Caribbean COVID-19 Food Security & Livelihoods Impact Survey

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO Summary Report | November 2020

899 Respondents | **143 English**-Speakers, **429 Spanish**-Speakers, **327** unknown language

67 Female | **33%** Male

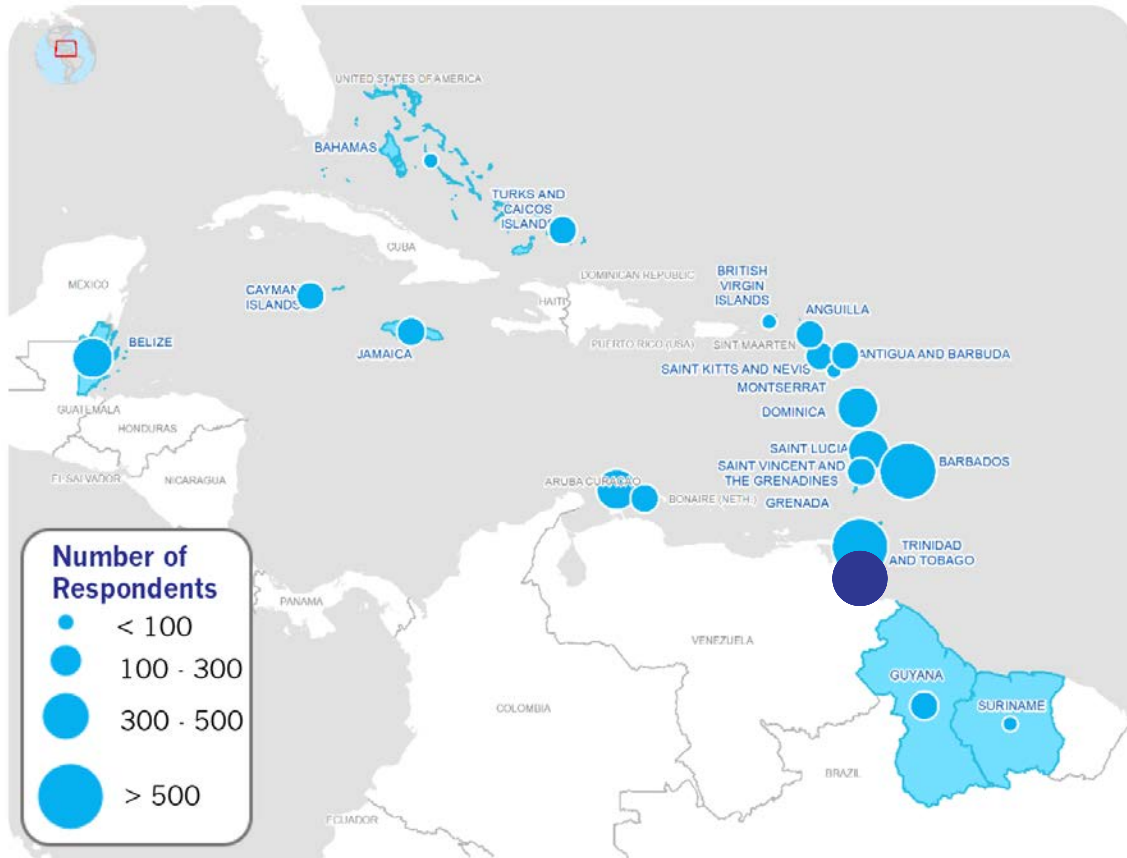
36 Average age

5 Average household size

The COVID-19 pandemic is having far-reaching impacts on how people earn a living and meet critical needs. The Caribbean COVID-19 Food Security and Livelihoods Impact Survey was launched by CARICOM to rapidly gather data on impacts to livelihoods, food security and access to markets.

Two rounds of the survey have been carried out, implemented by the World Food Programme on behalf of the CARICOM Secretariat. This report analyses data collected in the second round, conducted the last two weeks of June 2020, which received 5,707 responses from 23 countries and territories in the Caribbean. It builds on findings from the first survey implemented in April 2020, which had 4,537 responses from 19 countries and territories. The survey was distributed and collected using online methods, and the survey link was shared via social media, e-mail and text messages. The survey was available in English, French and Spanish.

In Trinidad and Tobago, 429 respondents were identified as Spanish-speaking. To enable comparison with the April survey round, which was only available in English, the comparison of findings from both survey rounds is based on English-speaking respondents. A separate section focuses on migrants, based on the Spanish-speaking respondents.



Round 1 April 2020 — **4,537** Responses

Round 2 June 2020 — **5,707** Responses

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- COVID-19 and measures to contain it have resulted in a widespread disruption to livelihoods. While the share of respondents reporting disruptions decreased slightly since April, still over half reported that their ability to carry out livelihoods was impacted, mainly owing to movement restrictions, concerns about leaving the house, and the high price or lack of livelihood inputs.

- The pandemic appears to be taking an increasing toll on households' economic wellbeing. Three out of five respondents have experienced job loss or reduced incomes in their households, compared to two out of five in April.

- The most common income sources are still salaried work and businesses, but a larger share of respondents had income from casual labour, support from family/friends and government assistance compared to April.

- The vast majority of respondents (89%) predict that their livelihoods will be impacted in the future, and this outlook appears to be worsening. A quarter of the respondents in June expressed that livelihoods would be severely impacted, which is a proportion almost twice as large as in April.

- COVID-19 and measures to contain it have impacted market access. Despite reporting increased availability of goods compared to April, the proportion of respondents who experienced difficulties accessing markets nearly doubled to 28% in June. The main reason was lack of money to spend.

- Almost four out of five respondents observed an increase in food prices and have changed their shopping behaviour since the pandemic began. Compared to April, less respondents were buying larger quantities than usual while more resorted to purchasing cheaper/less preferred brands or smaller quantities.

- The food security situation has deteriorated, with less than half of respondents stating that they had no difficulties eating enough, compared to 65% in April. Almost one out of three reported skipping meals or eating less than usual, and 7% went a full day without eating in the week prior to the survey. Household food stocks also decreased, with 12% of respondents reporting no food stocks compared to 2% in April.

- Half of the respondents are mainly worried about unemployment, followed by worries about sickness and respondents' inability to buy essential goods and meet their food needs. Negative sentiment about the pandemic and the disruption it caused has increased.

- Migrants appear to be particularly impacted by the pandemic. When compared to English-speaking respondents, a significantly higher percentage of Spanish-speaking respondents experienced job loss or reduced salaries (89% compared to 63%) and limited access to markets (63% compared to 28%). More than half reported skipping meals or eating less than usual compared to a quarter of English-speakers, and 17% reported going a whole day without eating, compared to 6% of English-speakers.

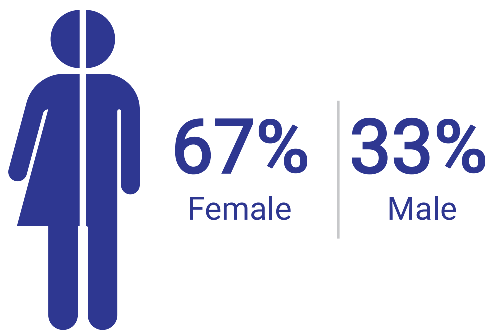
- Respondents were asked how they feel their household's income compares to the rest of the country. The survey results show that lower income households were much more likely to experience a negative impact on their market access, food security, livelihoods and incomes when compared to higher income households.

- In Trinidad and Tobago, nearly a quarter of the population does not use the internet, and it is assumed that the poorest and most vulnerable and rural households are underrepresented in the survey results.

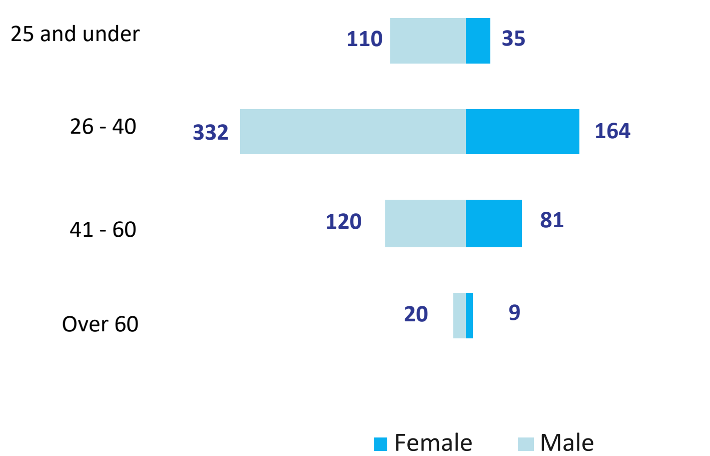
DEMOGRAPHICS OF RESPONDENTS

This page presents demographic data for all 899 respondents including those identified as English or Spanish-speaking, whose specific demographic data is presented on pages 5 (English) and page 6 (Spanish). The majority of respondents are female and concentrated in the 26-40 age group. The results for all 899 respondents are presented on pages 20-23, disaggregated by the respondents' perceived household income.

Sex of respondents

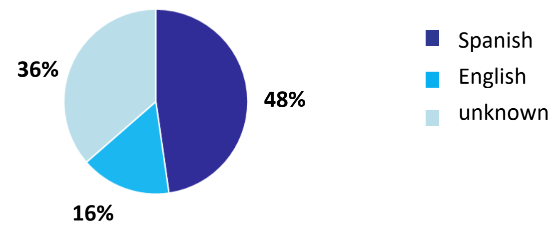


Age and sex of respondents



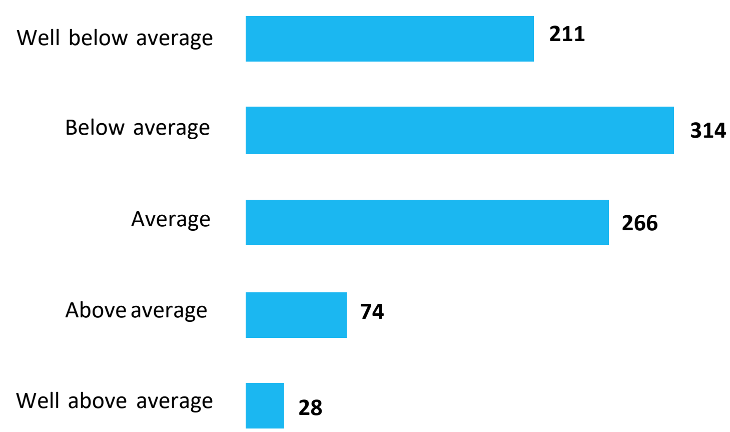
Language of respondents

Those respondents who responded to the open-ended question were identified as either English or Spanish-speaking based on the language of their answers. Based on this approach, half of respondents were identified as Spanish-speakers and 16% as English-speakers.



