Caribbean COVID-19 Food Security & Livelihoods Impact Survey

Regional Summary Report | July 2020

CARICOM
CARICOM CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY *A Community for All*

CDEMA CARIBBEAN DISASTER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY *Resilient States · Safer Lives*

WFP World Food Programme

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Caribbean COVID-19 Food Security & Livelihoods Impact Survey

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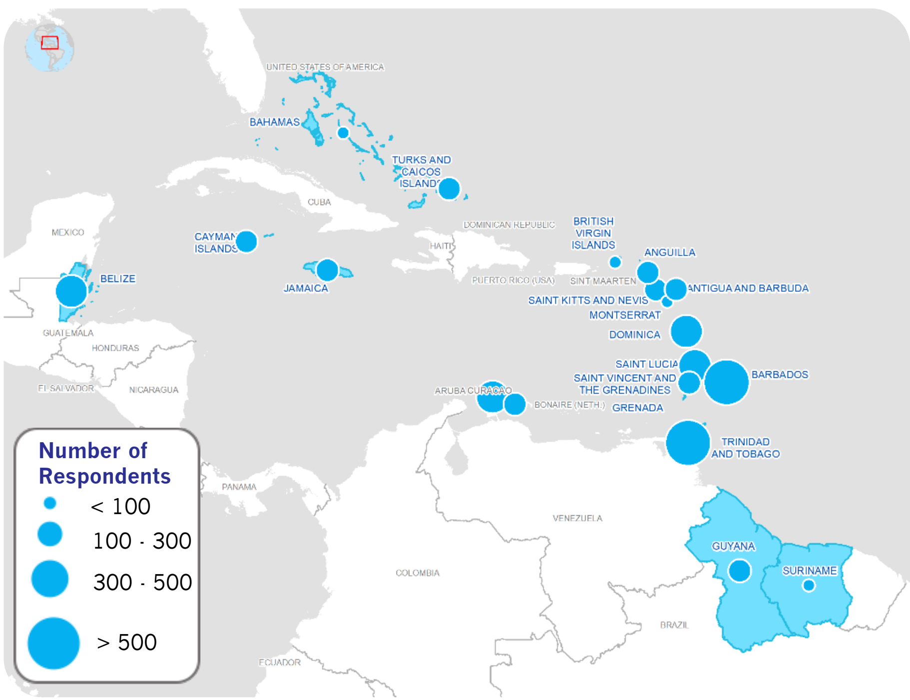
The COVID-19 pandemic is dramatically altering how people live, work and meet their critical needs. In order to provide snapshots of these impacts over time, CARICOM launched a second round of the Caribbean COVID-19 Food Security and Livelihoods Impact Survey. Implemented by the World Food Programme, the short online survey was circulated via social media, email and text message. This summary analyses data collected from 22 June to 1 July 2020. It builds on findings from the first survey implemented in April 2020.

5,707 Respondents

22 Countries & Territories

69|21% Female|Male

41 Average age



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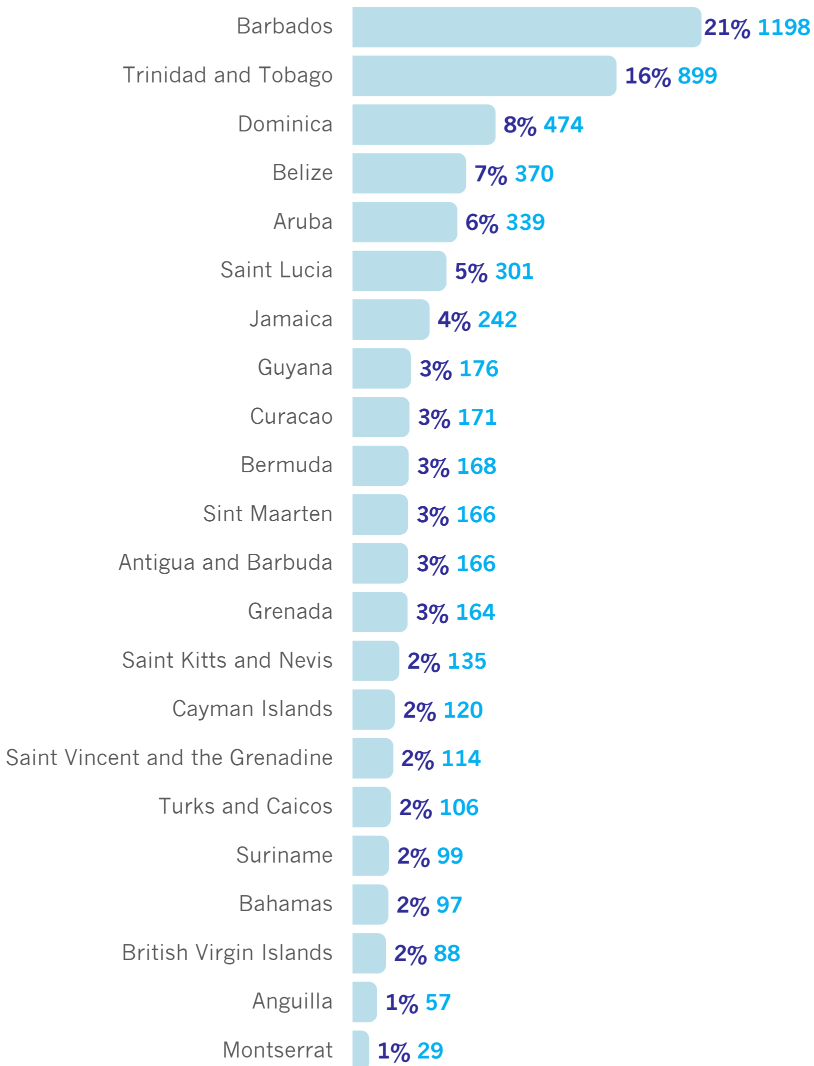
Summary

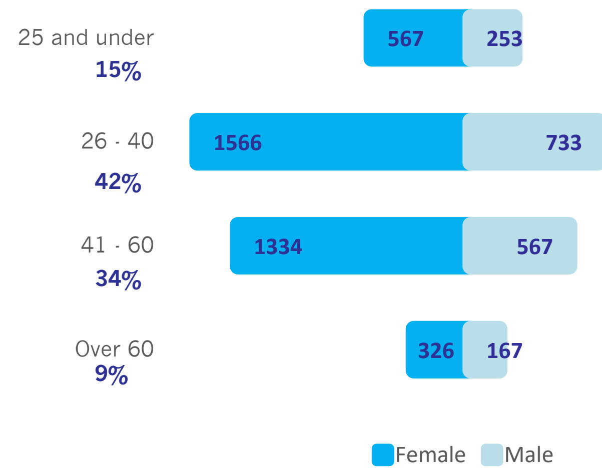
- People throughout the Caribbean continue to experience disruptions to their livelihoods. Over half of respondents reported impacts to pursuing their livelihoods.
- Compared to April, while there is better access to markets, there appears to be greater job loss, higher food prices and poorer food consumption.
- The survey results coupled with poverty data suggest that 2.9 million people are now estimated to be food insecure compared to 1.7 million in April, however the number of severely food insecure remains steady at slightly more than 400,000.
- Job loss and reduced income were reported by 7 out of 10 respondents. The main worries of respondents are unemployment and illness, followed by meeting food and other essential needs.
- Most respondents have changed their diet, with nearly one-third skipping meals, eating less or going a day without eating.
- Detrimental impacts to income and food consumption appear more widespread among low-income families, as well as those responding in Spanish, single parents and mixed households.
- More respondents could consistently access markets compared to April. While key items are usually available in stores, 78% of respondents indicated increases in food prices.
- How people shop has not returned to normal. Lower income respondents mainly report buying cheaper/less preferred food, while higher income ones more commonly purchased in bulk.
- The amount of time spent on childcare and domestic work has increased since the pandemic began, particularly for women.
- While the survey contributes to a better overview of impacts, the data is not representative, and the use of a web-based questionnaire limits inputs from those without connectivity.

Demographics of respondents

Number of respondents | By country

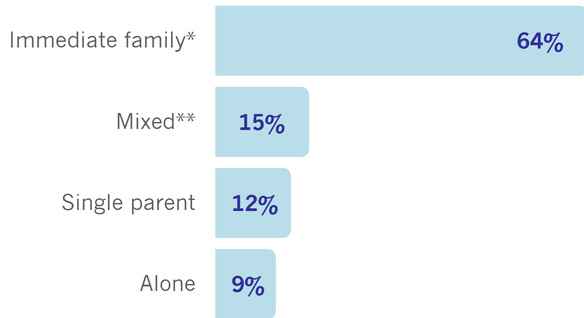


Age and sex



Demographics of respondents

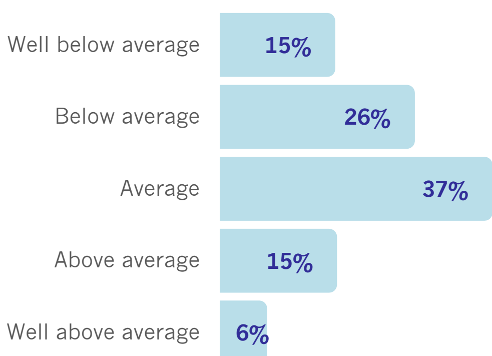
Household composition



*Immediate family includes partner, children and grandparents
**Mixed households are composed of immediate family members, other relatives as well as non-family members

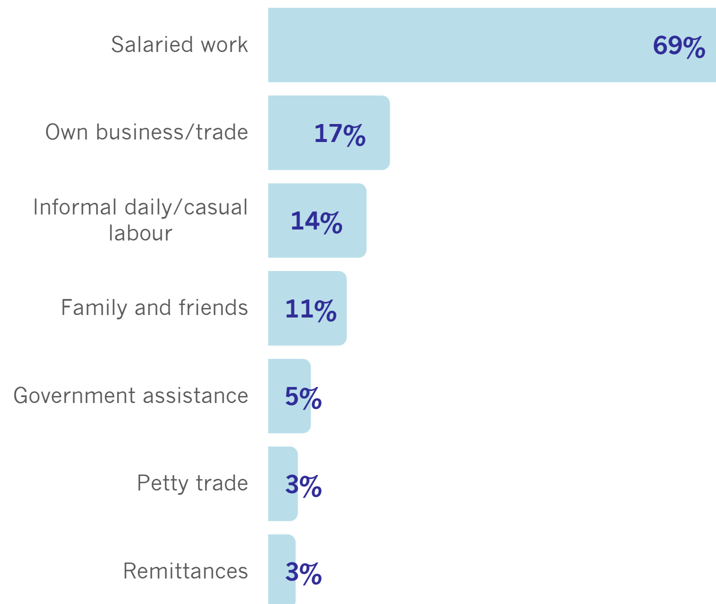
Perceived income level

Respondents were asked to compare their household's income with the rest of their country



Main income sources

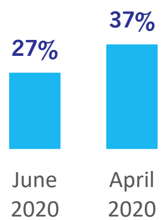
Respondents were asked to indicate the main income source(s) for their household. Multiple choices could be selected.



MARKETS

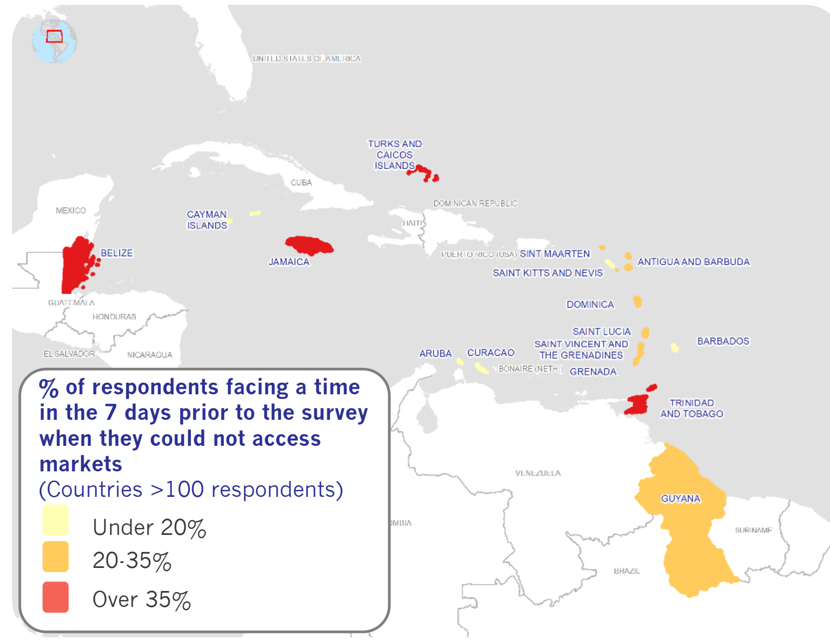
Access to markets

% of respondents facing a time in the 7 days prior to the survey when they were unable to access markets



Most respondents had reliable access to stores and markets, with 27% facing a time when they were unable to access markets in the week prior to the survey. Responses varied somewhat across the region, though not as dramatically as the April 2020 survey. Over 35% of people responding from Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, Bermuda, Jamaica and Belize faced a time when were unable to access markets, compared to 9-32% of those from other places.

There were clear differences across age groups and income levels. Respondents who described their income as well below average appear to have greater difficulties, with 54% reporting not being able to access stores at some point in the preceding week, compared to 9% of respondents classifying themselves having as well above average income. Compared to respondents with salaried income in the household, people with less stable income sources more frequently indicated that they had a time when they were unable to access markets. Younger respondents also faced such a time when they were unable to access markets (35% of those aged 25 and under, compared to 11% over 60).



"I would usually get assistance from family members, but they are now unemployed. I have to be very wary when shopping of the food prices and sometimes had to leave out some groceries."

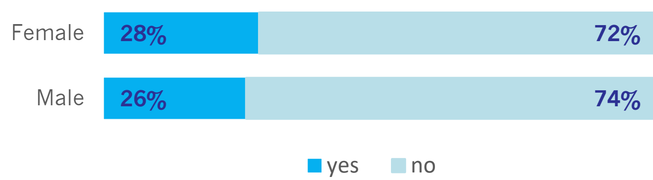
"I am unemployed and I am planting my vegetables. I am also spending less and buying the basics."

MARKETS

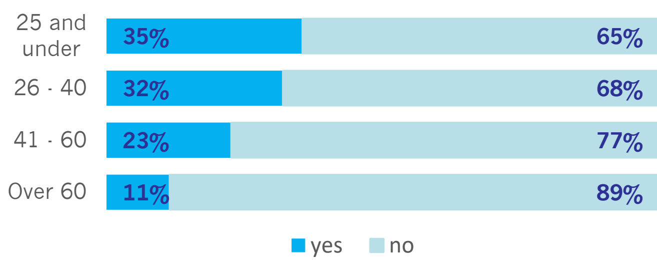
Access to markets

In the past 7 days, was there a time when your household could not access the markets?

