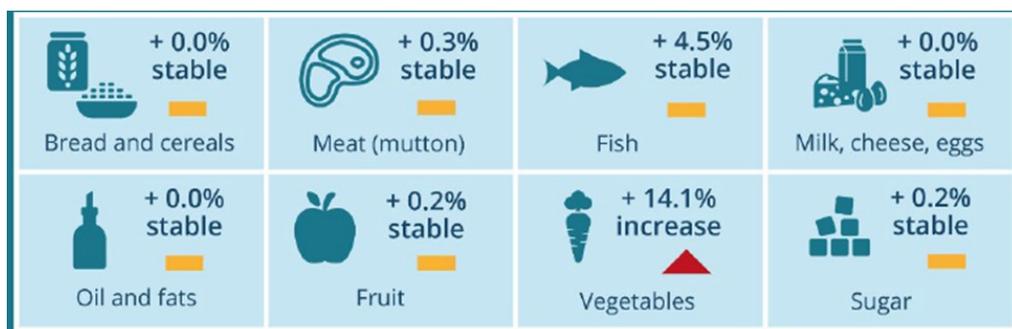
what is the main source of income



Has the current outbreak of COVID-19 disrupted your work? if yes, how ?



Prices monitoring



Income source

Only **16%** of respondents have a **regular source of income**

36% count on **informal daily/casual labor**

88% admitted that they are affected by a **disruption of work,**

among which **81%** declared a **reduction in revenue/income**

Market

Local authorities have taken all possible measures to prevent unjustified price increases, including the opening of points of sale to sell agricultural produce at reasonable prices.

Due to **panic buying**, the **demand for wheat flour and semolina surged** at the beginning of the outbreak; however, **shortages of grains and grain products were not observed**, as State and private mills have operated at full capacity to supply local markets.

Food price fluctuations around Ramadan are common due to a spike in consumption. In addition, prices have been less volatiles this year compared with previous ones.

Conclusion

- The COVID-19 pandemic is likely to have severe repercussions on Sahrawi refugees. Households could be affected by a decline in their purchasing power. Such impacts would significantly affect the lives and livelihoods of already vulnerable households exclusively dependent on food assistance.
- The adopted response in food assistance is justified through the deterioration by 20% of the population that now fall under the poor food consumption category. Such deterioration is mainly due to reduction of income and revenues, with 88 % of respondents stating that they are affected by a disruption of work (taxi, daily labors etc. ...).
- WFP will continue the monitoring of food prices in all camps and other wilayas in Algeria, to ensure stable economic access to food commodities, specially to the cash-based transfer nutrition beneficiaries in the camps.



While large-scale public health campaigns have been prioritized, WFP and partners are anticipating and preparing for potential impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on food security and humanitarian access.

These efforts are geared towards protecting critical livelihood and food assistance, advocating for the expansion of basic protection, ensuring the functioning of the critical food supply chain as well as other measures aimed at protecting the most vulnerable.