Perceived income level

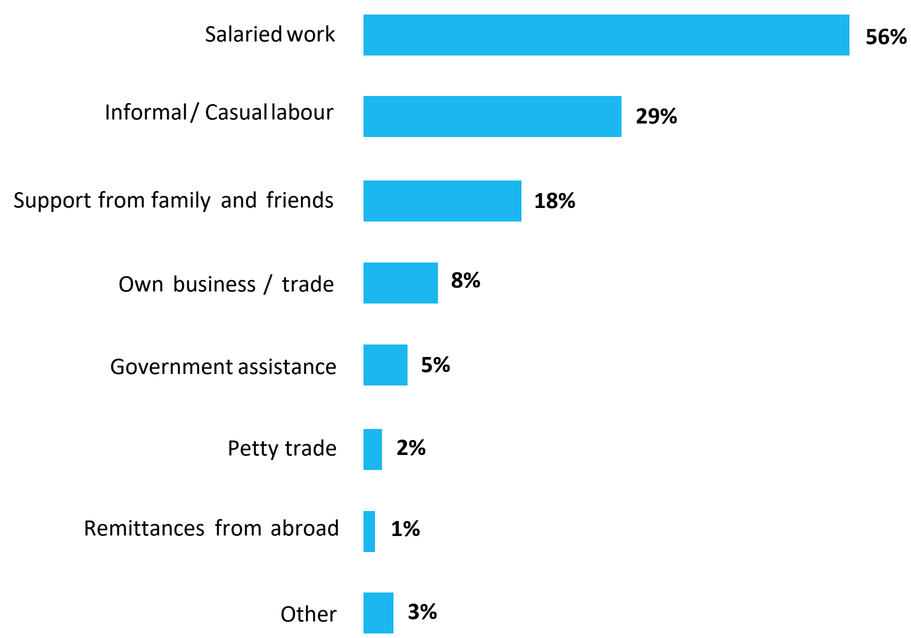
Respondents were asked how they feel their household income compares to the rest of the country. Of all 899 respondents, 23% assessed their income as well below average, 35% as below average and 30% as average. Only 8% assessed their household income as above average, and 3% as well above average. For the disaggregated analysis by income level, the last last two groups were combined to reach a sufficient number of respondents.



DEMOGRAPHICS OF RESPONDENTS

Main household income sources

Respondents were asked to indicate the main income source/s for their household. Multiple choices could be selected. The main income for respondents is salaried work (56%), followed by informal/casual labour (29%) and support from family and friends (18%).

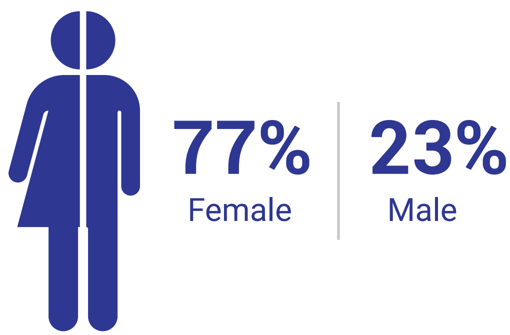


DEMOGRAPHICS OF RESPONDENTS

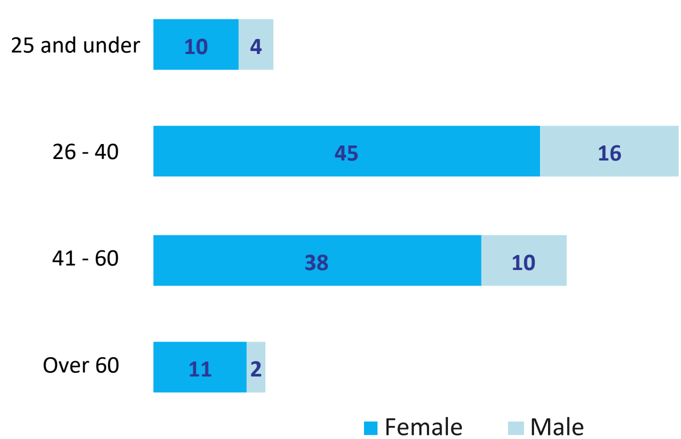
English-Speakers

This page presents the demographics of respondents identified as English-speaking. The comparison of findings from the April and June survey rounds on pages 7-15 focuses on English-speaking respondents only in order to reduce potential biases due to the large number of Venezuelan migrants in the second survey round who were actively targeted in the distribution of the second survey. Findings for Spanish-speakers are analyzed separately on pages 16-19.

Sex of respondents



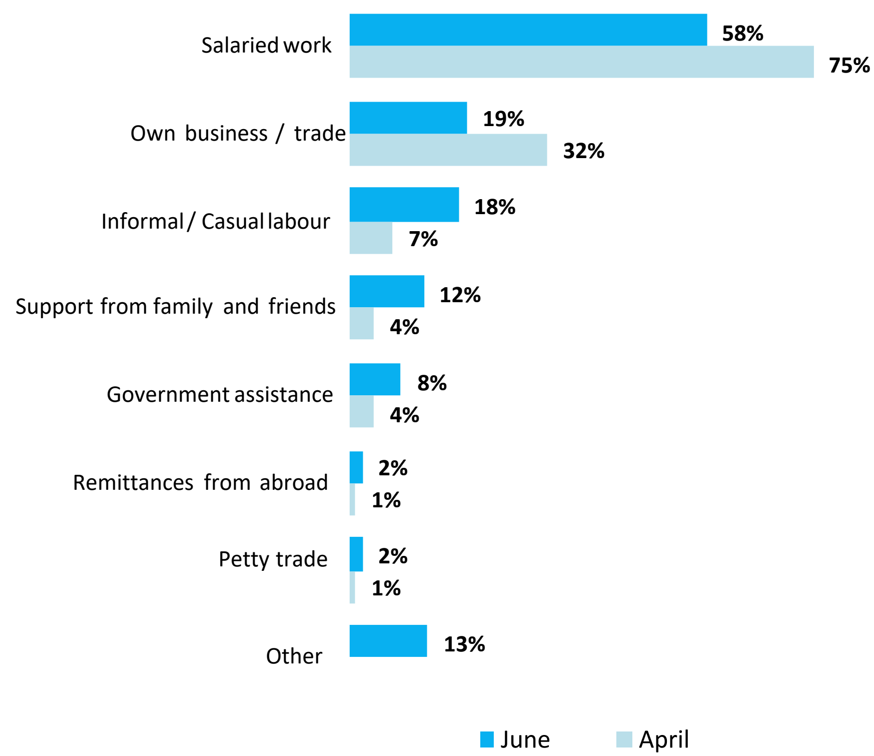
Age and sex of respondents



Main household income sources

Respondents were asked to indicate the main income source/s for their household. Multiple choices could be selected. The main income source for English-speaking respondents is salaried work (58%), compared to 75% in April. The next most common income sources are business/ trade (19%), down from 32% in April, and informal/casual labour (18%) which increased from 7% in April. These changes could reflect the negative impact that COVID-19 has had on the labour market in Trinidad and Tobago. The loss of more formal sources of income can induce higher participation in informal/casual labour as respondents try to find other means of covering expenditure shortfalls. It is also possible that the survey reached different types of households each round.

By survey

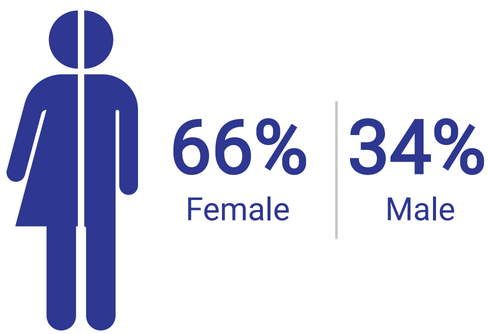


DEMOGRAPHICS OF RESPONDENTS

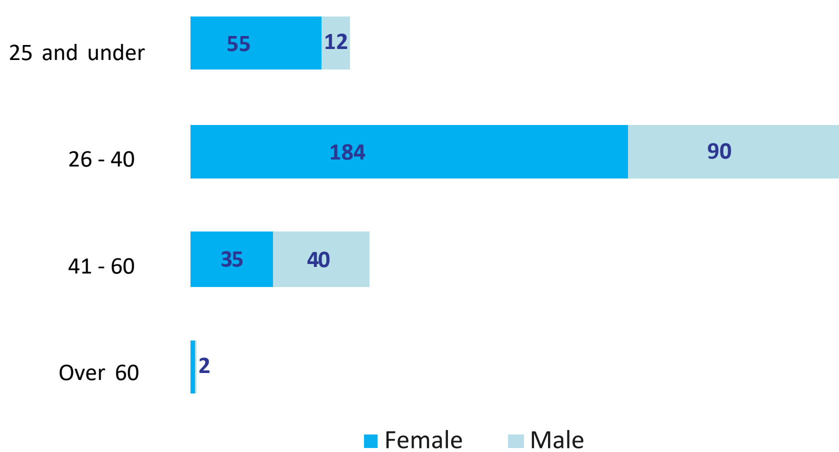
Spanish-Speakers

While the comparison of findings from both survey rounds (April and June) focuses on English-speaking respondents, a separate section is dedicated to migrants and provides a comparative analysis of findings for Spanish and English-speaking respondents (see pages 16-19). It is assumed that the majority of Spanish-speaking respondents are Venezuelan migrants, as this group was specifically targeted by partners when the survey was distributed.

Sex of respondents

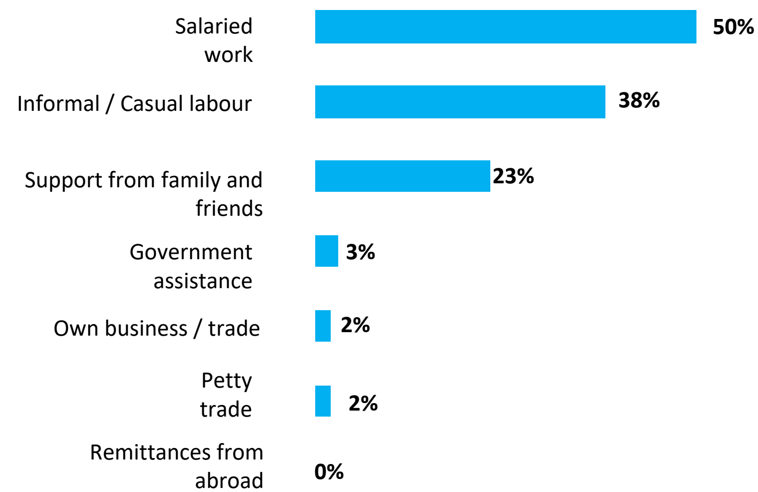


Age and sex of respondents



Main household income sources

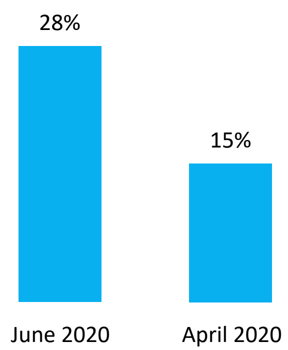
The most common source of income for Spanish-speaking respondents is salaried work, cited by half of respondents. The second most common source of income is informal/casual work (38%), which is a significantly higher proportion than for English-speaking respondents (18%). Almost one out of four Spanish-speaking households rely on support from family and friends, compared to one out of ten English-speakers. These differences may be an indication of the more precarious economic situation of migrants in Trinidad and Tobago.