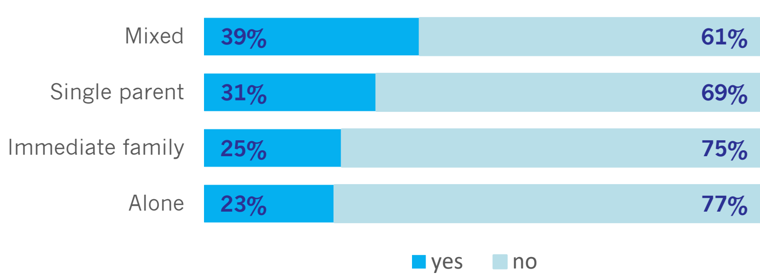
By sex



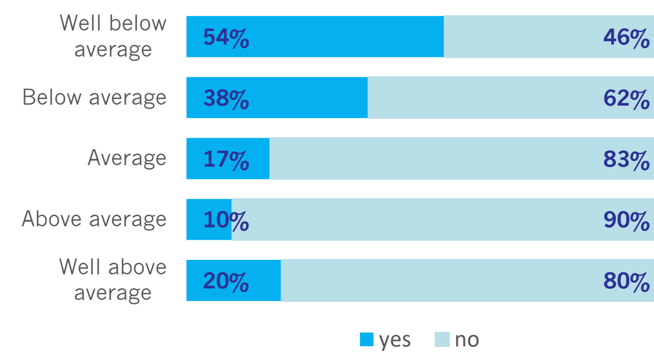
By age group



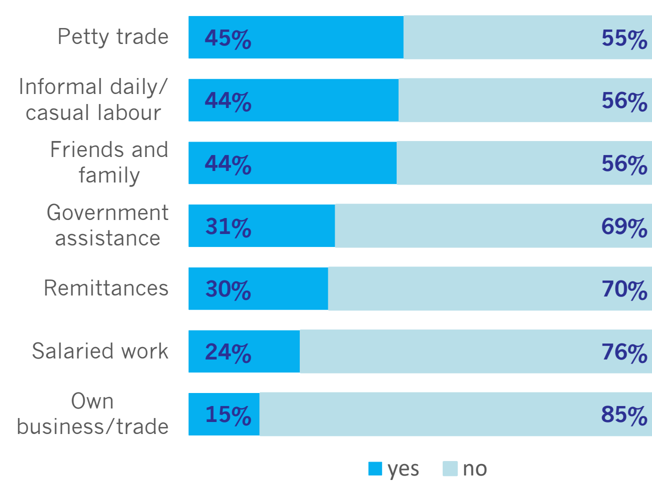
By household composition



By perceived income level



By income sources



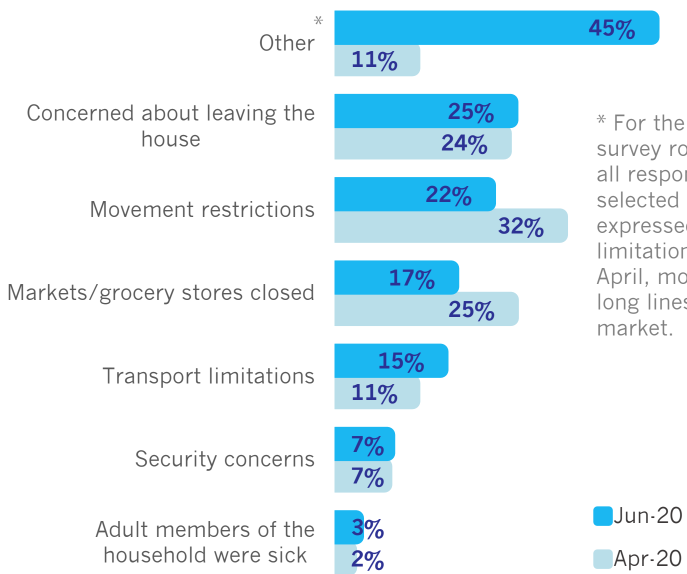
MARKETS

Reasons for limited market access

For those that faced challenges accessing markets, financial limitations was cited as the main reason, followed by concerns about leaving the house due to the virus. In contrast, respondents in April 2020 were mainly constrained by movement restrictions, and those who selected "other" in April mostly expressed long lines as the reason rather than finances. While many governments had lifted or reduced curfews and commercial restrictions by June 2020, movement restrictions and store closures were also commonly cited as factors hampering market access, though to a lesser extent than in April. In both survey rounds, some cited transport limitations as the obstacle. The reasons for limited market access were relatively consistent between men and women and across age and income groups.

For those that faced a time when they could not access markets in the past 7 days, the main reasons were...

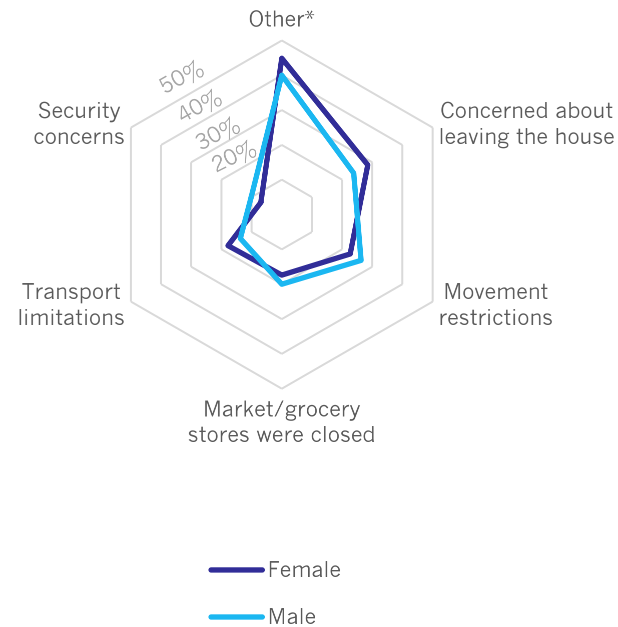
Multiple choices could be selected.



* For the June survey round, nearly all respondents who selected "Other" expressed financial limitations. For April, most cited long lines at the market.

For those that faced a time when they could not access markets in the past 7 days, the main reasons were...

By sex



"Increased food stock purchases to avoid being caught unawares by any further lockdown."

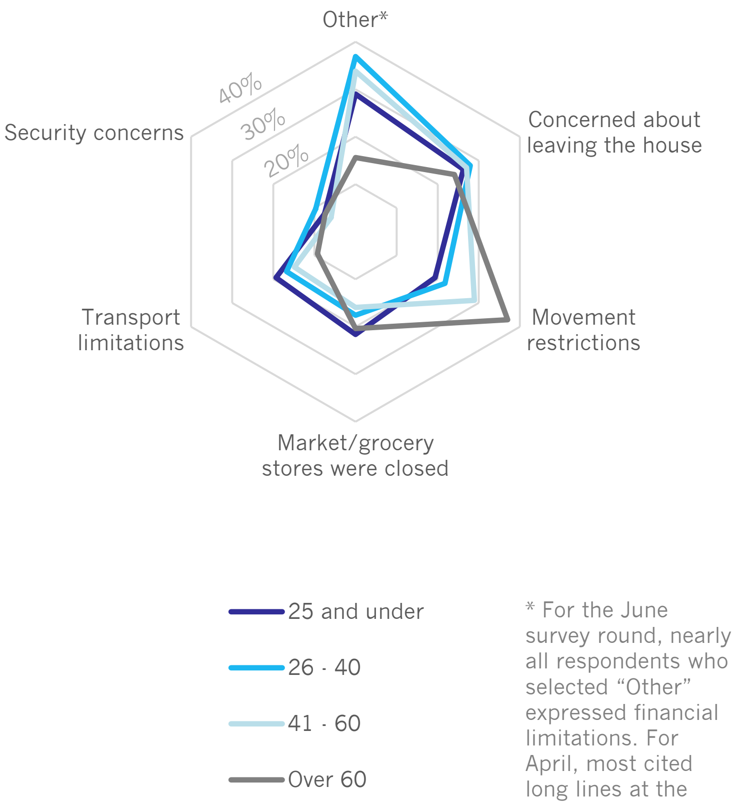
"slight inconvenience is the supermarket lines no matter the day or time of day. Can't seem to find the sweet spot where there's little to no persons present. Otherwise I'm not negatively impacted"

MARKETS

Reasons for limited market access

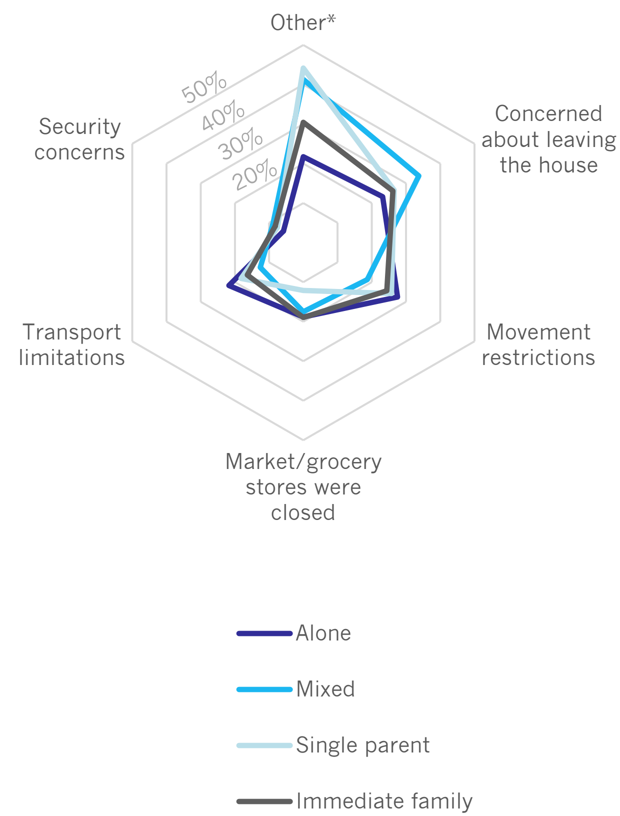
For those that faced a time when they could not access markets in the past 7 days, the main reasons were...

By age



* For the June survey round, nearly all respondents who selected "Other" expressed financial limitations. For April, most cited long lines at the market.

By household composition

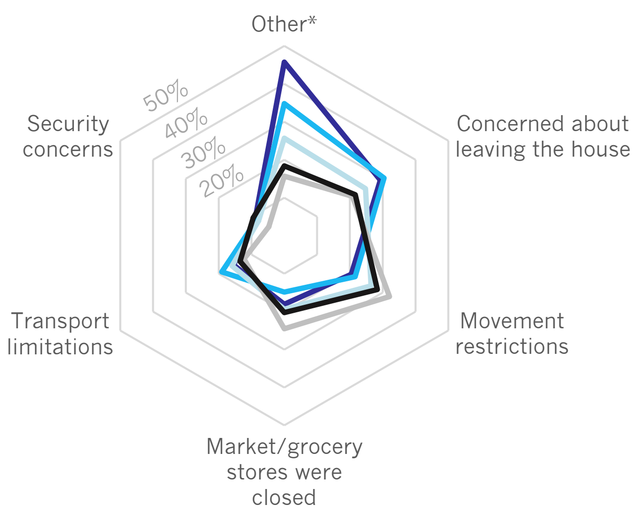


MARKETS

Reasons for limited market access

For those that faced a time when they could not access markets in the past 7 days, the main reasons were...

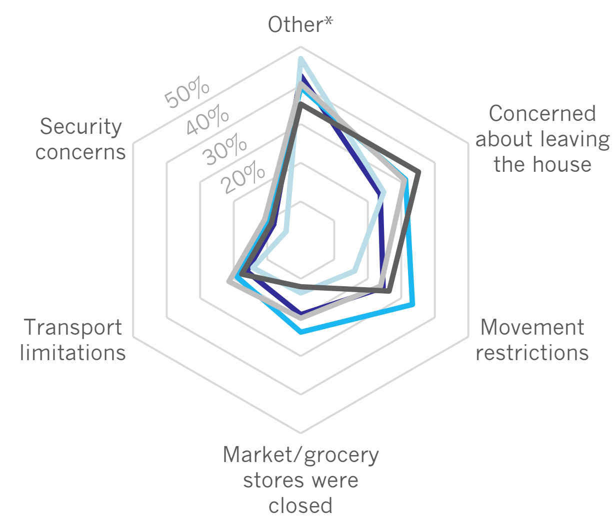
By perceived income level



Well below average
Below average
Average
Above average
Well above average

* For the June survey round, nearly all respondents who selected "Other" expressed financial limitations. For April, most cited long lines at the market.

By income sources



Salaried work
Own business/trade
Informal daily/casual labour
Petty trade
Government assistance

MARKETS

Shopping behaviour

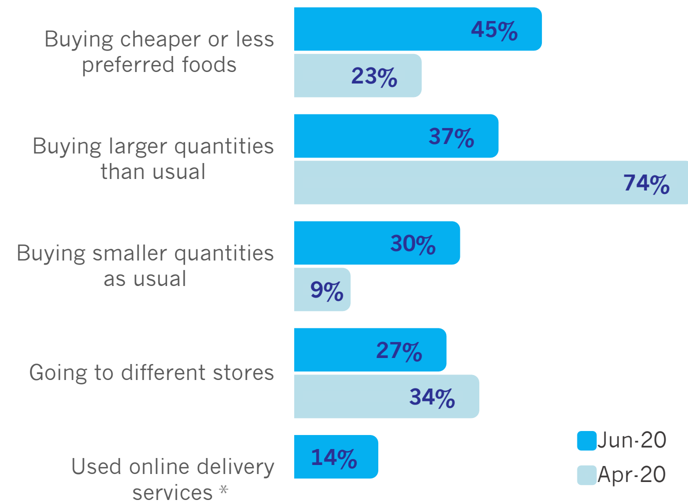
COVID-19 is changing where and how people make purchases, with 86% of respondents indicating that they have changed their shopping behaviour compared to before the pandemic. This is nearly the same finding as the April 2020 survey, suggesting that people have not returned to their normal shopping routines, despite reduced restrictions.

How people are changing their shopping appears to be shifting. Whereas in April by far the most cited change was buying larger quantities, in June more respondents opted to purchase cheaper or less preferred foods. More respondents also are buying smaller quantities than usual. Both shifts were far more common among respondents reporting to have below or well below average income, whereas buying larger quantities than usual was more common among respondents reporting to have above or well above average income. More people in these higher income groups responded that they have started or increased the use of online ordering or delivery services.

While most changes in shopping were similar between women/men and across age groups, respondents over 60 less frequently reported buying cheaper or less preferred items when compared to the other age groups. Most respondents across the board are also spending less time shopping.

Respondents who reported a change in shopping behaviour are…

Multiple choices could be selected.



*This option was not provided for the April 2020 survey.

"Loss of income. Can't really go shopping"

"I would usually get assistance from family members, but they are now unemployed. I have to be very wary when shopping of the food prices and sometimes had to leave out some groceries"

"I have to adapt to shopping in bulk due to stores having physical distance rules and hence long queues"

"Short of salary. Have precautions of how to go easy with the money. Not buying what is not necessary"

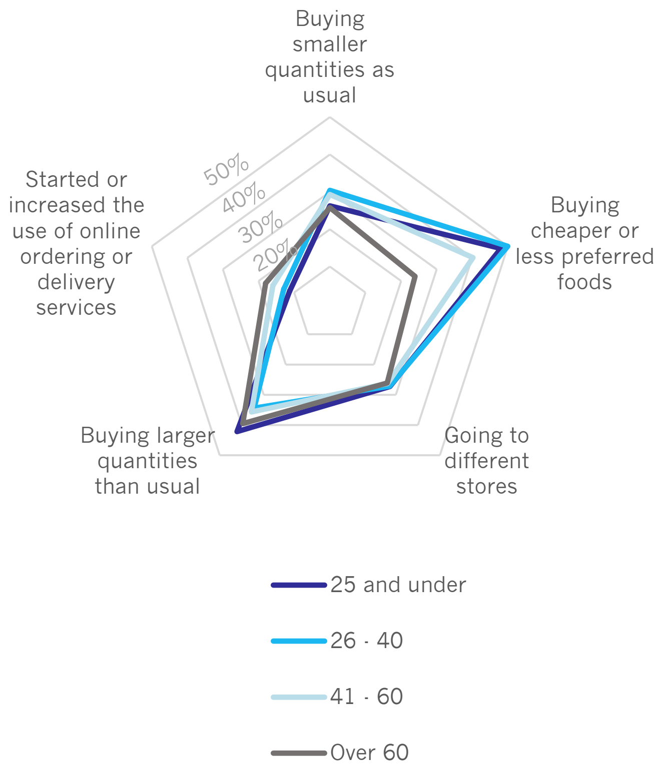
"I am unemployed and I am planting my vegetables. I am also spending less and buying the basics."

MARKETS

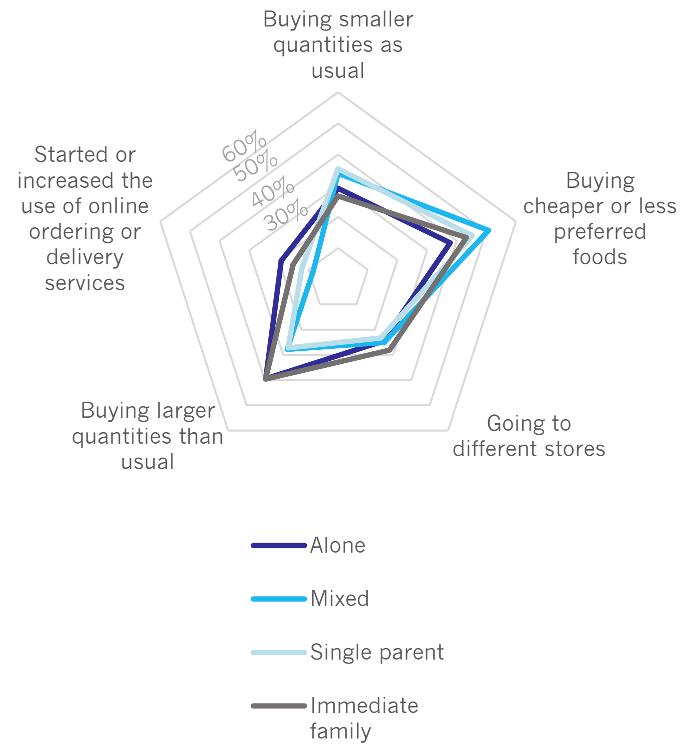
Shopping behaviour

Respondents who reported a change in shopping behaviour are...

By age group



By household composition

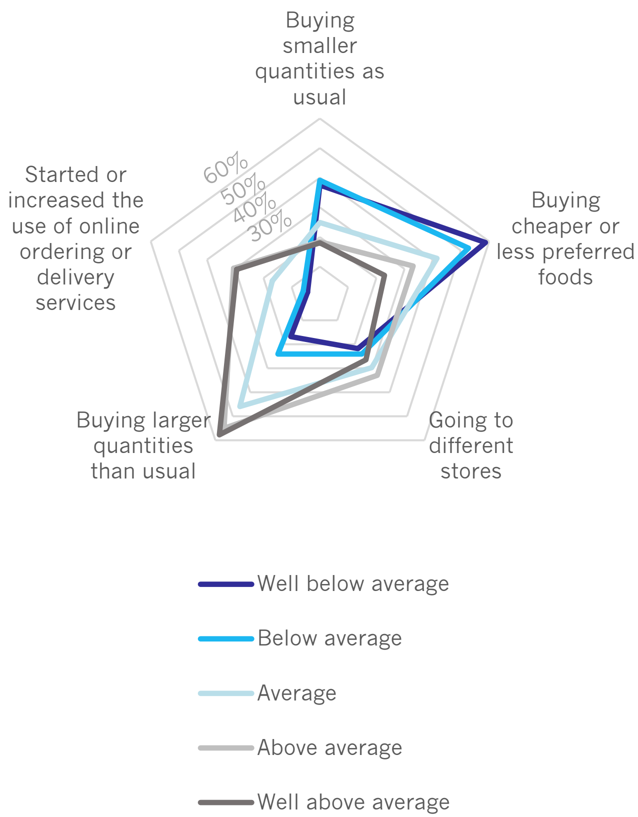


MARKETS

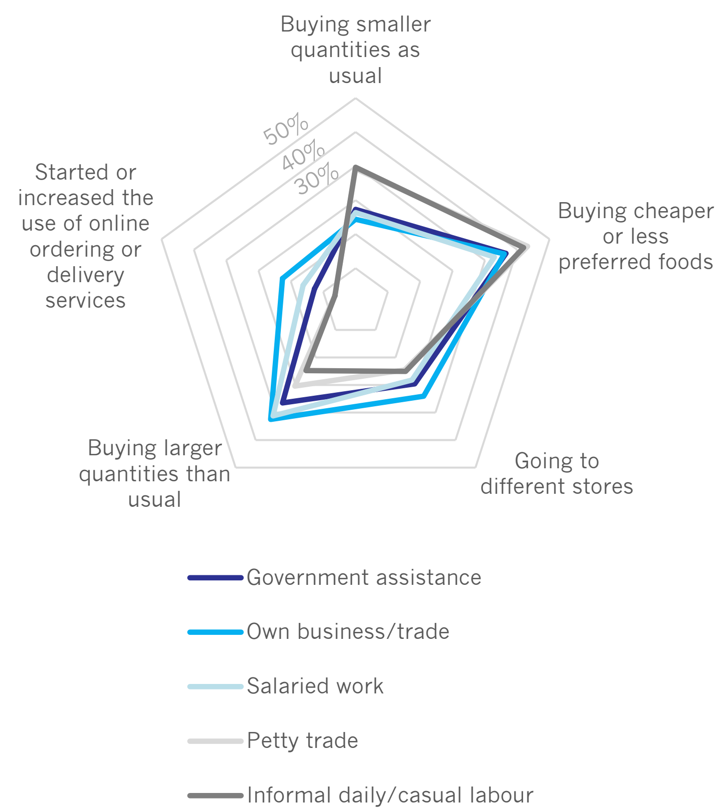
Shopping behaviour

Respondents who reported a change in shopping behaviour are...

By perceived income level



By income source



MARKETS

Availability

	Staple Foods		Fresh Foods		Hygiene Items		Medicines	
	June 2020	April 2020	**June 2020**	April 2020	**June 2020**	April 2020	**June 2020**	April 2020
Always Available	**↑ 83%**	63%	**↑71%**	52%	**↑85%**	61%	**↑55%**	37%
Partially/ sometimes available	**↓15%**	30%	**↓25%**	38%	**↓13%**	31%	**↓30%**	41%
Not available	**↓1%**	2%	**↓1%**	2%	**↓1%**	3%	**↓2%**	4%
Don't know	**↓2%**	5%	**↓4%**	8%	**↓2%**	5%	**↓15%**	18%

Respondents indicated that key items are usually available in stores and markets, though they appear to be somewhat less available than normal, particularly medicines. Compared to the April 2020 survey round, more respondents indicated that staple foods, fresh foods, medicines and hygiene items were "always" available. As with the first survey round, fresh foods appear to marginally less available than staple foods. Medicines were reported by 55% of respondents as "always" available, with 15% not knowing either way.

"Go to the nearest supermarket and improvise."

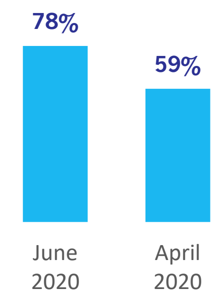
"Food shortage and loss of remittances"

"Only trouble i have with this pandemic there is no work and no food and i can't provide nothing to eat for my child and stepchild"

"Lack of meat and vegetables available from stores."

Food Prices

% of respondents reporting an increase in food prices

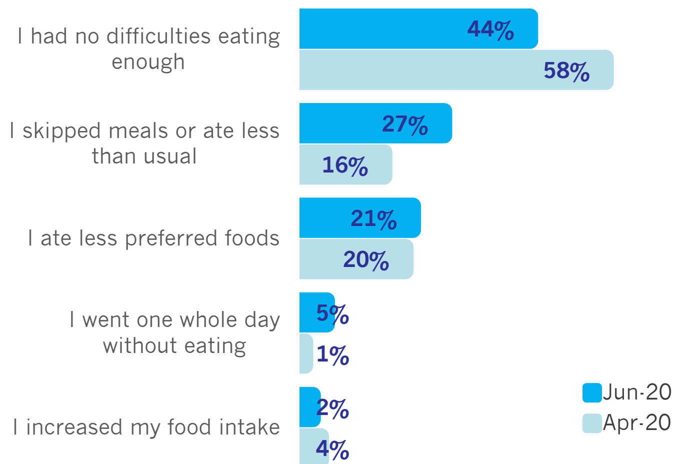


Food prices appear to be increasing, with 78% of respondents reporting an increase in the cost of food, compared to 59% in April. The percentage of respondents reporting an increase in food prices is relatively high across all surveyed countries, ranging from about 68% to 92%. The countries with the highest percentages of respondents reporting an increase in food prices are Saint Lucia, Jamaica, Sint Maarten, Curacao and Turks and Caicos Islands. The lowest percentages were found in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis and the Cayman Islands.

FOOD SECURITY

Food consumption

Which statement best reflects your food situation over the past 7 days?



When asked about their food situation in the week prior to the survey, most respondents reported consuming less or changing their diet. While 44% indicated that they had no difficulties eating enough, 27% skipped meals or ate less than usual (compared to 17% in April). About one-fifth indicated they ate less preferred foods, which is the same as the April survey round.

For respondents classifying themselves as having well below average income, only 11% reported having no difficulties eating enough. The majority skipped meals or ate less, and 16% went a whole day without eating. By contrast, three-quarters of respondents describing their income as above or well above average indicated that they had no difficulty eating enough.

There were also differences in responses across age groups. A third of respondents aged 26–40 reported skipping meals or eating less, compared to 10% of those over 60, most of whom (67%) reported having no difficulties eating enough.

A greater percentage of people living alone or with immediate family reported having no difficulties eating enough, compared to single-parent households and those living with extended family and non-family members. Responses from women and men were similar.

"Not working means no salary. Food running low and bill collectors are calling. I have to choose between feeding my family and paying bills"

"Lost my job and could not help contribute to paying rent and buying food."

"Limited options in shopping not because it's not available but I want to interact with the least number of individuals."

"…It is very difficult to buy food as no one in the house is working. I am afraid that one of these days I might not have food to give my three children."

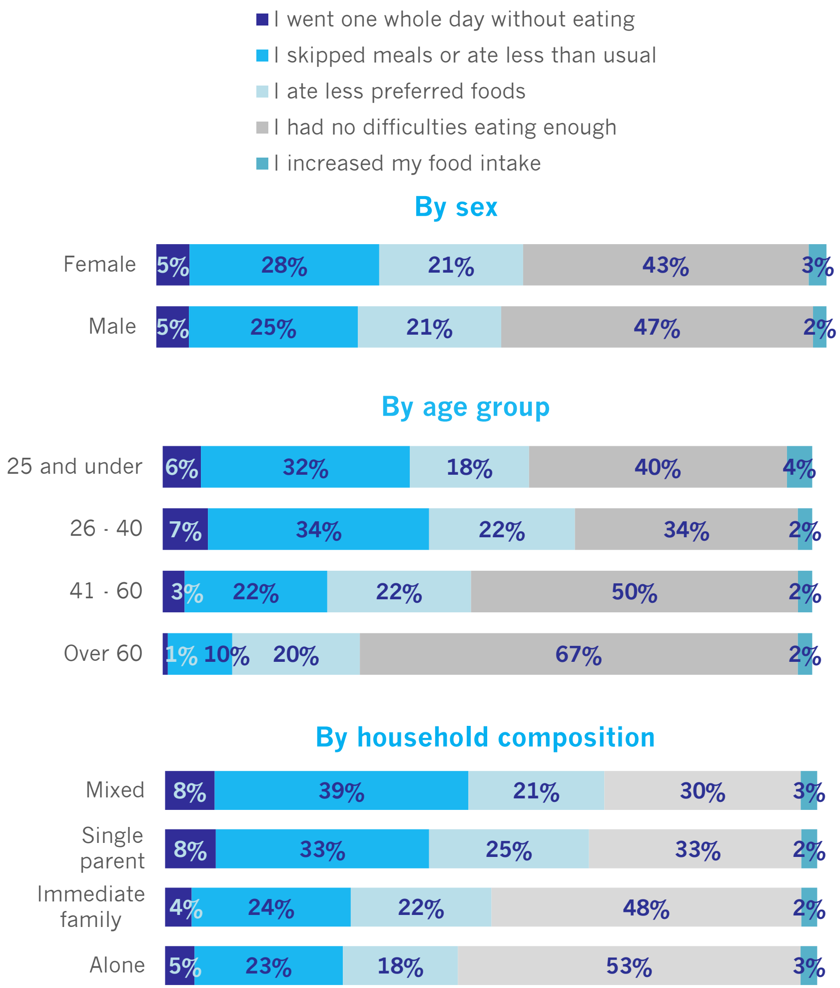
"I lost my job and had to beg for food so I can survive for the day with my family…"