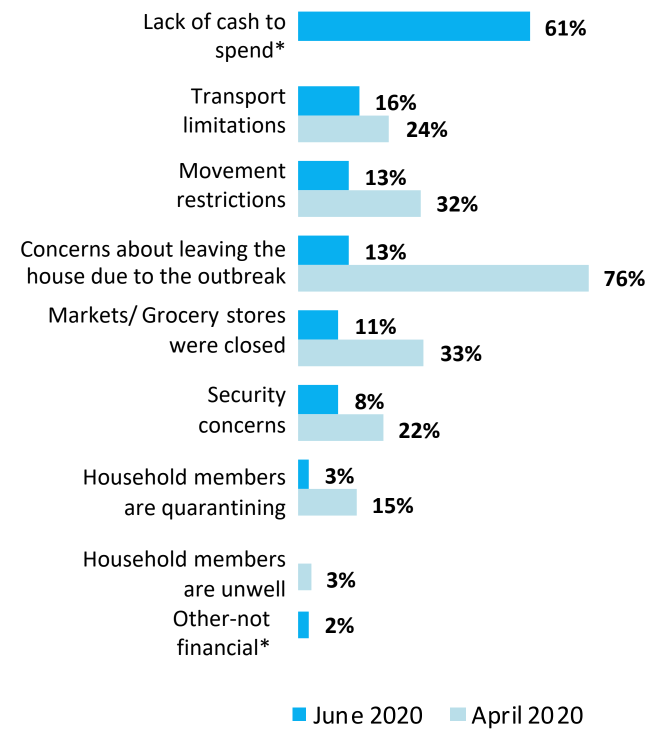
IMPACT ON MARKETS

Disruptions from COVID-19 have had a negative effect on market access. In June, 28% of respondents indicated they had problems accessing markets in the week prior to the survey, compared to 15% in April. A lack of cash to spend was the primary reason for lack of access to markets. Compared to April, a substantially smaller percentage of respondents reported movement restrictions, concern about leaving the house due to the outbreak, and closure of shops as a reason for their inability to access markets.

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



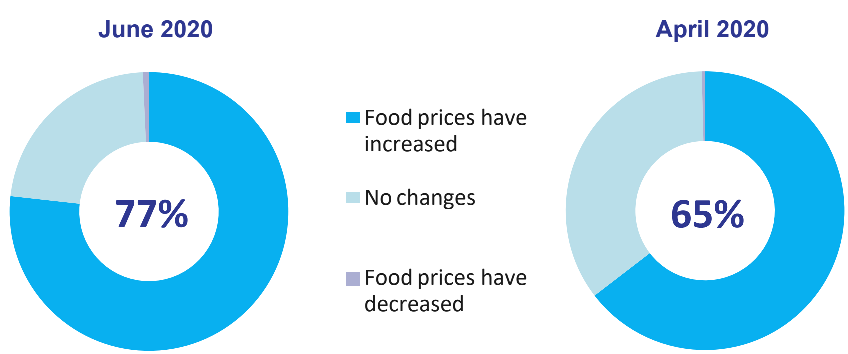
For those who faced a time when they could not access markets in the past 7 days, the main reasons were…



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

Food prices

Respondents reported on any observed changes in food prices. The vast majority reported an increase in food prices.



"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." - Female, age 21

IMPACT ON MARKETS

Availability of items in stores

Respondents reported on the availability of key items in stores.

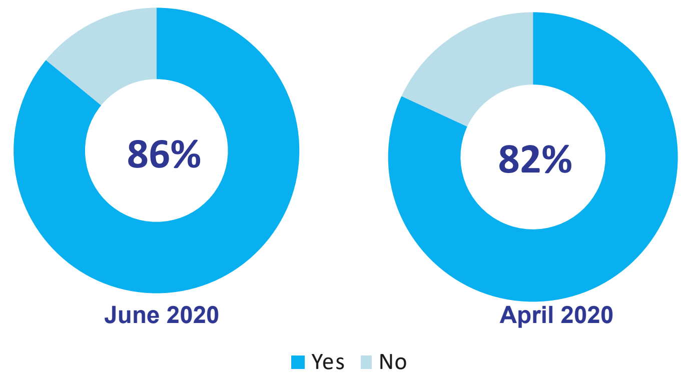
How Available?	Fresh food items		Basic food items		Hygiene items		Essential medicines	
	June 2020	April 2020	**June 2020**	April 2020	**June 2020**	April 2020	**June 2020**	April 2020
Always Available	↑ **84%**	69%	↑ **92%**	79%	↑ **94%**	62%	↑ **58%**	39%
Partially/ sometimes available	↓ **11%**	25%	↓ **6%**	17%	↓ **4%**	34%	↓ **28%**	46%
Not available	↓ **0%**	1%	↓ **0%**	1%	↓ **0%**	2%	↓ **1%**	2%
Don't know	= **5%**	5%	= **3%**	3%	↓ **2%**	3%	↑ **13%**	13%

Availability of goods has improved since April, with at least 9 out of 10 respondents reporting uninterrupted availability of basic foods or hygiene items and 8 out of 10 for fresh foods. However, over a quarter of respondents reported essential medicines were only partially or sometimes available.

Shopping behaviour

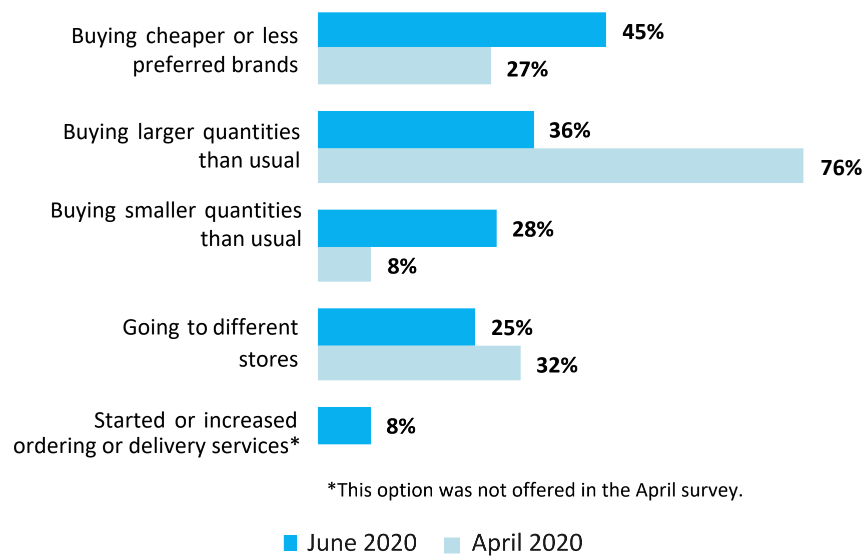
Respondents were asked if they have had to, and if so, how they altered their shopping behaviour. The majority of respondents (86%) have changed how they shop since the pandemic began. For those who changed their shopping behaviour, a significant shift was observed away from buying larger quantities than usual (from 76% in April to 36% in June) towards purchasing cheaper or less preferred brands (from 27% in April to 45% in June) and buying smaller quantities than usual (from 8% in April to 28% in June). Some respondents are also utilizing online ordering or delivery services (8%).

Changed their shopping behavior



How respondents changed their shopping behaviour By survey

Multiple responses could be selected



*This option was not offered in the April survey.

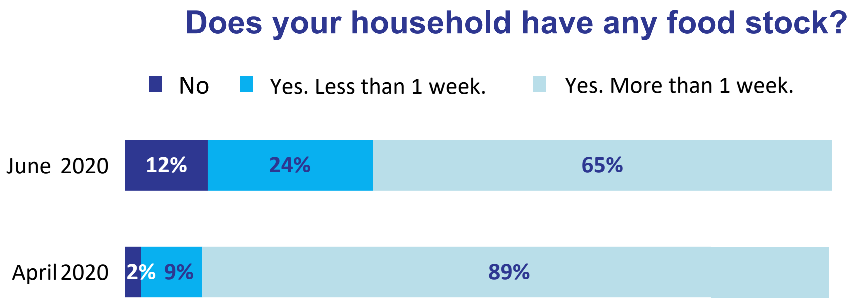
IMPACT ON FOOD SECURITY

The pandemic and measures to stop its spread have impacted food consumption, and the situation appears to have deteriorated since April. Compared to the April, household food stocks have declined. Two-thirds responded that they had over 1 week food supply stored up, down from 89% in April. Worryingly, 12% of all respondents had no food stocks at all in their house, up from 2% in April.

Less than half of all respondents reported having no difficulty consuming enough food during the week prior to the survey in June, down from 65% in April. Meanwhile, a quarter of respondents skipped meals or ate less, up from 11% in April.

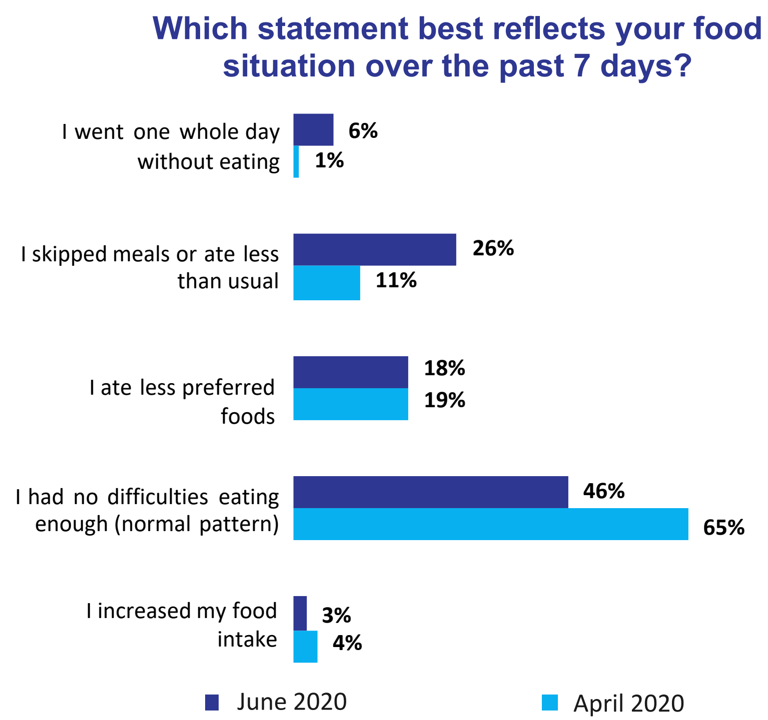
Food stocks

Respondents were asked to indicate the amount of available food stock for their household.



Food consumption

Respondents were asked to reflect on their food situation.



"Due the Covid I was laid off. Jobs are now difficult to find as companies have downsized. Expenses have gone up, more specifically food prices. I applied for grants from the government such as food, rent and income assistance over 2 months ago and have not received anything. I have to eat smaller portions of food and sometimes skip meals so that my kids are able to eat and the food items can last longer than 2 weeks." - female, age 38

IMPACT ON LIVELIHOODS

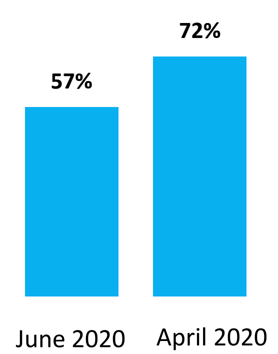
COVID-19 and measures to contain the virus have had a widespread impact on livelihoods and incomes. While a smaller proportion of respondents reported a disruption to their livelihood activities in the two weeks prior to the survey when compared to April, a larger share reported job loss or reduced incomes. Close to two-thirds of respondents were affected by job loss or reduced salaries in their household, up from 40% in April. At the same time, the percentage of respondents who reported no change in household income dropped from 54% to 29%.

Movement restrictions remained the most common reason for livelihood disruptions, although the percentage of respondents citing this reason decreased significantly from 61% in April to 39% in June. The share of respondents citing reduced demand for good/services fell from 27% to 16%. Concerns about leaving the house due to the pandemic are more prevalent than in April, increasing from 13% to 36%. Similarly, the cost of livelihood inputs became a greater concern in June, with an increase from 4% to 29%.

Disruptions to livelihoods

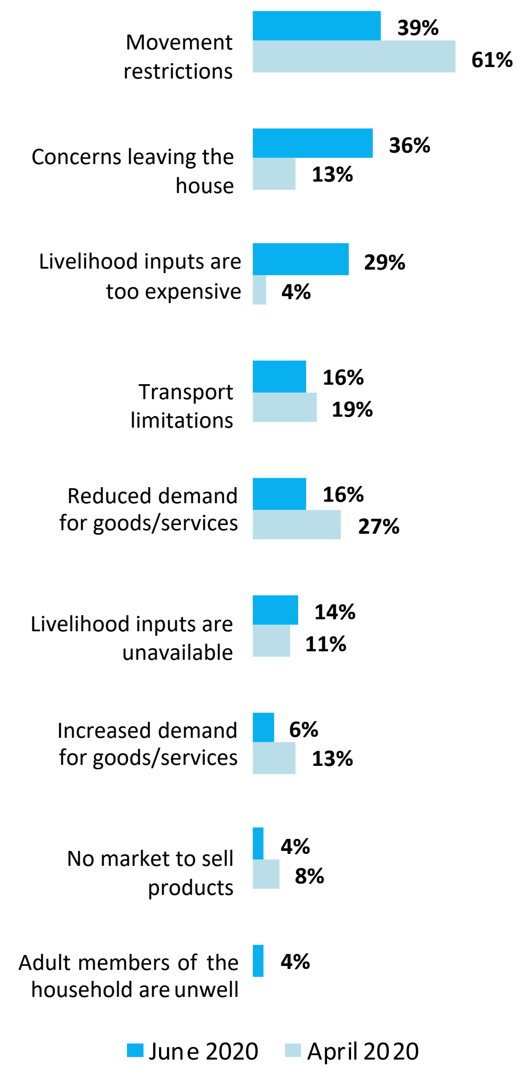
Respondents reported on any disruptions to their livelihoods.

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



For those that reported livelihood disruptions, the main reasons were… By survey

Multiple choices could be selected

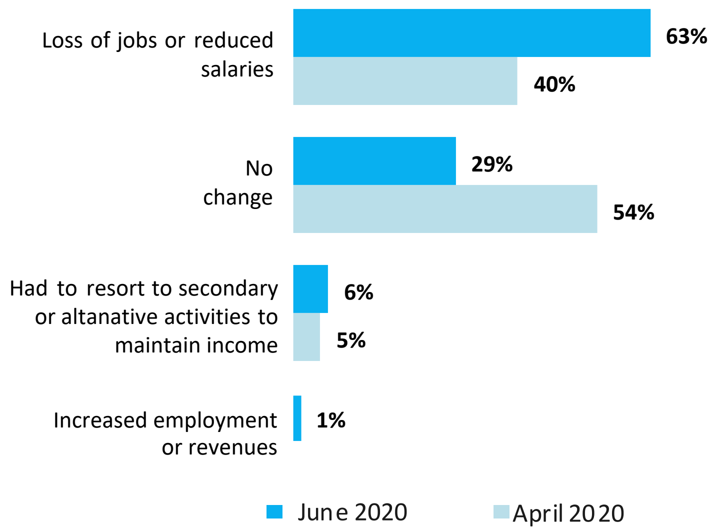


IMPACT ON LIVELIHOODS

Income changes

The pandemic appears to be taking an increasing toll on households' economic wellbeing. Three out of five respondents have experienced job loss or a reduced incomes in their households, much higher than during the April survey (40%).

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

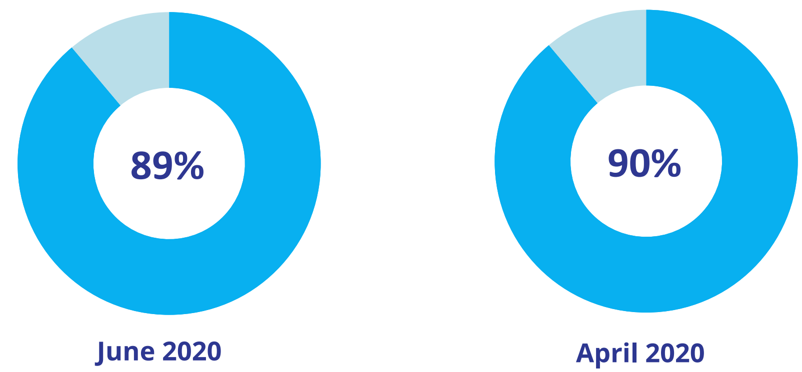


"Our Family Business the main source of income shut down for approximately two months. Main source of household income was zero. Sales continue to be slow in the food industry. so that continues to impact the household income source. I now work remotely from home, and spend nothing on entertainment. I am unable to visit my kids in the US as borders remained closed." - female, age 55

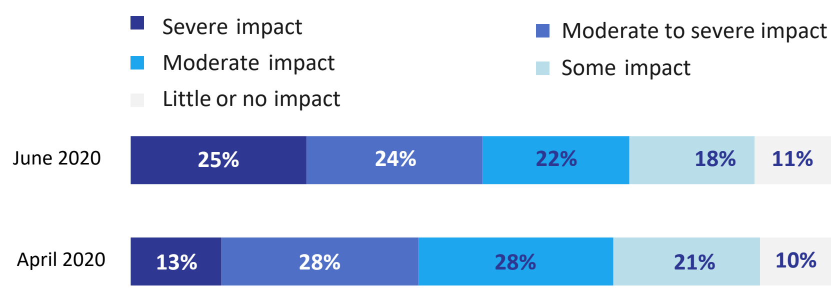
Future livelihood impacts

Respondents were asked to look ahead and predict the level of impact to their livelihoods as a result of disruptions from COVID-19. Nearly nine out of ten respondents believe that their livelihoods will be impacted to some degree. The percentage of respondents who believe their livelihoods will be severely impacted rose from 13% in April to 25% in June.

% of respondents expecting that their livelihood will be impacted as a result of disruptions from COVID-19
By survey



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



IMPACT ON LIVELIHOODS

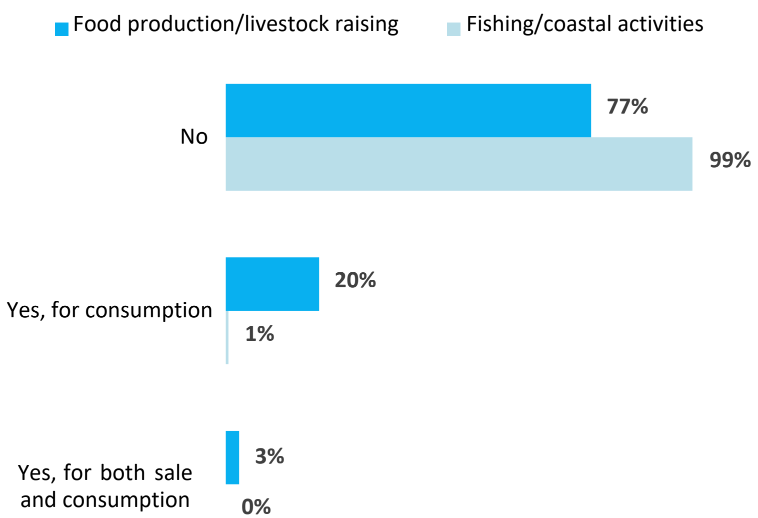
Households engaged in farming/fishing

Agricultural activity (including fishing) accounts for less than 1% of national GDP and 4% of employment in Trinidad and Tobago. In this survey, 23% of respondents reported being involved in farming activities in some ways, with 20% being for own consumption and only 3% for both sales and consumption. Only 1% of respondents reported participating in fishing activities.

A disaggregated analysis of the impact of COVID-19 on households engaged in farming or fishing in Trinidad and Tobago cannot be conducted given the insufficient number of responses received from these subgroups. 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 other resources and a regional webinar.

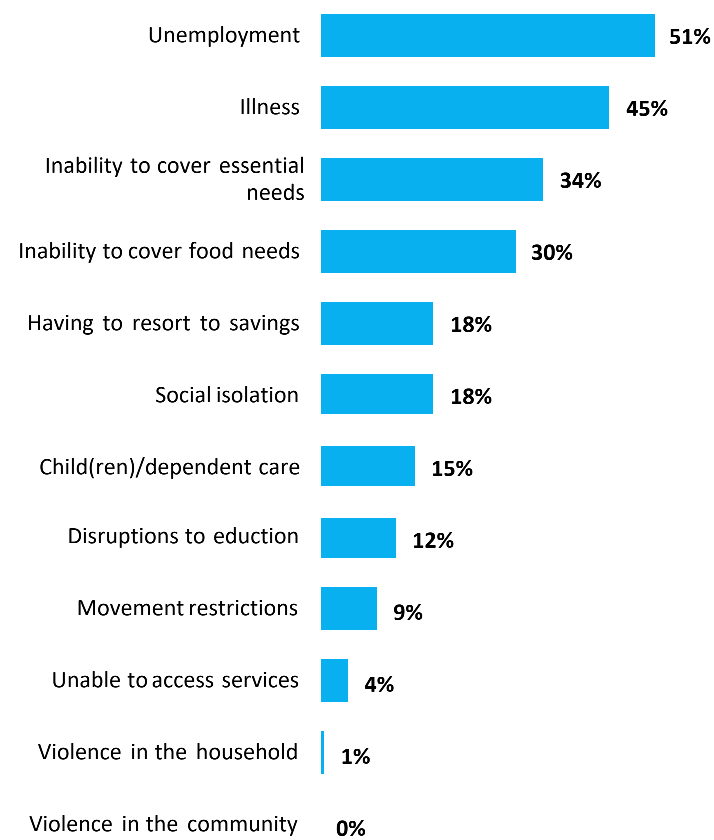
Households engaging in farming/fishing



Worries

About half of respondents are mainly worried about unemployment, followed by concerns about illness (45%) and the inability to cover food and other essential needs (30% and 34%). To a lesser extent, respondents are also concerned about resorting to savings, social isolation, caring for their children and dependents, and disruptions to education.

What are you mainly worried or concerned about at the moment...



WIDER IMPACTS

Unpaid care and work

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the amount of time people are spending on unpaid activities. Most respondents (62%) reduced time spent on shopping, while time devoted to domestic work (53%) and childcare (36%) increased. In the regional survey, these increases were particularly notable for women. In Trinidad and Tobago, almost half of the respondents reported an increase in time spent on subsistence activities, which could be due to more people gardening and planting food.

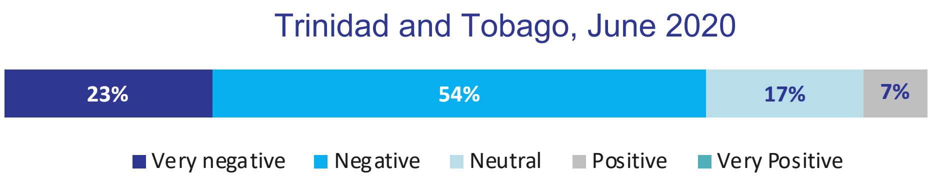
	Domestic work	Childcare	Shopping	Subsistence production	Community work
Decreased	13%	6%	62%	12%	21%
No change	31%	31%	20%	31%	38%
Increased	54%	36%	13%	46%	12%
Not applicable	2%	26%	5%	11%	29%

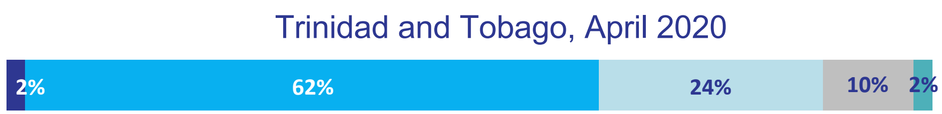
WIDER IMPACTS

How people are coping and adapting

Both survey rounds gave respondents space to give fuller and more nuanced insights on how they are coping and adapting to the disruptions caused by COVID-19.