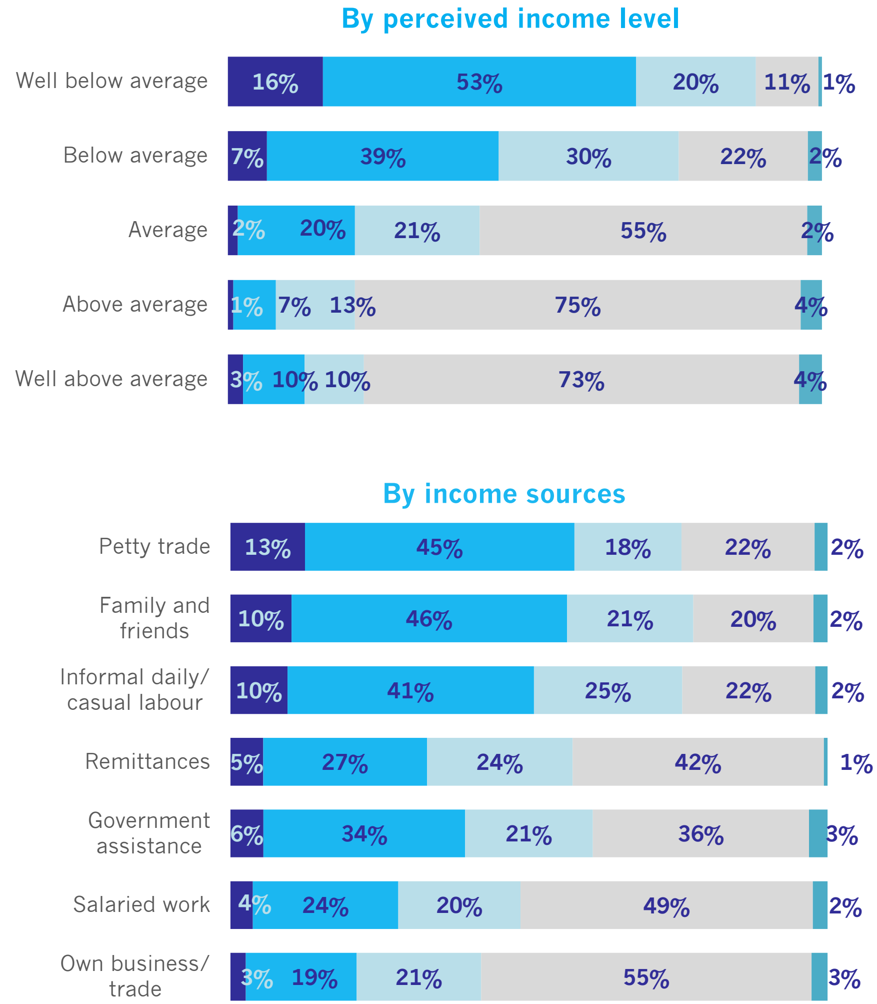
"During such time, we have monitored the amount of income spent, as well as the amount of food we consume…"

FOOD SECURITY

Food consumption

Which statement best reflects your food situation over the past 7 days?

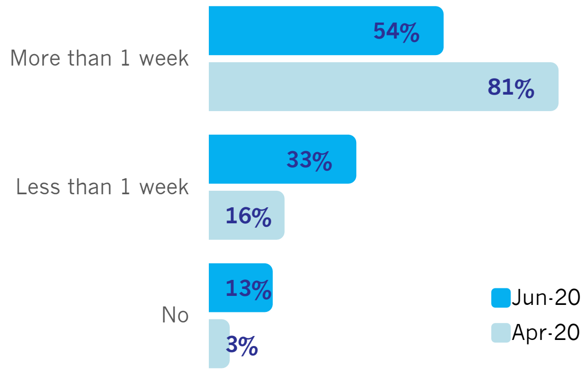




FOOD SECURITY

Food stocks

Does your household have any food stock?



Most respondents had at least one week's worth of food, but people reported having less food at home compared to the April survey round. This may be explained by governments lifting curfews and similar restrictions in May/June, which had motivated people to stock up on food.

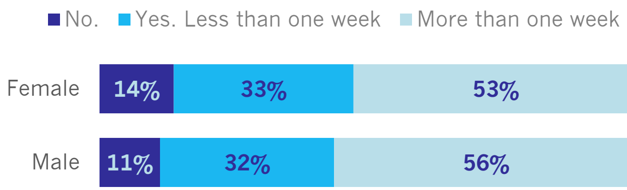
The percentage of households without food stocks increased from 3% in the April survey round to 13% in June. One-third of respondents reported having less than a week's worth of stocks, compared to 16% in the first survey round. While in April half of respondents had at least two weeks worth of food, in June 18% of respondents did.

People describing their income as below or well below average reported having less food at home. Nearly a third indicated that their household had no food stocks, compared to 3% of those classifying their income as well above average.

While women and men reported similar stock levels, there are some variations across age groups. More respondents over 40 had at least one week of food compared to those 40 and under. The percentage of households with more than two weeks of stocks was also much higher for respondents over 60.

Does your household have any food stock?

By sex



Estimated number of food insecure in the Caribbean

Using the survey responses and poverty data from English-speaking CARICOM states, it is estimated that 407,000 people across the English-speaking Caribbean are severely food insecure, and 2.5 million are moderately food insecure. While the number of severely food insecure has remained constant, this is a substantial increase in the number of moderately food insecure estimated by the first survey (1.7 million). This estimate does not include Haiti given the few number of survey responses or non-CARICOM countries (Aruba, Curacao and Sint Maarten).

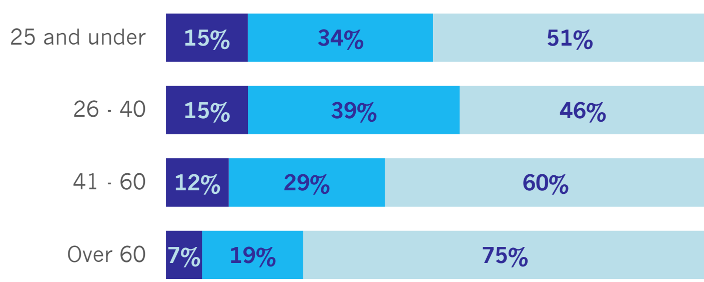
FOOD SECURITY

Food stocks

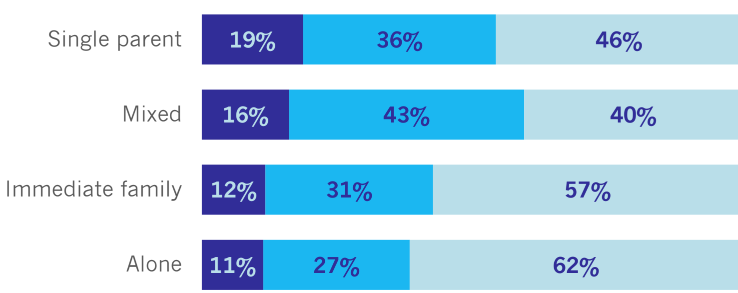
Does your household have any food stock?

■ No. ■ Yes. Less than one week ■ Yes. More than one week

By age group



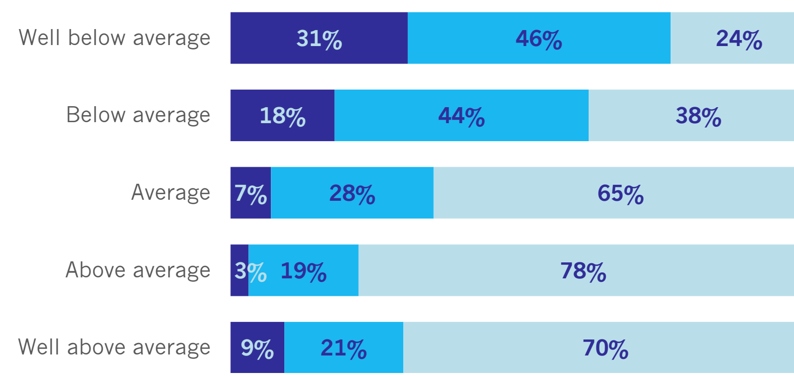
By household composition



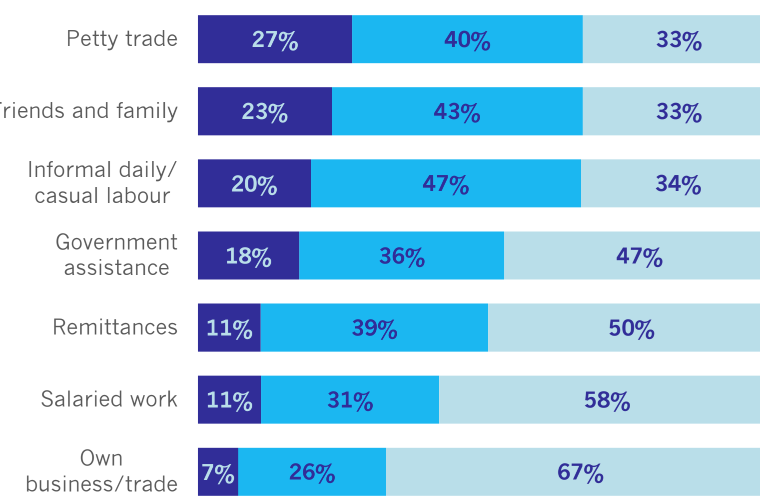
"...There is no work and no food and I can't provide anything to eat for my child and stepchild ."

"Last of money, while studying and now lack of food."

By perceived income level



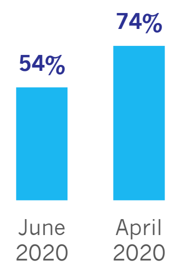
By income sources



LIVELIHOODS

Disruptions to livelihoods

% of respondents reporting that their ability to carry out livelihood activities was affected



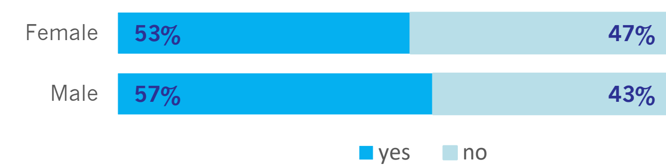
The COVID 19 pandemic continues to disrupt livelihoods, with 54% of respondents stating their ability to pursue their livelihood was affected in the two weeks preceding the survey. This finding has decreased from the April survey, when 73% of respondents indicated their livelihood had been disrupted.

The most marked differences are found across income groups, with 73% of the respondents who described their income as well below average reporting livelihood disruptions, compared to 35% of those respondents classifying their income as well above average. About two-thirds of respondents with less stable household income sources (e.g. informal labour, petty trade, support from friends and family) reported their livelihoods being affected compared to half of those in households with salaried income.

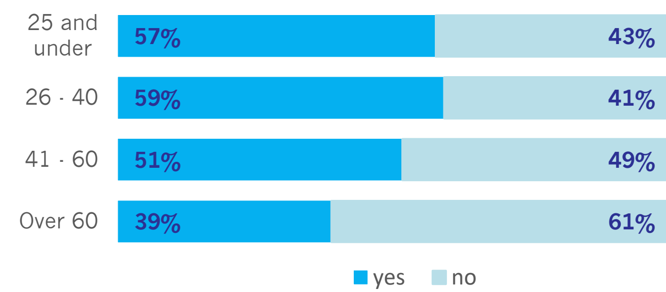
People living with extended family and non-family members appear to be most widely affected, while people living alone appear to be least impacted. There are some differences across age groups, with respondents over 60 less frequently reporting livelihood disruptions compared to the other age groups. The regional averages did not differ between women and men.

Was your ability to carry out livelihood activities affected in the last 2 weeks?

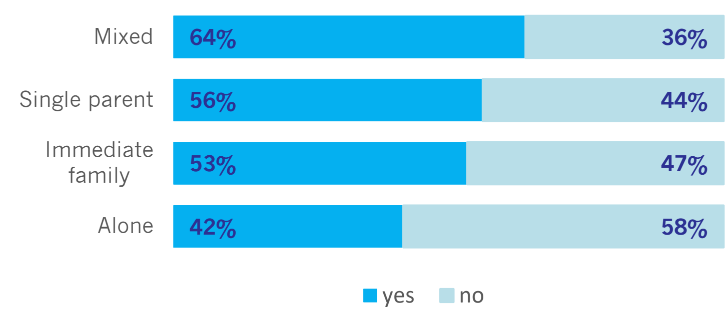
By sex



By age group



By household composition

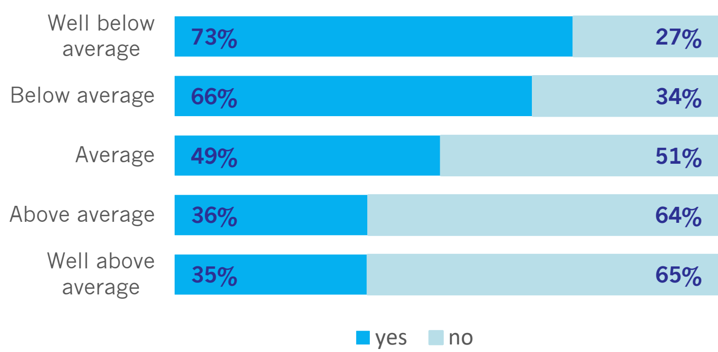


LIVELIHOODS

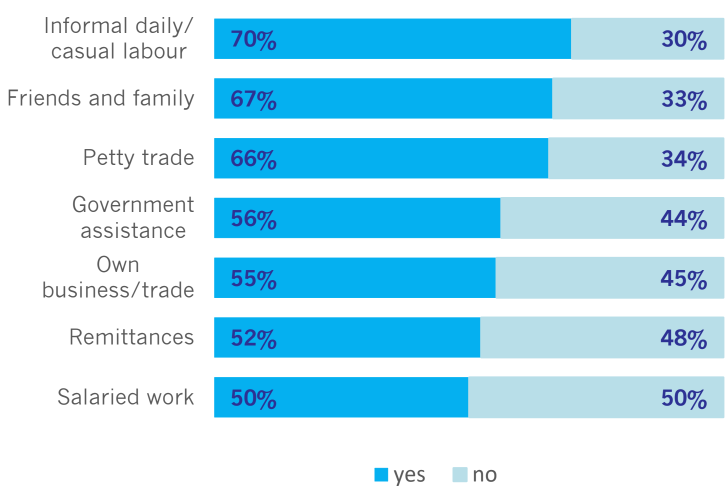
Livelihood disruptions

Was your ability to carry out livelihood activities affected in the last 2 weeks?