Concerns regarding employment and growing financial strain on households have likely driven the increase in negative sentiments.

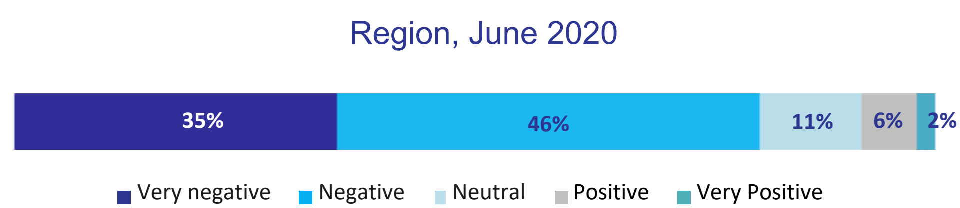


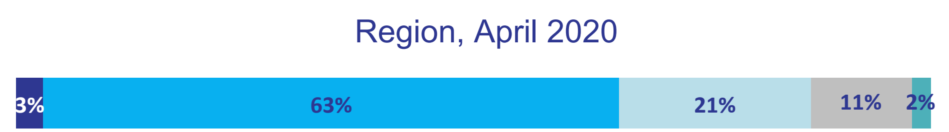


In Trinidad and Tobago, 117 or 82% of the 142 English-speaking respondents responded to the open-ended question. Text analysis was used to categorize and interpret the degree of positive and negative emotions within the responses using machine learning.

Sentiments seem to have significantly deteriorated in June compared to April, with the share of overall negative comments having increased from 64% to 77%. The share of "very negative" responses jumped more than tenfold from 2% in April to 23% in June 2020.

In the region, 35% of all respondents expressed "very negative" sentiment, which is a higher share than in Trinidad and Tobago, while the share of overall negative comments in the region was similar (81%). In June, out of the 5,707 respondents to the survey in the region, 2,343 or 41% responded to the open-ended question, resulting in a total count of 34,370 words.





HOW PEOPLE ARE COPING AND ADAPTING

Key themes

The word clouds represent key themes on how people in Trinidad and Tobago are being impacted by and are adapting to disruptions from COVID-19. The most frequently mentioned phrases are “work”, “food”, “job”, “time” and “family”. A large focus of respondents’ responses indicate that they are concerned about unemployment and their ability to sustain livelihoods.

June 2020

April 2020

MIGRANTS

A substantial population of Spanish-speaking migrants, largely from Venezuela, reside in Trinidad and Tobago, of which nearly 19,000 are currently registered with UNHCR. Migrant populations have more limited access to services and employment opportunities than residents. For this report, responses from 429 Spanish-speaking respondents in Trinidad and Tobago were analyzed. It is assumed that the majority of them are Venezuelan migrants, as this group was specifically targeted by partners when the survey was distributed.

Across most key metrics on well-being, the responses of Spanish-speakers differ significantly from those of English-speakers and from the survey averages in the region, which is indicative of the precariousness of their situation. Also, when asked about their income, 79% of Spanish-speaking respondents assess their income to be below or well below the average in the country, compared to 49% of English- speakers.

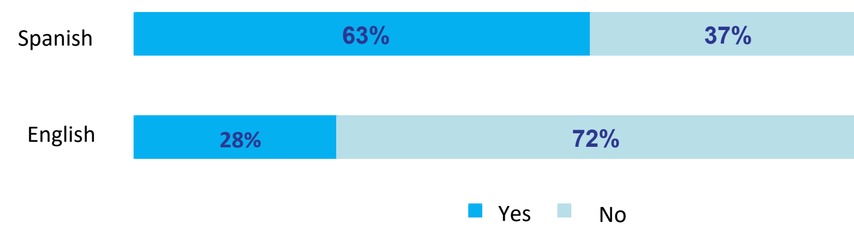
Spanish-speaking respondents more frequently experienced disruptions to their livelihood activities, with 75% of respondents facing disruptions compared to 57% of English-speaking respondents. The vast majority (89%) of Spanish-speaking respondents reported job losses or reduced salaries, compared to 62% of English-speaking respondents. Spanish-speaking respondents were also twice as likely to face market access constraints, primarily owing to a lack of financial means.

Migrants also seem to experience a significantly worse food security situation. More than half of Spanish-speakers reported skipping meals or eating less than usual in the week prior to the survey, compared to 27% of English-speakers, and 17% reported going a whole day without eating, compared to 6% of English-speakers. In addition, 23% of Spanish did not have any food stock, compare to 11% of English-speakers.

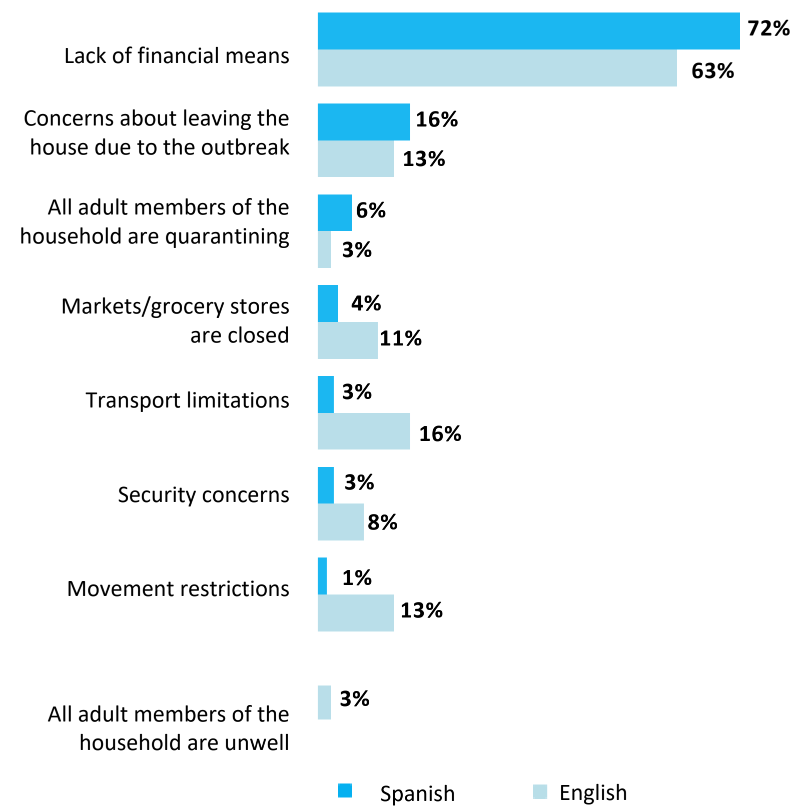
Given the severity of impacts, three out of four Spanish-speaking respondents are worried about meeting their food and other essential needs, compared to a third of English-speakers. Over a third of Spanish-speakers anticipate that their livelihood will be severely impacted by COVID-19, compared to a quarter of English-speaking respondents.

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 Trinidad and Tobago and the wider region. More information on Venezuelan migrants in Trinidad and Tobago is available through the Response for Venezuela (R4V) dashboard.

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

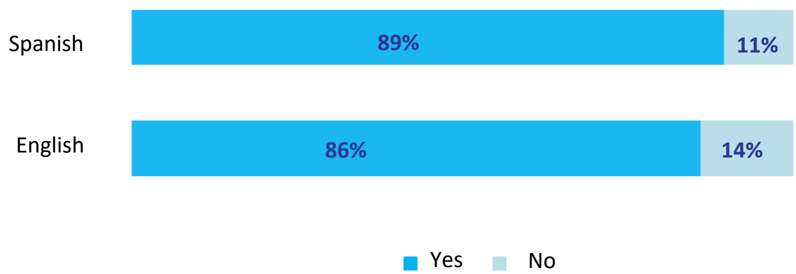


For those who faced a time when they could not access markets in the past 7 days, the main reasons were…



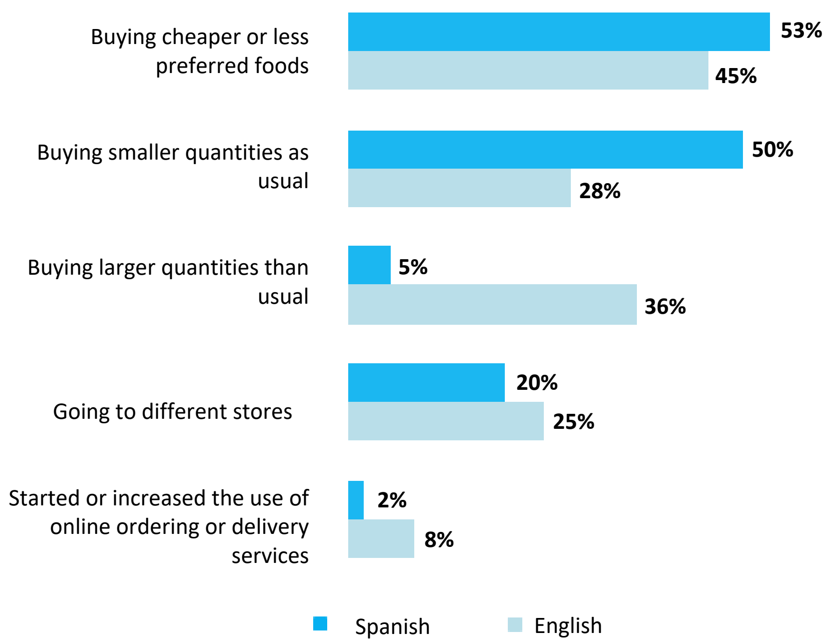
MIGRANTS

Have you changed your shopping behaviour compared to before COVID-19?

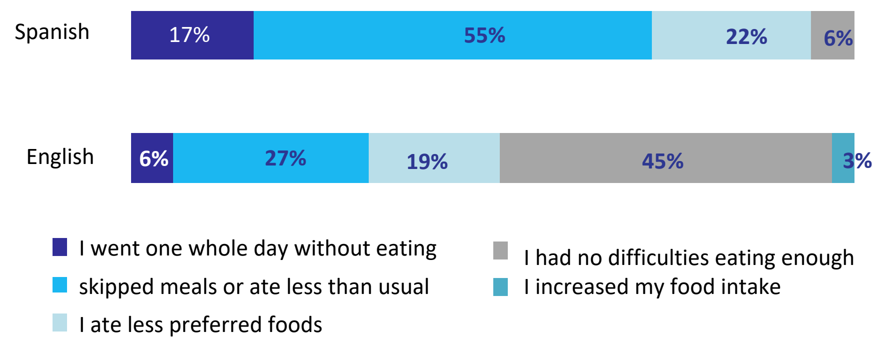


How respondents changed their shopping behavior

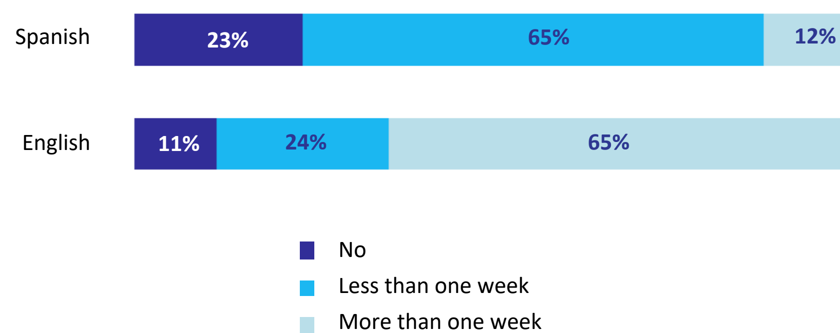
Multiple responses could be selected



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

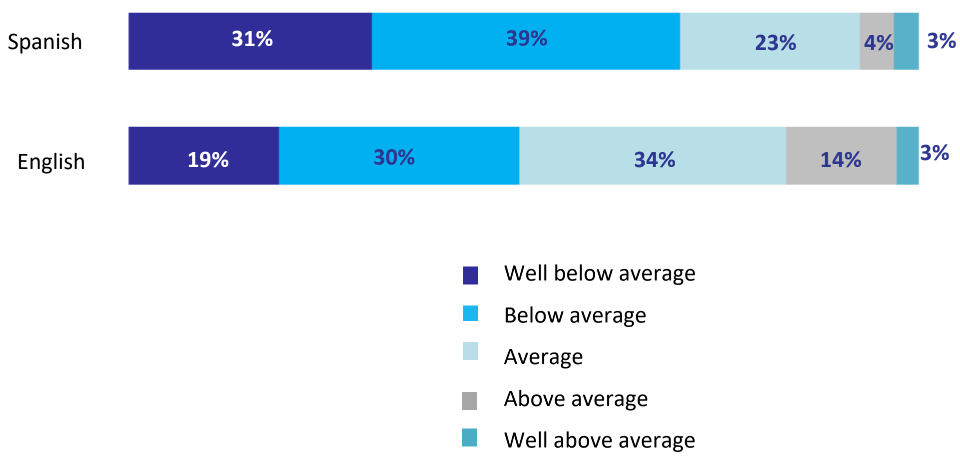


Does your household have any food stock?

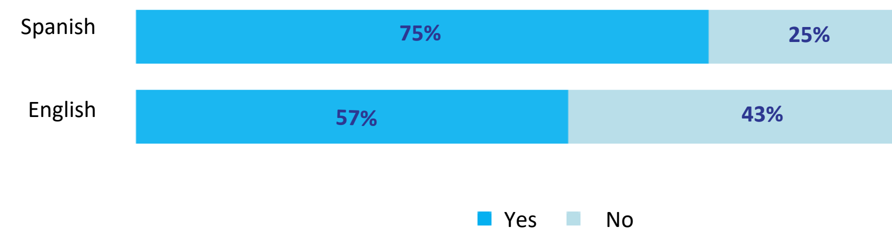


MIGRANTS

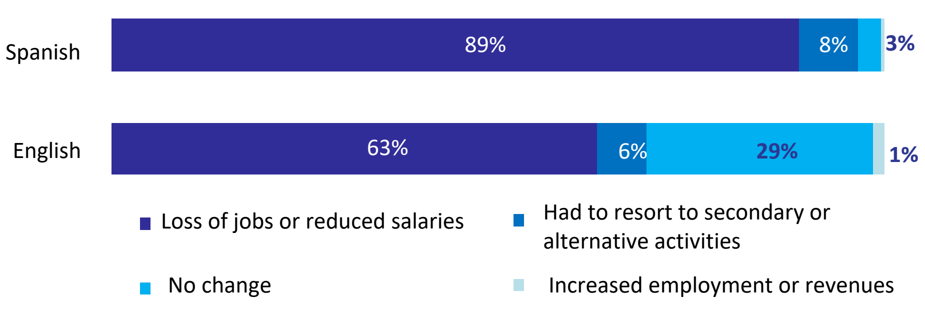
How do you feel your household's income compares with the rest of the country? By language



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



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



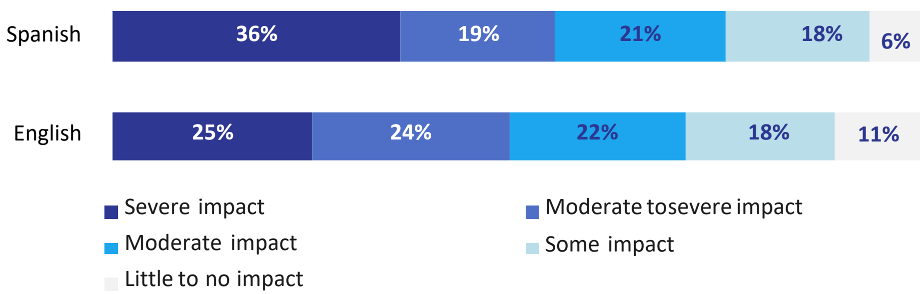
"Estoy desempleada desde que empezó la cuarentena y mi pareja solo le.pagan la mitad del salario...nos hemos visto muy afectados por esta situación y es difícil adaptarse a estar asi" - female, age 31

"Me a afectado mucho porque soy padre de familia tengo dos hijo y mi esposa embarazada de 8 meses y debido a la situacion none podido trabajar bien para mantener sus necesidades alimentarias entre otras." - male, age 31

"Es dificil en esta situacion en ayudar a nuestra familia que se encuentra en otro paiz por la falta de no poder trabajar .pero con el favor de dios todo pasara" - female, age 33

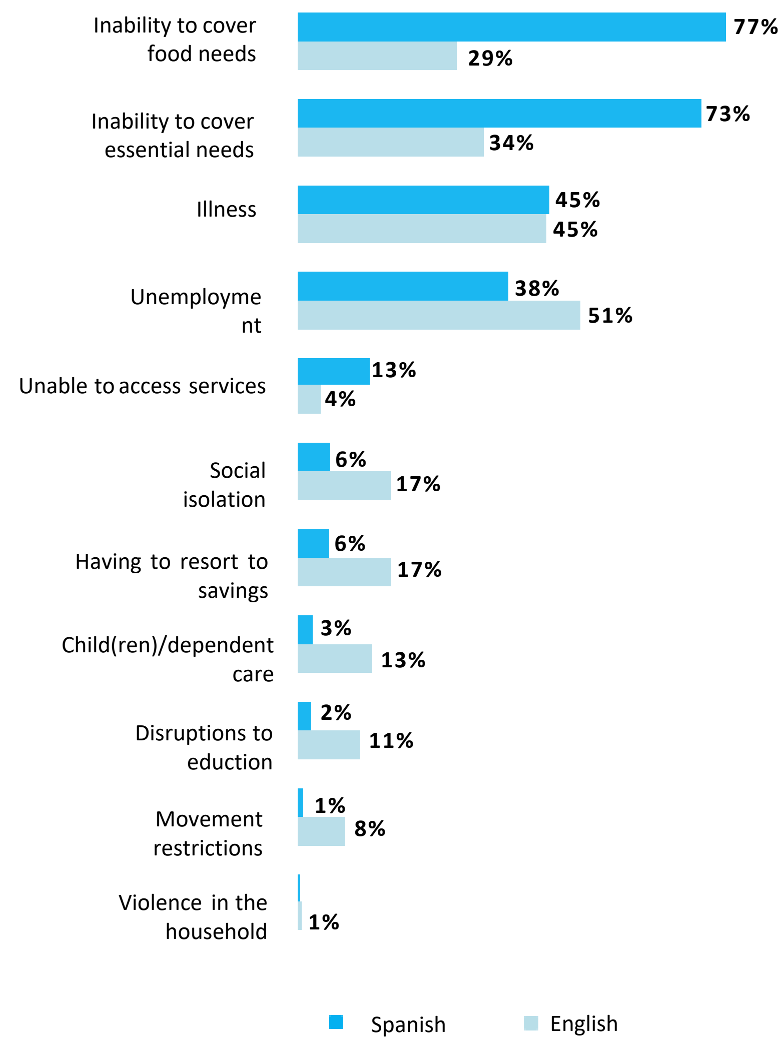
MIGRANTS

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



What are you mainly worried or concerned about at the moment...

Multiple responses could be selected



"Es muy dificil soy madre soltera tengo dos bebes, y no e podido trabajar" - female, age 19

"me eh visto afectada en dinero para el pago de la renta y para la comida.. no es fácil adaptarse" - female, age 20

"Me he visto afectado, en cuestión de alimentos y rentas, el no poder salir de casa a trabajar por las medidas implementadas, para que no se propague el virus" - female, age 27

"Perdí mi trabajo y no tengo mucho dinero. Ahora trabajo solo 4 horas 5 días a la semana. No me es suficiente. - female, age 30"

INSIGHTS BY INCOME

Respondents were asked to how they feel their household's income compares with the rest of the country. This section provides a disaggregated analysis by perceived income. The results suggest impacts on market access, food security, livelihoods and incomes are more widespread among lower income households.

Households with a perceived income well below average were more likely than other households to experience market access constraints, with 62% of these households reporting difficulties in accessing markets, compared to 27% of 'average' income households. There were no major differences in the reasons for market access constraints among different income groups but lack of cash appears to be more frequently cited by lower income respondents. While most respondents changed their shopping behaviour, differences in the changes adopted can be observed among the different income groups. About half of respondents with a perceived income below or well below average resorted to buying smaller quantities than usual compared to around a third of those with higher perceived incomes.

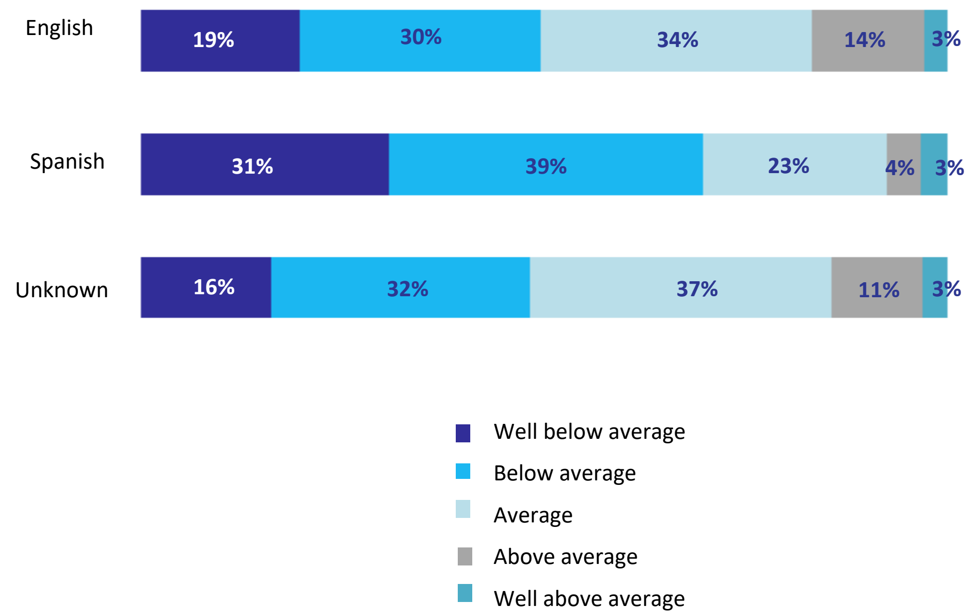
Impacts on food security appear more widespread among lower income households. Over half of respondents with a perceived income well below average skipped meals or ate less than usual compared to a third of respondents with 'average' incomes, and alarmingly a fifth went one whole day without eating compared to 4% of those with 'average' incomes. Worryingly, a third of respondents with incomes 'well below average' had no food stocks in their household.