By perceived income level



By income sources

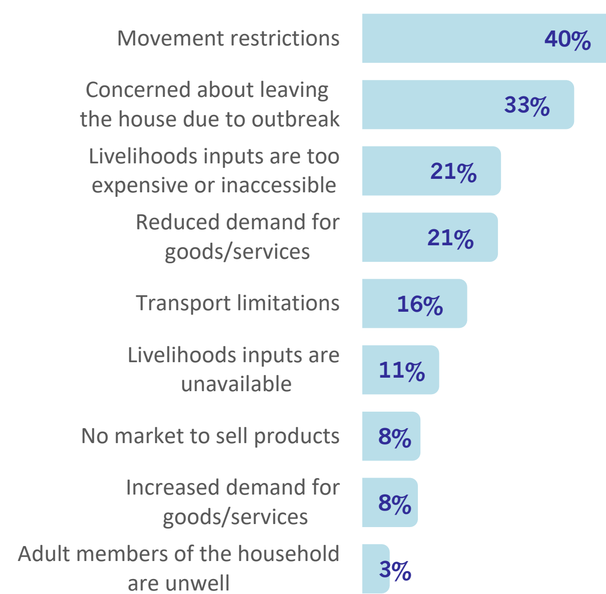


Reasons for livelihood disruptions

While movement restrictions were the primary reason for disruptions to livelihood activities, a lower percentage of those whose livelihoods were affected (41%) cited this factor compared to the April survey (69%). The second most common reason were concerns about leaving the house due to the outbreak (33%), which represents an increase from April. A reduced demand for goods/services were cited by one fifth of respondents, particularly by business owners. Those classifying their income as below or well below average more commonly cited the cost or accessibility of livelihoods inputs compared to those with higher incomes.

For those that reported livelihood disruptions, the main reasons were...

Multiple choices could be selected.

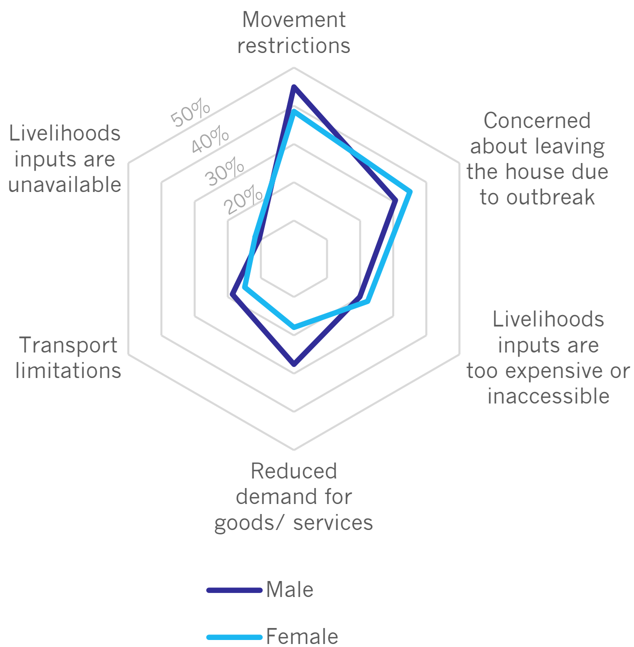


LIVELIHOODS

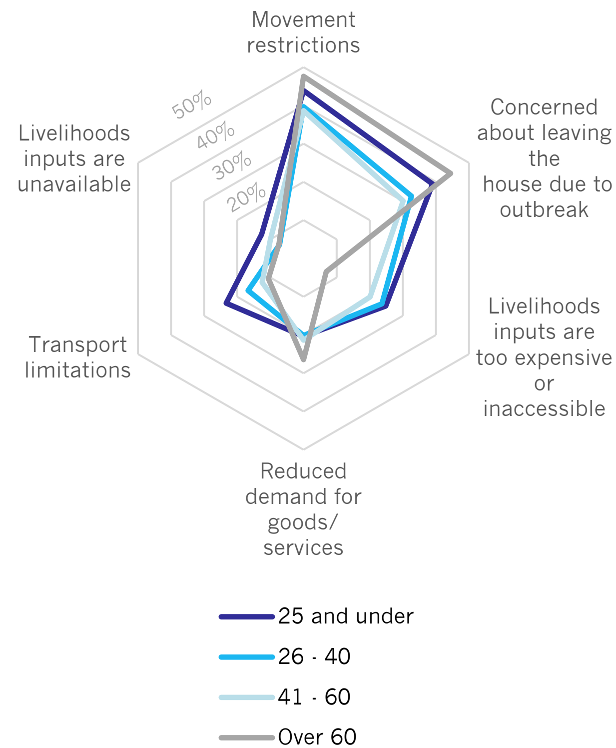
Reasons for livelihood disruptions

For those that reported livelihood disruptions, the main reasons were...

By sex



By age group



"I can't work due to the care of my child."

"Had to close down business for good, the sudden nature of the pandemic placed a huge financial burden on us, one we could not continue"

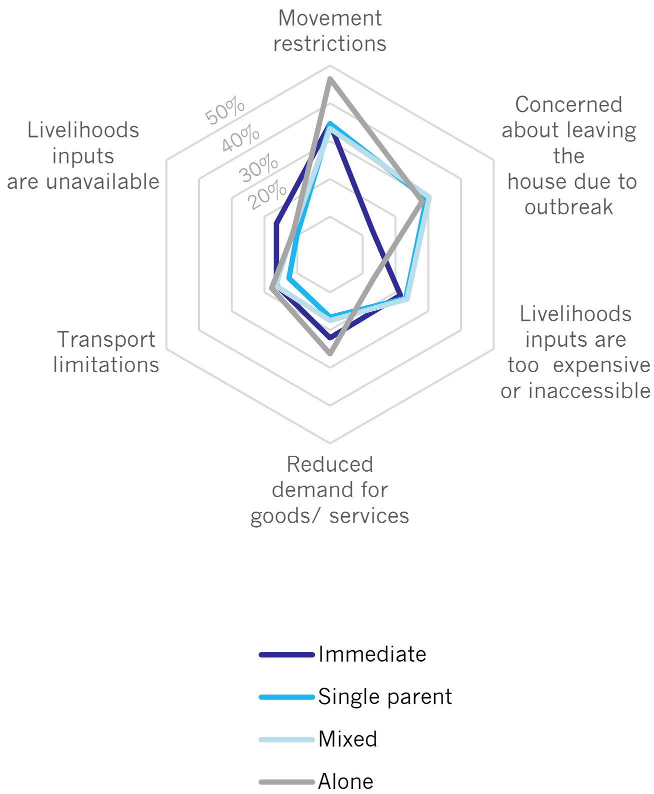
"loss of income. Both my jobs are Tourism based."

LIVELIHOODS

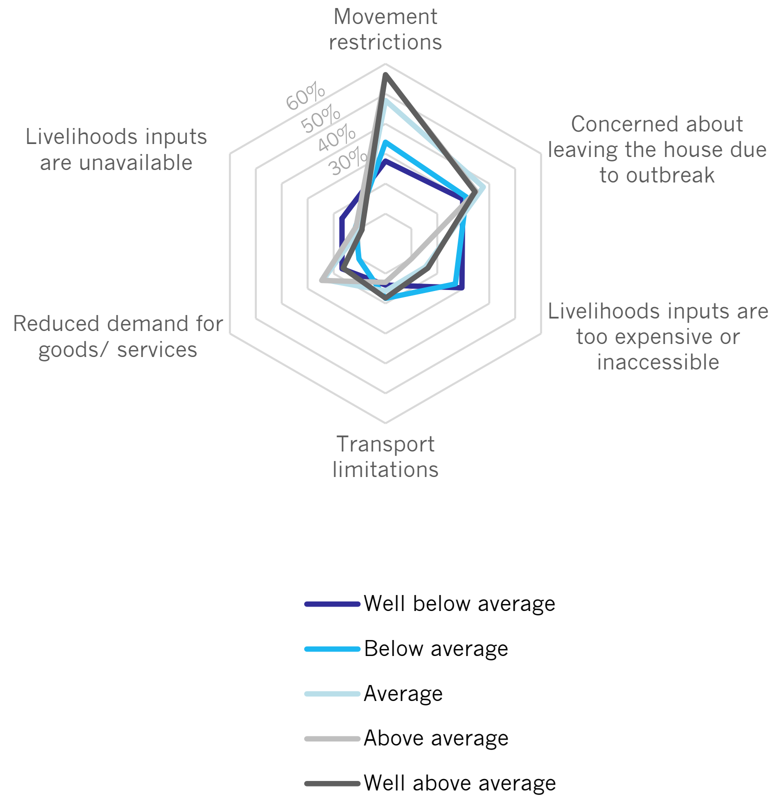
Reasons for livelihood disruptions

For those that reported livelihood disruptions, the main reasons were...

By household composition



By perceived income level

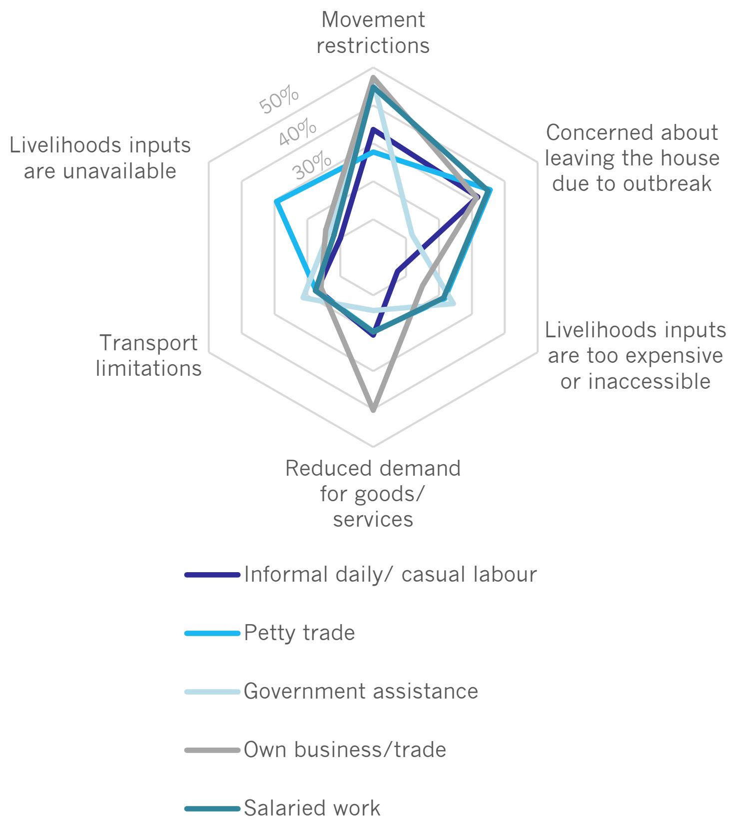


LIVELIHOODS

Reasons for livelihood disruptions

For those that reported livelihood disruptions, the main reasons were...

By income sources



"My inability to return to work in the UK, as my employer took the decision not to continue paying my salary, thereby causing me to build up considerable debt with regards to mortgage and bills.

"As a consultant and entrepreneur I lost all leads. But then got a fulltime job at an university."

"Loss of weekend small business income."

"I have more work and procedures because I work in the healthcare industry."

"Being the owner of a hotel means no income for an extended period. Currently I am diversifying with farming. Supporting my family and community by instilling hope and looking at the silver lining that this too shall pass."

"..Now I'm having it so hard to get food in my house. My husband is the only one working. It is really hard forme because one week we have enough food and the other week are hungry..."

"I have been using all of my pension to help put food, etc. in the house..."

"I will cook in bulk on Sundays and store my food for when I am ready. Eat porridge or corn flakes in the night time to save the cook food for the other days"

"My main concern at this point, we are worried of scarcity of food supply due to this pandemic."

LIVELIHOODS

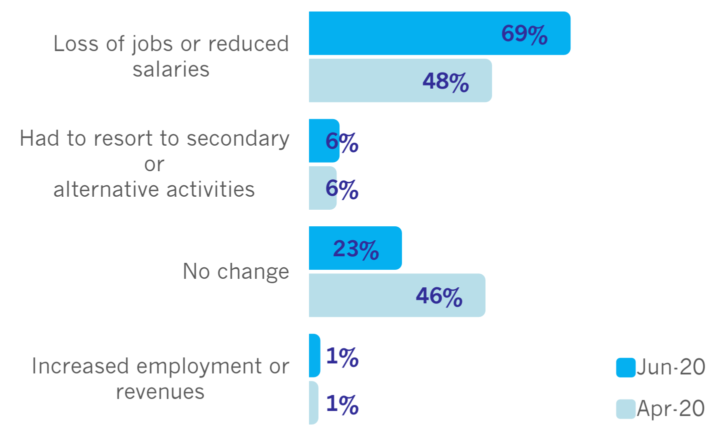
Income changes

Impacts on income are widespread, with 69% reporting that their household has experienced job loss or reduced salaries since the COVID-19 outbreak. This figure is an increase from the April survey (48%), suggesting a deepening crisis with more people are facing decreased income as the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic continue.

The most marked differences in responses were found across income groups. Job loss or reduced income was reported by the vast majority of respondents describing their household income as well below average (88%) or below average (83%), compared to about half of those describing their income as above or well above average. Respondents with household income from petty trade, informal labour and support from friends and family more widely reported job loss/reduced income compared to those with salaries. Those citing more than one household income source less frequently reported this change compared to others.

The survey findings suggest some differences across age groups, with respondents aged 40 and under reporting job losses/reduced salaries in their households more frequently than those aged 41-60. Those over 60 most commonly reported no changes in household income. Fewer single-person households (52%) reported impacts compared to households with partners, children and extended family (69–76%). Responses did not vary between women and men.