Respondents from lower incomes households were much more likely to experience livelihood disruptions primarily due to the cost of livelihood inputs, cited by about a quarter of these households. Of those respondents who assessed their income as well below average, 81% experienced disruptions to their livelihood activities, compared to 54% of respondents with an 'average' income. Lower income households were also more likely to experience income or job loss, reported by almost nine out of ten with a perceived income below or well below average, compared to 67% of 'average' income households.

As a probable result of these economic impacts, respondents from lower income households are predominantly worried about meeting their food and other essential needs, and to a larger extent than respondents with higher perceived incomes. Respondents with lower incomes also have a far more pessimistic future outlook, with over half of those with a perceived income well below average anticipating a severe impact to their livelihoods compared to 11% of those with 'average' incomes.

How do you feel your household's income compares with the rest of the country?

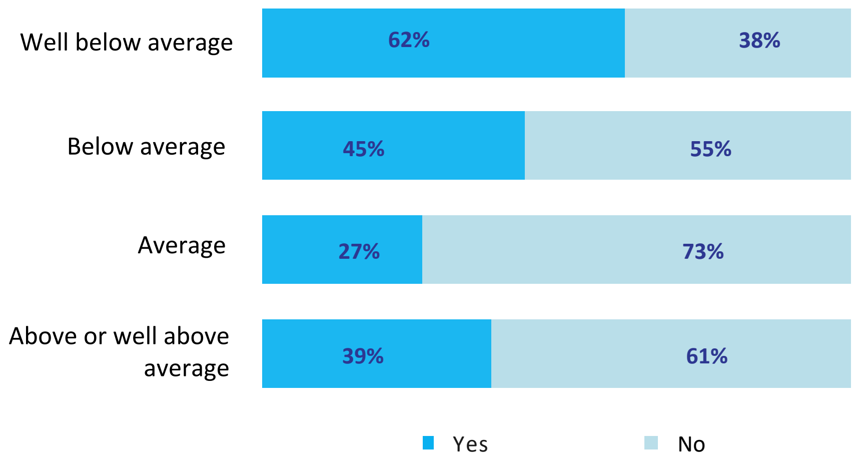
By language



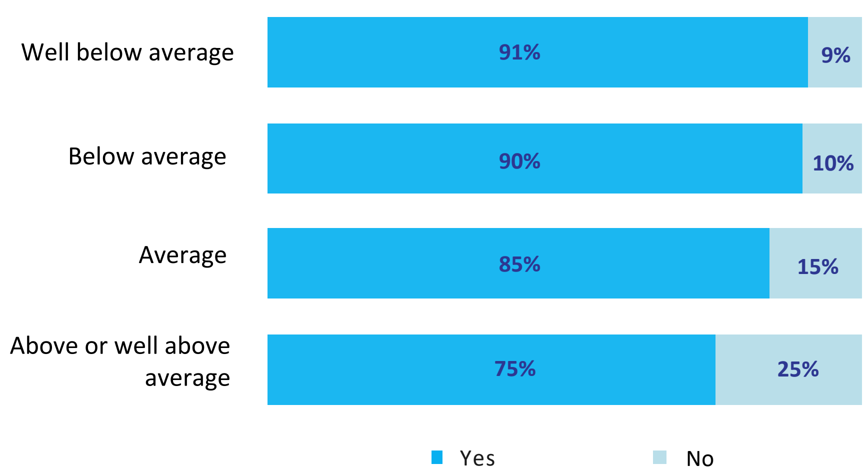
Impacts on market access, food security, livelihoods and incomes appear more widespread among lower income households

INSIGHTS BY INCOME

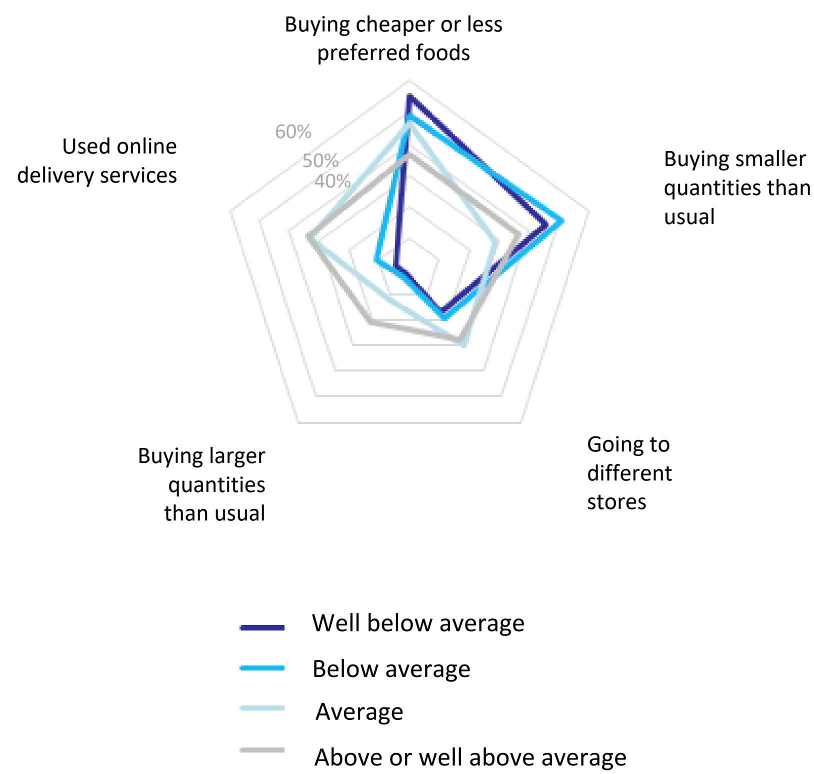
In the past 7 days, was there a time when your household could not access the markets?
By perceived income



Have you changed your shopping behaviour compared to before COVID-19?
By perceived income

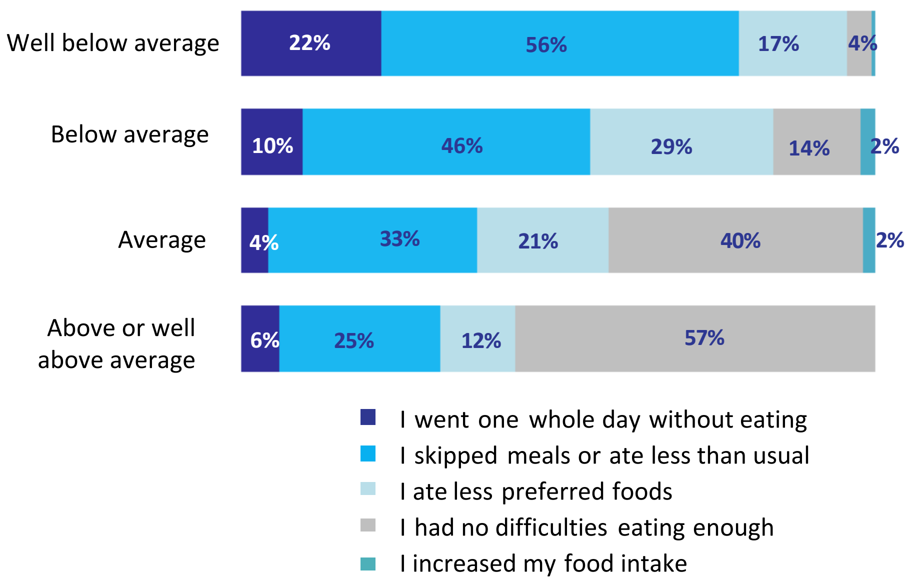


Respondents who reported a change in shopping behaviour are...
By perceived income
Multiple responses could be selected

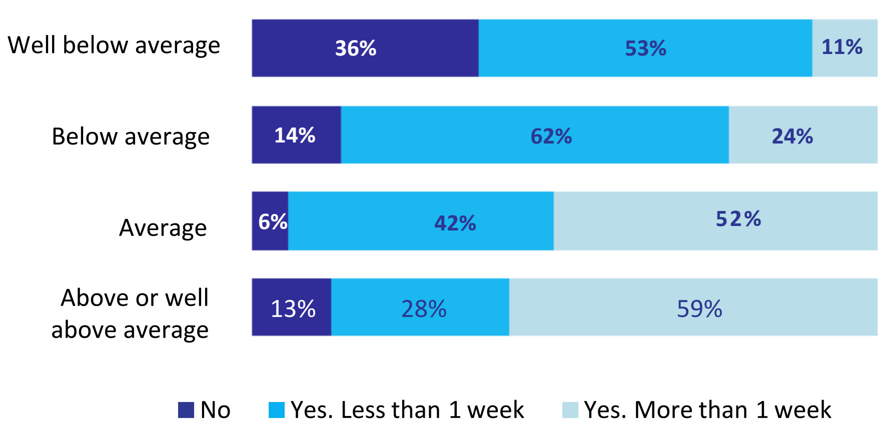


INSIGHTS BY INCOME

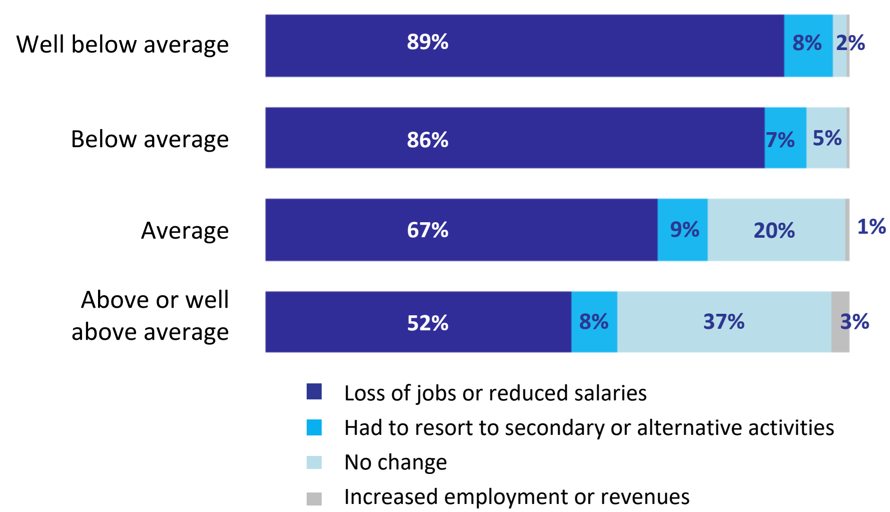
Which statement best reflects your food situation over the past 7 days?
By perceived income