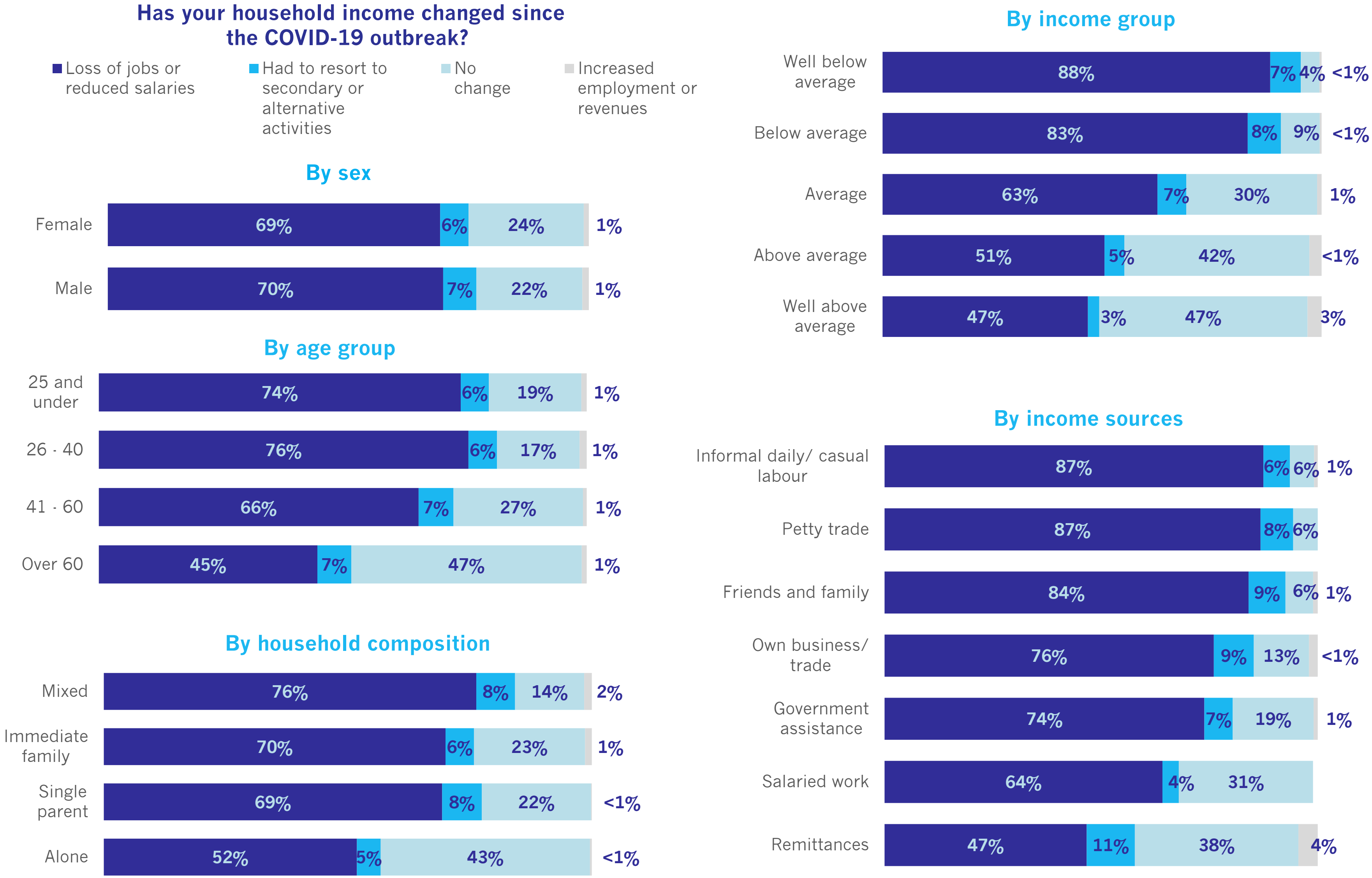
Has your household income changed since the COVID-19 outbreak?



"I had to resign from my job as school is close and no one to supervise my child. Therefore my husband is the only one working. I'm also trying to find something online to earn so form of income until school opens and hopefully I find a next job."

"I had to learn a new skill to be able to find another source of income and with the pandemic I was concerned for my health and my clients how ever going outside needed to be done to survive."

Income changes



LIVELIHOODS

Farming and fishing

Nearly one in four respondents produce food or raise livestock, and 5% are engaged in fisheries/coastal activities. In both cases these activities are primarily for their own consumption. Most of these respondents earn income from salaries, and one in ten pursue their own business or trade. Of those engaged in fishing/coastal activities, 13% have household income from informal and casual labour.

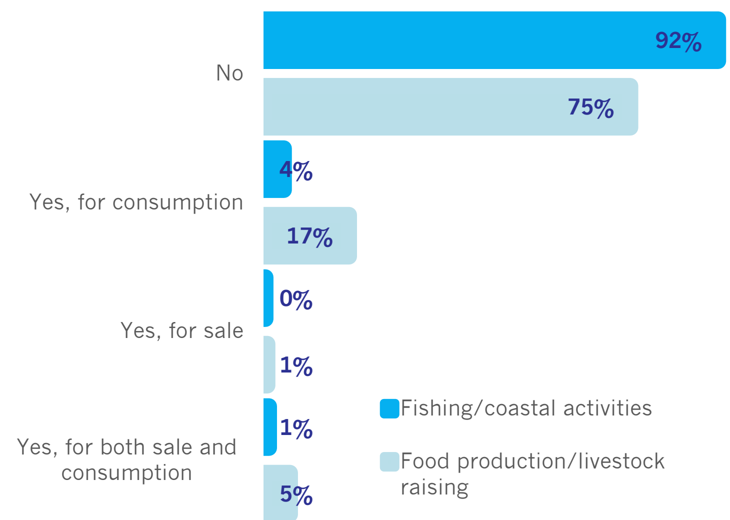
The pandemic seems to have led to an increase in gardening and household production, with 39% of respondents indicating that they have increased the amount of time spent on these activities.

While farming households are similar to the survey average on key metrics of well-being, households engaging in fishing seem to have been more adversely affected by disruptions related to COVID-19. For example, they report above average values for loss of jobs/reduced salary, difficulties in eating enough food, worrying about food needs and expecting their livelihood to be severely affected.

CARICOM and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) are conducting a more in-depth assessment and analysis of the impacts of COVID-19 on agricultural livelihoods, production and food systems.

More information about how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted Caribbean small-scale fisheries and what solutions and adaptation methods are being used to ensure the continuity of livelihoods has been shared through resources and a regional webinar.

Households engaging in farming/fishing



"I work within the tourism sector and i am anxious as to how we will adapt in the coming months."

"Decrease in salary means you cannot get a loan extension, because they think your job is unsure. Hence not being able to make ends meet"

"So far my life has not changed in terms of my income but cost of living has increased therefore I now have an increase in my expenditure and less savings"

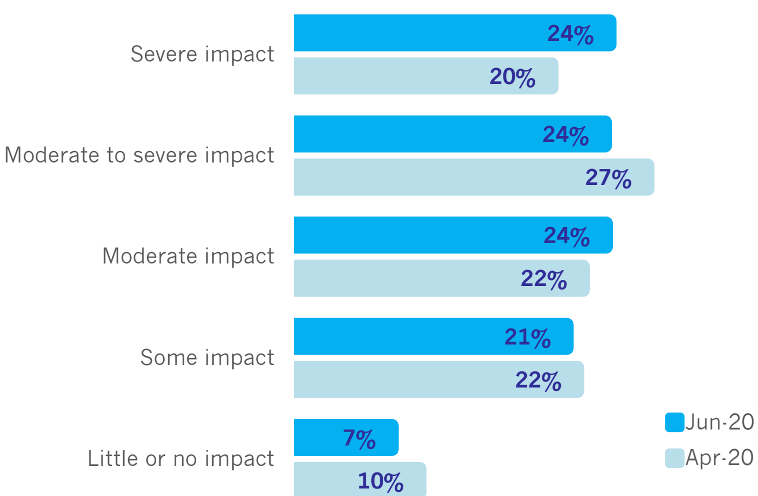
LIVELIHOODS

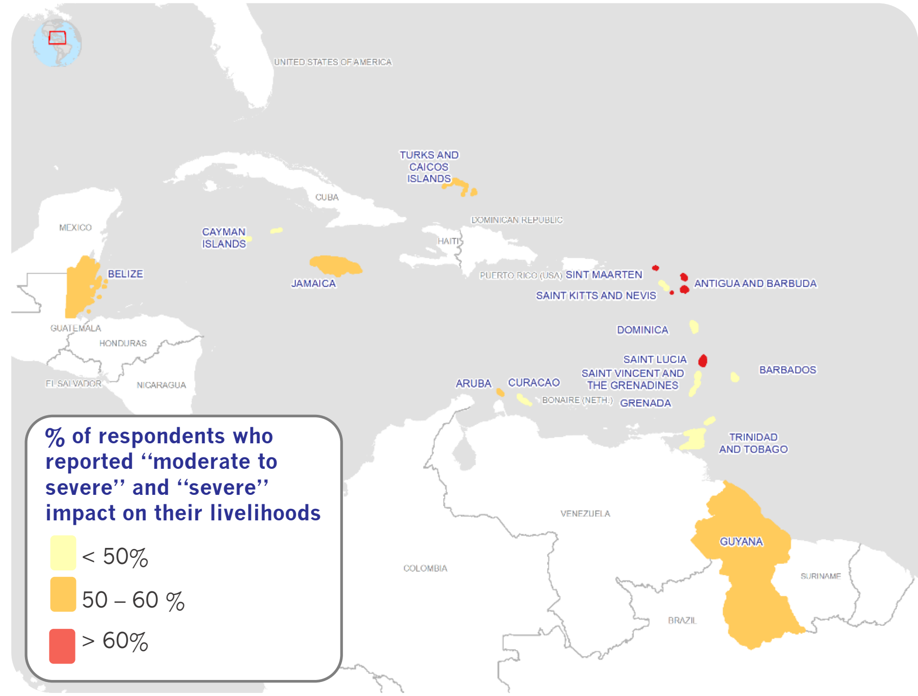
Future livelihood impacts

Respondents believe that the COVID-19 pandemic will impact their livelihoods in the future. Looking ahead, 48% anticipate "moderate to severe" or "severe" impacts to their livelihoods, which is in line with the April survey results. Only 7% expect little or no impact.

Respondents with different levels of income varied substantially in their perspectives. Of those with incomes perceived as well below average, 55% expect their livelihoods to be severely impacted in the future, compared to 10% of those with well above average income. While the vast majority of respondents anticipate at least some impacts regardless of their sources of income, those with salaried income predicted less severe livelihood impacts. Respondents with household income from petty trade or receiving support from family/friends anticipate the most severe impacts.

Looking ahead, how do you expect your livelihood will be impacted as result of disruptions from COVID-19?



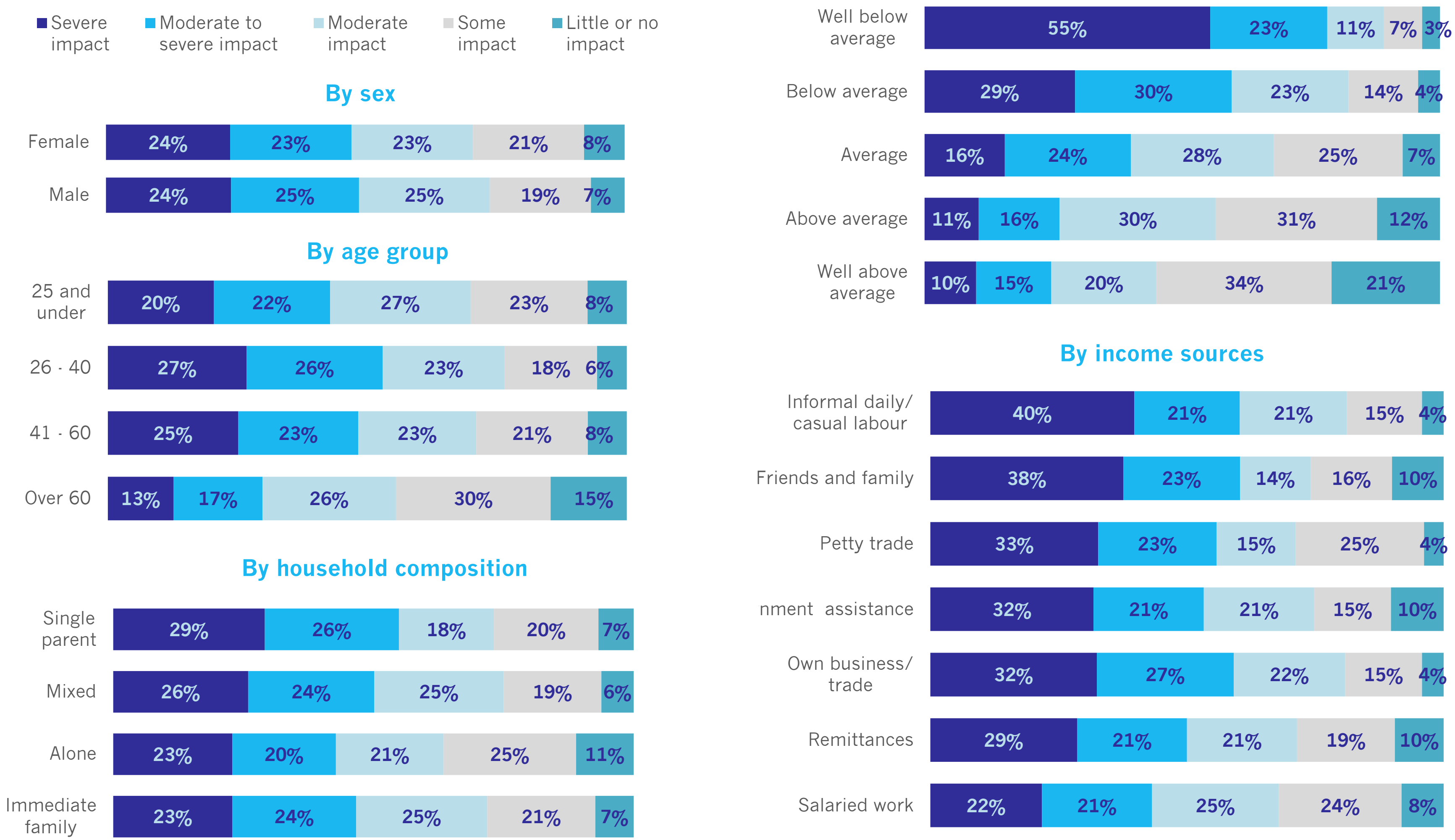


The percentages of respondents predicting moderate or severe impacts were highest in Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Lucia and Sint Maarten. Trends between men and women and across age groups are largely consistent, though respondents under 60 years of age anticipate more severe impacts, likely because those over 60 are not as active in the labour market.

LIVELIHOODS

Future livelihood impacts

How do you expect your livelihood will be impacted as a result of disruptions from COVID-19?



WIDER IMPACTS

Main worries

Unemployment and fear of illness were the main worries of half of respondents, regardless of sex. More than a third of respondents mainly worried about their inability to cover food and other essential needs.

Respondents over 60 years of age were more worried about illness and less worried about unemployment. The inability to cover food or other essential needs was a main concern of those with below or well below average income (47-60%) and among respondents aged 40 or younger (37-45%).

A marginal share of respondents (0-6%) were mainly worried about violence or the inability to access services.

By sex

Main worries	Female	Male
Unemployment	52%	54%
Fear of illness	52%	51%
Inability to cover essential needs	39%	35%
Inability to cover food needs	32%	29%
Having to resort to savings	17%	18%
Social isolation	17%	16%
Disruptions to education	12%	9%
Child(ren)/dependents care	12%	8%
Movement restrictions	8%	10%
Unable to access services	3%	4%
Violence in the household	1%	1%
Violence in the community	0%	0%

By age groups

Main worries	< 25	26 - 40	41 - 60	> 60
Unemployment	53%	57%	53%	30%
Fear of illness	50%	48%	54%	68%
Inability to cover essential needs	41%	45%	34%	15%
Inability to cover food needs	37%	41%	24%	10%
Having to resort to savings	14%	17%	18%	23%
Social isolation	23%	14%	16%	18%
Disruptions to education	15%	10%	13%	7%
Child(ren)/dependents care	8%	14%	10%	7%
Movement restrictions	9%	7%	10%	15%
Unable to access services	3%	4%	3%	3%
Violence in the household	1%	0%	1%	0%
Violence in the community	0%	0%	0%	0%

By household composition

Main worries	Alone	Mixed	Single parent	Immediate family
Unemployment	46%	50%	51%	55%
Fear of illness	54%	49%	45%	53%
Inability to cover essential needs	29%	49%	42%	36%
Inability to cover food needs	19%	46%	38%	29%
Having to resort to savings	20%	14%	16%	18%
Social isolation	23%	17%	14%	16%
Disruptions to education	5%	9%	14%	12%
Child(ren)/dependents care	4%	8%	18%	11%
Movement restrictions	18%	7%	5%	9%
Unable to access services	6%	5%	2%	3%
Violence in the household	1%	1%	1%	1%
Violence in the community	0%	0%	0%	0%

By perceived income levels

Main worries	Well below average	Below average	Average	Above average	Well above average
Unemployment	59%	61%	52%	47%	31%
Fear of illness	35%	44%	59%	65%	63%
Inability to cover essential needs	58%	54%	33%	18%	12%
Inability to cover food needs	60%	47%	23%	8%	10%
Having to resort to savings	10%	16%	23%	19%	11%
Social isolation	8%	11%	20%	23%	25%
Disruptions to education	6%	8%	14%	15%	16%
Child(ren)/dependents care	14%	12%	11%	10%	8%
Movement restrictions	2%	3%	10%	19%	22%
Unable to access services	5%	4%	3%	3%	4%
Violence in the household	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%
Violence in the community	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

WIDER IMPACTS

Unpaid care and work

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the amount of time people are spending on unpaid care and domestic work. Most respondents reduced time spent shopping, which was reported by 55% overall and 72% whose income was well below average. While domestic work increased among nearly half of respondents, the increase was most prevalent among households with the highest income levels (44%) and female survey respondents (54%) compared to their male counterparts (47%).

A greater proportion of women also reported an increase in duties related to childcare (46%) compared to men (35%). Single parent households in particular are experiencing a significant increase in childcare (57%) and domestic work (51%) when compared to other types of households. The COVID-19 pandemic also seems to have increased households' engagement in gardening/subsistence production and affected time spent supporting the community.

"The hardest part has both of us working demanding full-time jobs from home while simultaneously having to homeschool, provide childcare, do all the cleaning and cook every meal."

"Homeschooling is difficult to manage in a single parent household. As a parent, you want the children in school but you fear a resurgence of the virus"

"Having to care for my elderly mother and doing her shopping and all her errands and adding more money to her household so she would have food security."

Has the time that you spend on any of the unpaid activities below changed since the COVID-19 outbreak?

	Domestic	Childcare	Shopping	Subsistence	Community
Decreased	10%	7%	55%	9%	19%
No change	36%	28%	18%	35%	45%
Increased	52%	43%	25%	39%	11%
Not applicable	3%	23%	2%	17%	25%

By household composition

Alone	Domestic	Childcare	Shopping	Home gardening	Community
Decreased	11%	5%	54%	9%	18%
No change	42%	43%	23%	40%	45%
Increased	43%	6%	20%	29%	11%
Not applicable	4%	46%	3%	22%	25%

Mixed	Domestic	Childcare	Shopping	Home gardening	Community
Decreased	15%	10%	62%	13%	21%
No change	35%	26%	14%	34%	40%
Increased	47%	39%	21%	31%	11%
Not applicable	3%	25%	3%	22%	28%

Single parent	Domestic	Childcare	Shopping	Home gardening	Community
Decreased	11%	9%	56%	10%	20%
No change	35%	22%	17%	39%	44%
Increased	51%	57%	27%	35%	10%
Not applicable	3%	13%	1%	16%	26%

Immediate family	Domestic	Childcare	Shopping	Home gardening	Community
Decreased	8%	6%	54%	7%	19%
No change	35%	28%	18%	34%	45%
Increased	54%	45%	27%	43%	12%
Not applicable	3%	22%	1%	15%	24%

WIDER IMPACTS

Unpaid care and work

By perceived income level

Well below average	Domestic	Childcare	Shopping	Home gardening	Community
Decreased	18%	14%	72%	20%	25%
No change	28%	22%	6%	29%	35%
Increased	50%	50%	18%	32%	12%
Not applicable	4%	15%	4%	19%	29%

Below average	Domestic	Childcare	Shopping	Home gardening	Community
Decreased	12%	8%	64%	12%	24%
No change	31%	25%	12%	33%	40%
Increased	53%	48%	23%	36%	10%
Not applicable	4%	19%	2%	19%	26%

Average	Domestic	Childcare	Shopping	Home gardening	Community
Decreased	7%	5%	49%	6%	17%
No change	40%	28%	21%	35%	47%
Increased	51%	42%	29%	43%	11%
Not applicable	2%	25%	1%	17%	25%

Above average	Domestic	Childcare	Shopping	Home gardening	Community
Decreased	6%	3%	46%	3%	13%
No change	37%	35%	27%	41%	53%
Increased	55%	33%	27%	43%	14%
Not applicable	2%	29%	1%	13%	21%

Well above average	Domestic	Childcare	Shopping	Home gardening	Community
Decreased	6%	4%	42%	6%	16%
No change	44%	36%	31%	43%	49%
Increased	48%	32%	27%	36%	16%
Not applicable	2%	27%	1%	15%	20%

By sex

Female	Domestic	Childcare	Shopping	Home gardening	Community
Decreased	9%	6%	57%	8%	19%
No change	35%	26%	16%	34%	44%
Increased	54%	46%	26%	39%	10%
Not applicable	3%	22%	1%	18%	27%

Male	Domestic	Childcare	Shopping	Home gardening	Community
Decreased	11%	8%	52%	10%	18%
No change	38%	32%	22%	37%	45%
Increased	47%	35%	24%	38%	14%
Not applicable	4%	25%	2%	15%	22%

"Homeschooling and working from home was my biggest challenge. It's been three months doing both and I'm still not fully adapted to it."

"Presently taking care of my baby alone, since her daddy is stuck at sea for two month now . I'm trying my best to make the sacrifice for my four month old baby"

"Working from home with a baby and a toddler was rough. There were many days i cried as i longed to be at work..."

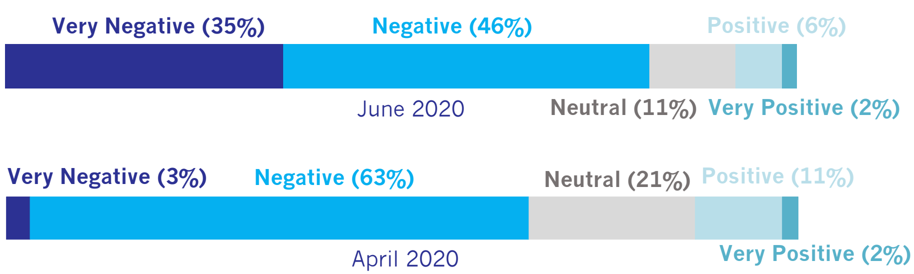
WIDER IMPACTS

How people are coping and adapting

Respondents were given the opportunity to give more nuanced insights on how they are coping and adapting to the disruptions caused by COVID-19. Out of the 5,707 respondents, 1,905 (33%) responded to the open-ended questions.

An analysis of the responses by WFP Caribbean, in collaboration with Google's Artificial Intelligence Unit, was able to categorise and interpret the degree of positive and negative emotions within the responses.

Distribution of sentiments across open-ended survey responses



People's comments are more negative compared to the April 2020 survey suggesting the wide ranging impacts of COVID-19 and measures to contain it are taking a toll on people's lives. As with the first round, respondents expressed anxiety and fear with regards to interruptions to their livelihoods and reduced income. They described disruption to their or their children's education due to the closure of institutions. Some also expressed concerns about their inability to pay tuition in order to continue their studies for those schools/institutions that have remained open. Other themes included challenges accessing food and medicines, eating less, adapting to working from home, balancing work and childcare, and concerns about mental well-being. Mental health and stress were often mentioned as respondents described uncertainty surrounding future employment, especially those who are employed within the tourism sector.

Some sample responses:

Very negative (35%)

"I was unable to attend my mom's funeral due to cancelation of flights to Trinidad and I'm unemployed and financially unstable"

"I was left without any kind of income. It has been difficult to get food. simply getting food has been very difficult. I have tried to get a day of work but it has not only been me, there have been many people."

Negative (46%)

"Stressed out and not eating healthy. Sold most of my belongings to cover bills and rent."

"Diminished mental health"

"I'm a craft and souvenir retailer. I'm home over 4 months now because my business is not essential. Tourism is dead right now."

Neutral (11%)

"Coping ok i think. Have no real desire to socialize"

"Well there is not much anyone could do but just have faith"

"Working from home was a big adjustment but after adjusting to the new normal it was liveable."

Positive (6%)

"My family is adapting to meeting friends and family online, and to having to engage in social distancing when going outside"

Very Positive (2%)

"The changes brings me closer to most of my family members but also it teaches me a huge lesson on poverty and saving."

CHALLENGES FACING MIGRANTS

Spanish-speaking respondents in Trinidad and Tobago

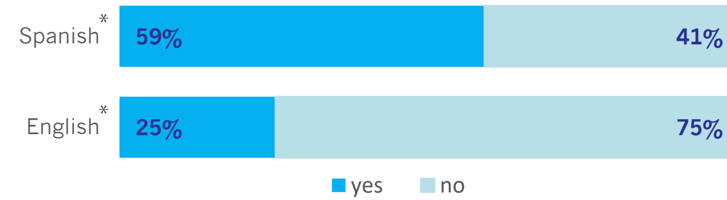
The survey was available in English, French and Spanish. Nearly one in ten survey respondents have been identified as Spanish speaking, and out of these 89% are residing in Trinidad and Tobago. They offer valuable insights into the impact of COVID-19 on Venezuelan migrants, of which about 16,000 are currently registered with UNHCR in the country.

Across most key metrics on well-being, the responses of Spanish-speakers residing in Trinidad and Tobago differ significantly from those of English speakers and from the survey averages in the region, which is indicative of the precariousness of their current situation.

A significantly higher percentage of Spanish-speaking respondents (59% compared to 25% of English-speakers) reported limited access to markets. Overall, they are nearly four times more likely to be engaged in informal/casual labour as their main source of income, and between two to three times more likely to worry about meeting their food or other essential needs. A much higher proportion reported loss of jobs/reduced income, skipping/reducing meals or going a whole day without eating. More than one in three anticipate that their livelihood will be severely impacted by COVID-19, compared to a quarter of English-speaking respondents in Trinidad and Tobago or the Caribbean at large.

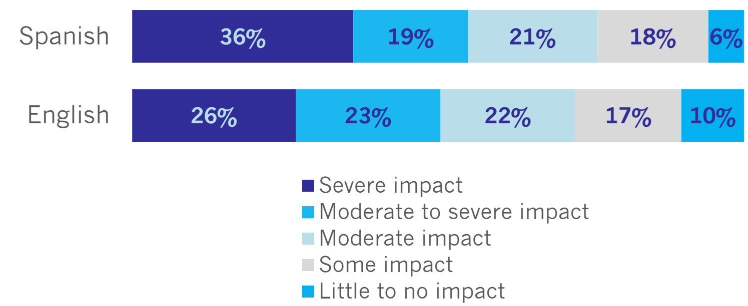
The results highlight the need for a more in-depth understanding of the impacts of COVID-19 on the food security and livelihood situation of this population in the region. More information on Venezuelan migrants in Trinidad and Tobago is available through the Response for Venezuela (R4V) dashboard.

In the past 7 days, was there a time when your household could not access the markets?

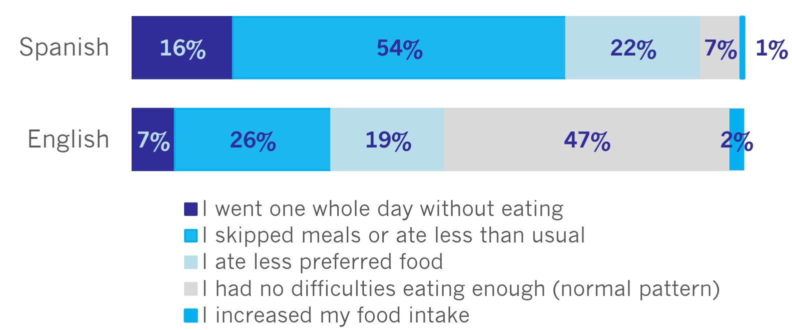


* of respondents from Trinidad and Tobago.

How do you expect your livelihood will be impacted as a result of disruptions from COVID-19?



Which statement best reflects your food situation over the past 7 days?



CONCLUSION

In June 2020, many of the measures put in place by governments in the Caribbean to curb the spread of the coronavirus were eased in response to decreasing COVID-19 cases. While many economic and commercial activities resumed, the broader impacts of the pandemic on how people live, work and meet their basic needs have continued – and in some cases these impacts appear to be worsening.

Disruptions to people's livelihoods remain widespread, with the majority of respondents facing job loss or reduced income in their households since the beginning of the pandemic. These impacts appear most severe for households that are in precarious economic situations – low-income households and those with income from casual labour, petty trade or receiving support from others, as well as migrants. Impacts to food consumption also appear most acute among these groups, with a worrying number of respondents reducing what they eat. The number of people estimated to be moderately food insecure across the region has grown substantially since the April 2020 survey.

The pandemic is shifting life at home, with time spent on domestic work and childcare increasing, particularly for women. Further country-level analysis may reveal greater differences in how men and women are being impacted.

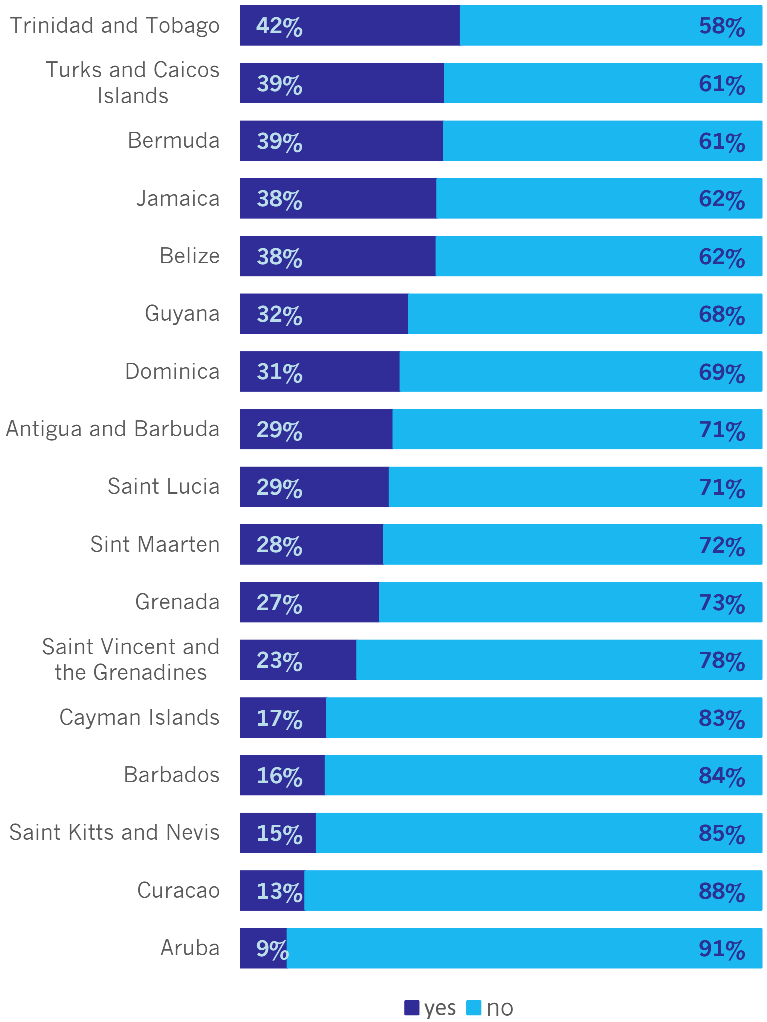
With COVID-19 bringing a near halt to tourism and disrupting commercial activities, governments across the Caribbean have introduced policies and programmes to protect those losing incomes and to support food security. With evidence suggesting that the negative impacts are deepening, it is critical to support and expand these measures, prioritizing those who are most vulnerable to the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic.

Common themes on how respondents are adapting and coping

ANNEX. REGIONAL OVERVIEWS

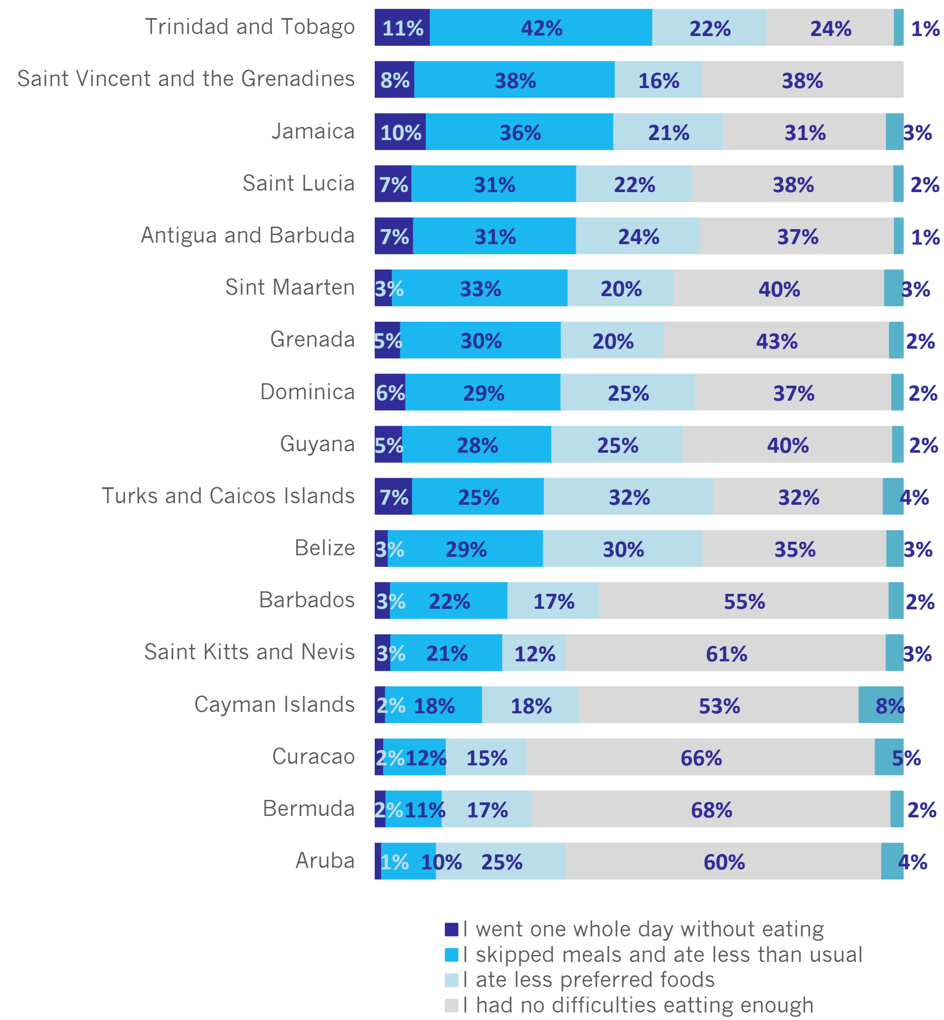
Market Access

In the past 7 days, has there been a time when you or your household could not access the markets/grocery stores?



Food situation

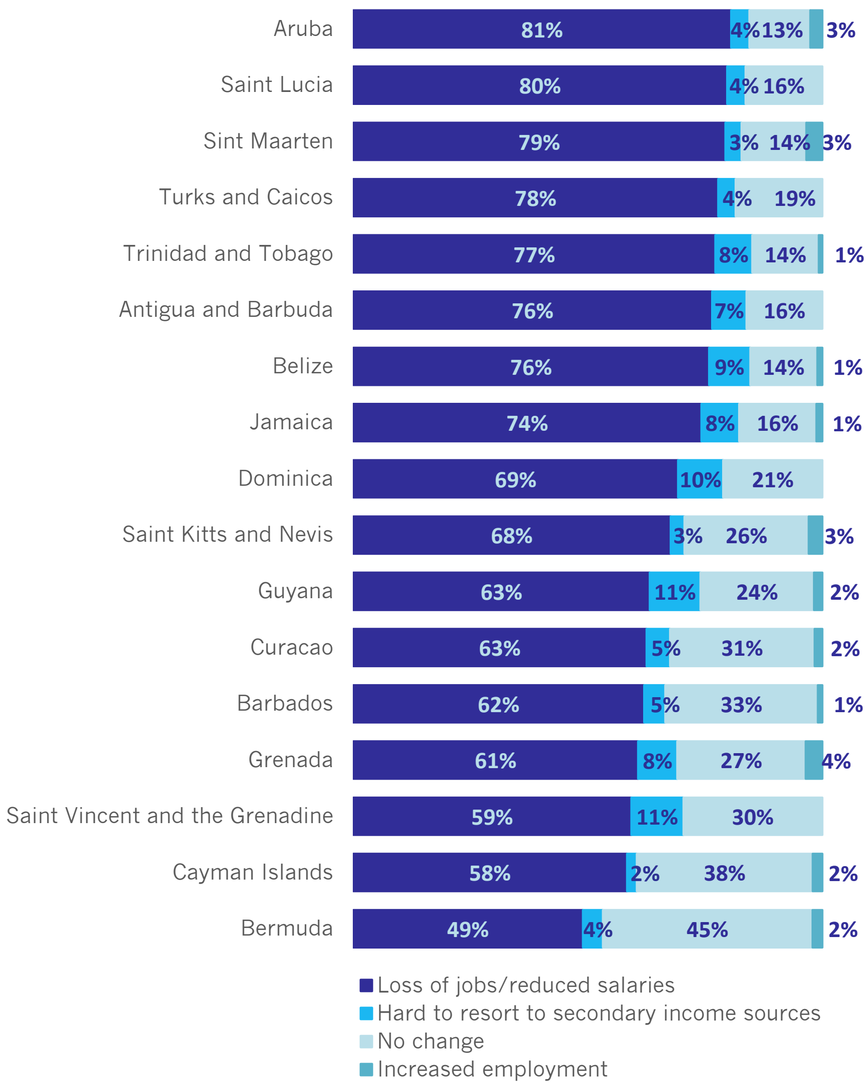
Which statement best reflects your food situation over the past 7 days?



ANNEX. REGIONAL OVERVIEWS

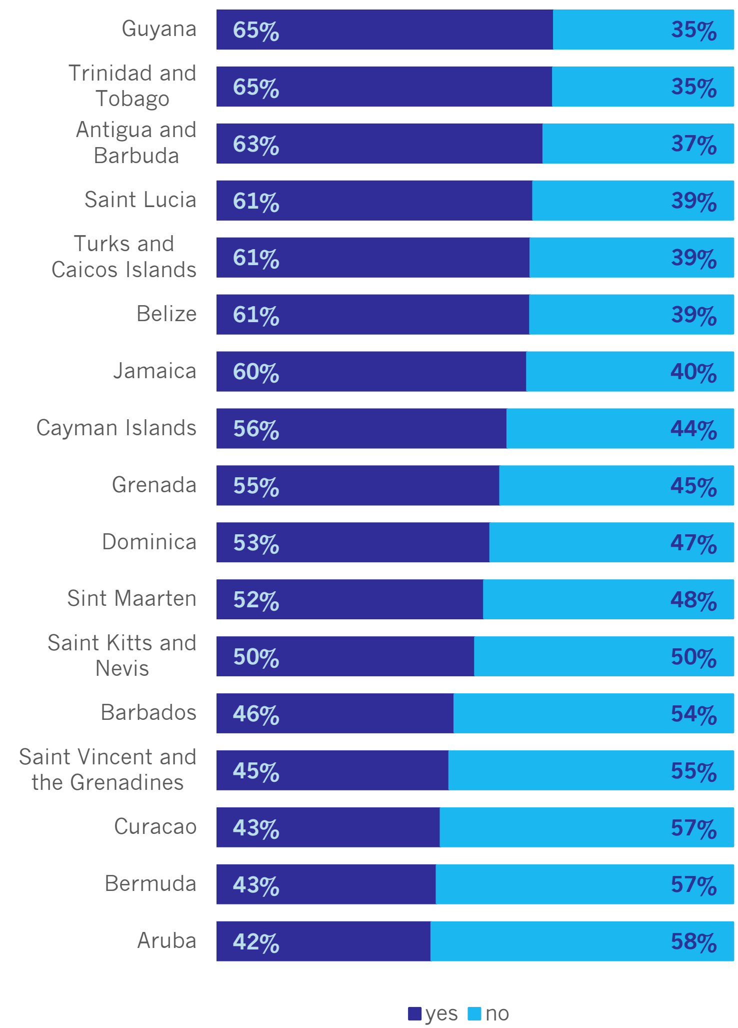
Income changes

Has your household income changed since the COVID-19 outbreak?



Livelihood disruptions

Was your ability to carry out livelihoods activities affected in the last 2 weeks?



METHODOLOGY AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

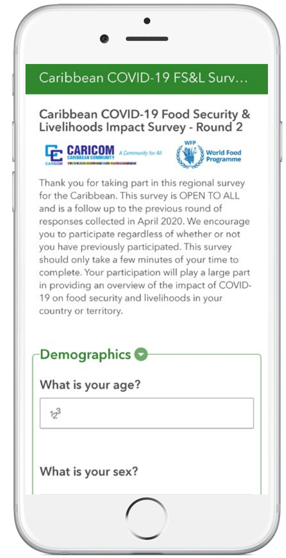
The second round of the CARICOM Caribbean COVID-19 Food Security and Livelihoods impact survey was launched via a webform, which was accessible on mobile/smartphone and PC/desktop. The data collection period was inclusive of 14 June to 1 July 2020. The survey was circulated via email, social media, SMS, media and other communication channels.

The World Food Programme (WFP) performed the data collection, monitoring and analysis. Responses were visualised live on an interactive dashboard and monitored to ensure their legitimacy based on cross referencing with prior knowledge and secondary data. Data validation methods were designed into the survey form to mitigate against intentional or unintentional outliers.

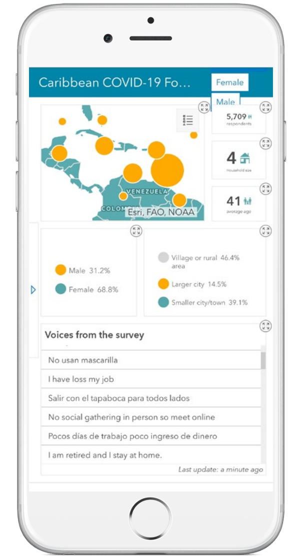
The qualitative analysis was performed in collaboration with Joseph Xu from Google's AI unit using Natural Language Processing (NLP). NLP, a branch of AI which analyses and interprets human languages, provided: (a) a sentiment analysis to determine the number of positive versus negative responses and (b) auto-categorisation of responses. To moderate the non-representative nature of the data, the analysis team further refined the classifications presented by the algorithms.

WFP expresses warm appreciation to Flow and Digicel for distributing the survey link by SMS. Special thanks to the International Telecommunication Union for their support in facilitating the SMS distribution. Thanks to UNHCR for their support with the Spanish translation of the survey.

This report was prepared by WFP Caribbean – Amy Chong, Elisaveta Gouretskaia, Darko Petrovic, Nicholas Grainger, Sarah Bailey and Regis Chapman, with support by Rossella Bottone from WFP's Regional Bureau Panama.



Link to survey
https://arcg.is/0aiX9f



Dashboard for Smartphones
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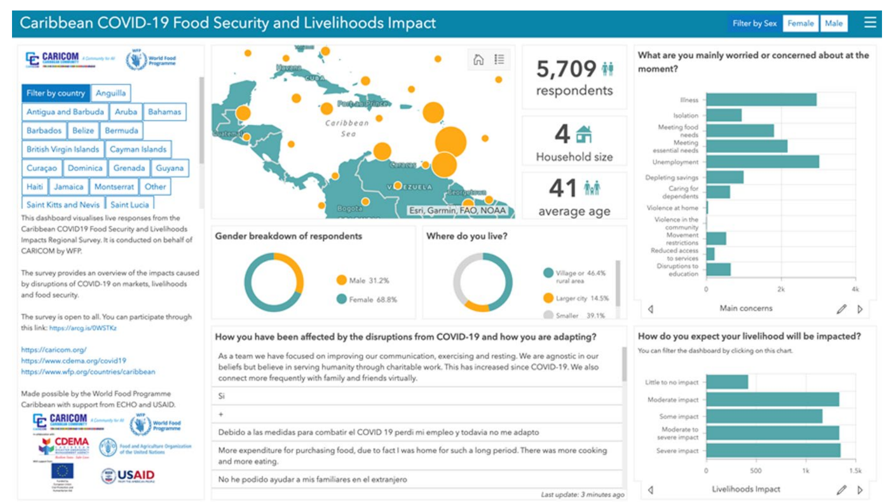

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