Does your household have any food stock?
By perceived income

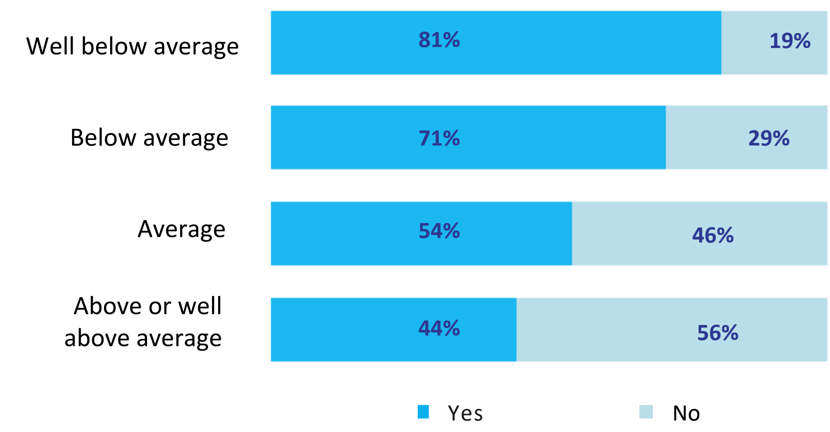


Has your household income changed since the COVID-19 outbreak?
By perceived income

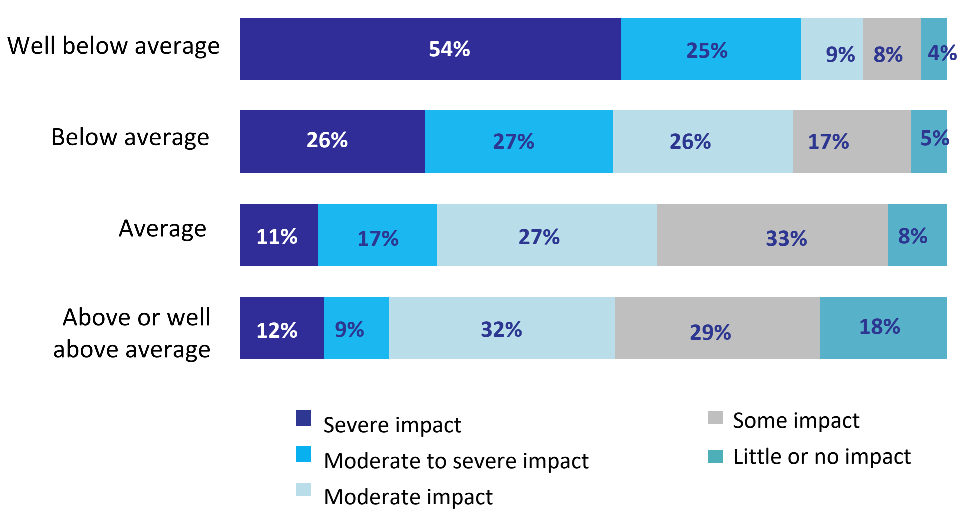


INSIGHTS BY INCOME

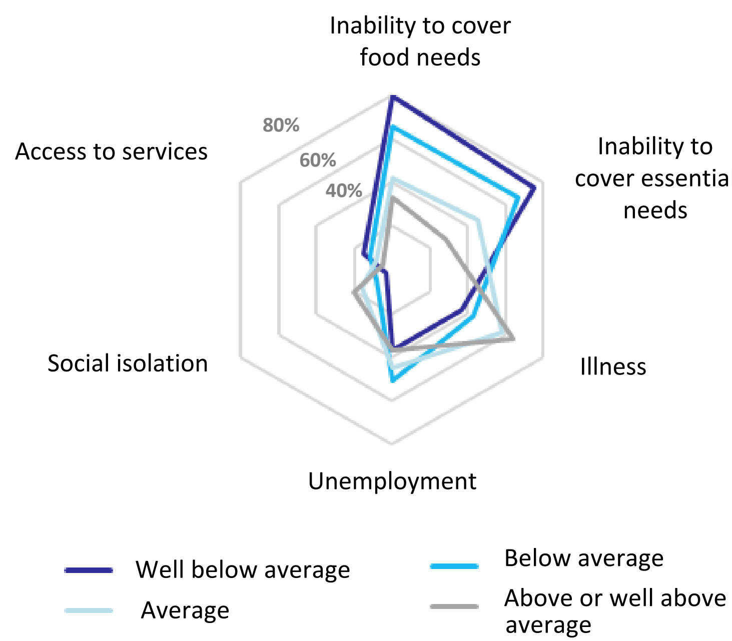
Was your ability to carry out livelihood activities affected in the last 2 weeks?
By perceived income



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



What are you mainly worried or concerned about at the moment...
By perceived income



CONCLUSION

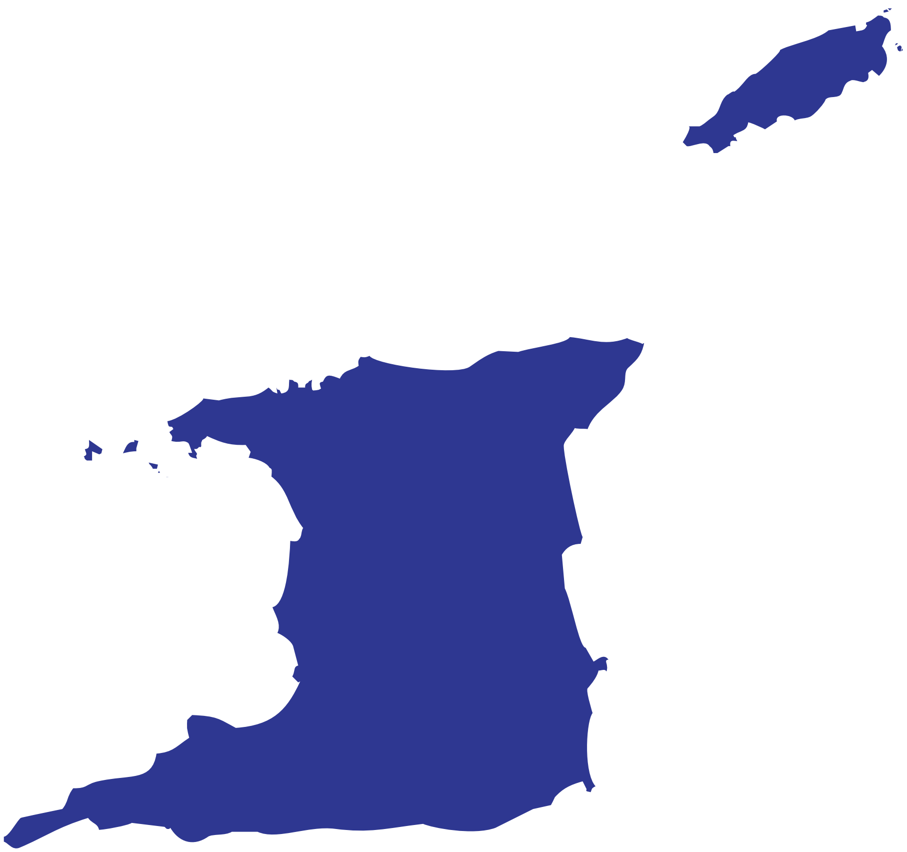
The COVID-19 pandemic is having a negative impact on livelihoods, income and food security on a growing number of people in Trinidad and Tobago. Reported instances of unemployment, reduced income and rising food prices have increased significantly, while market access, food availability and consumption are worsening. Compared to April, a larger share of respondents are relying on income from family/friends, remittances, informal labour and petty trade, painting the picture of families facing increasingly unstable economic situations.

The pandemic is shifting life at home, with time spent on domestic work, childcare and subsistence activities increasing, while shopping patterns are changing. Although the availability of food and other goods has improved, access to medicines may an issue for nearly a third of respondents.

Trends for Trinidad and Tobago are largely worse compared to what was observed at the regional level, and respondents' perspectives on how the pandemic is impacting their lives and livelihoods and overall sentiment are more negative compared to April. Migrant populations and lower income households appear to be disproportionately affected with regards to market access, food security, incomes and livelihoods.

The government of Trinidad and Tobago and its partners must redouble their efforts to mitigate these impacts through medium- and longer-term programmes and strategies. Opportunities include the permanent expansion of social programmes, livelihood support in the agricultural sector, and training for professionals in other sectors. Considering the protracted nature and unforeseeable end of the crisis, it is essential to continue monitoring its impacts, particularly on the most vulnerable groups and migrants.

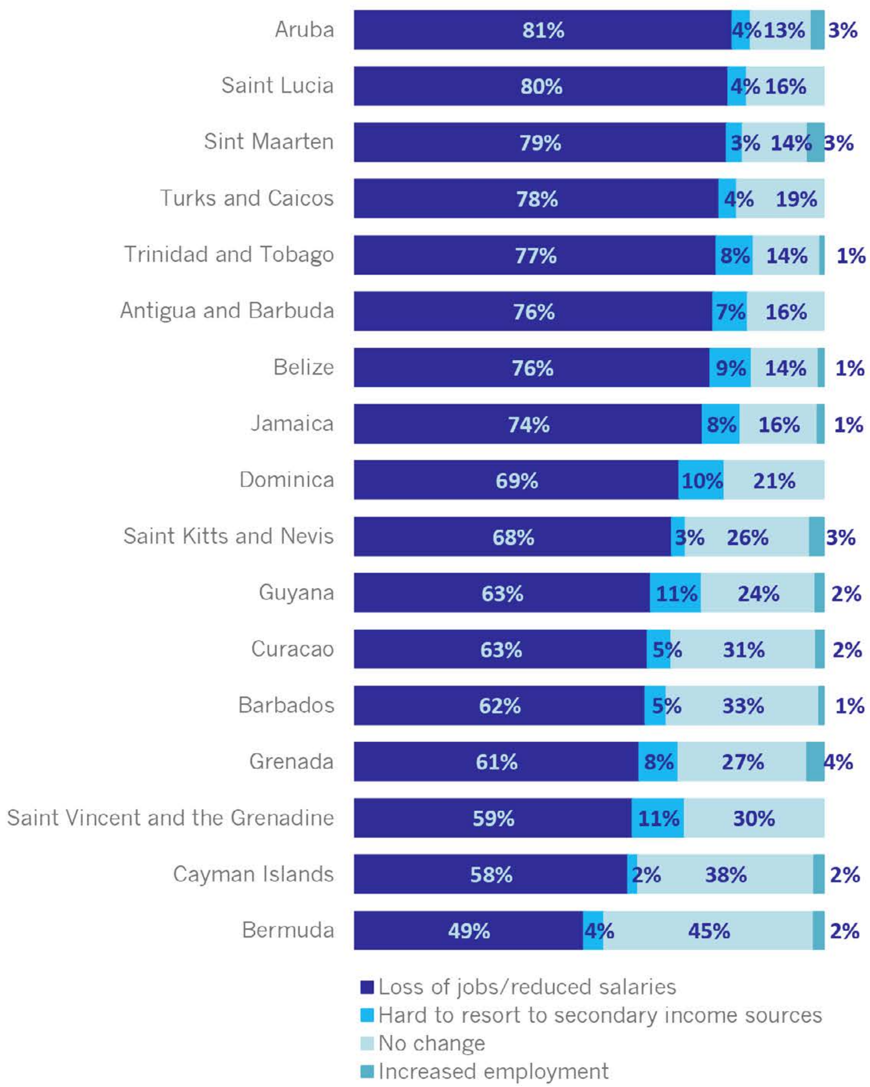
With a sizeable minority of people not using internet in Trinidad and Tobago, the results of this web-based survey should be read with a degree of caution given potential bias towards households who can afford internet access or smartphone devices. Continued and specific assessments on how women and men have been differently impacted by the crisis and the challenges facing people living in rural areas are highly recommended to better gauge the impact of COVID-19 on these groups.



ANNEX. REGIONAL OVERVIEWS

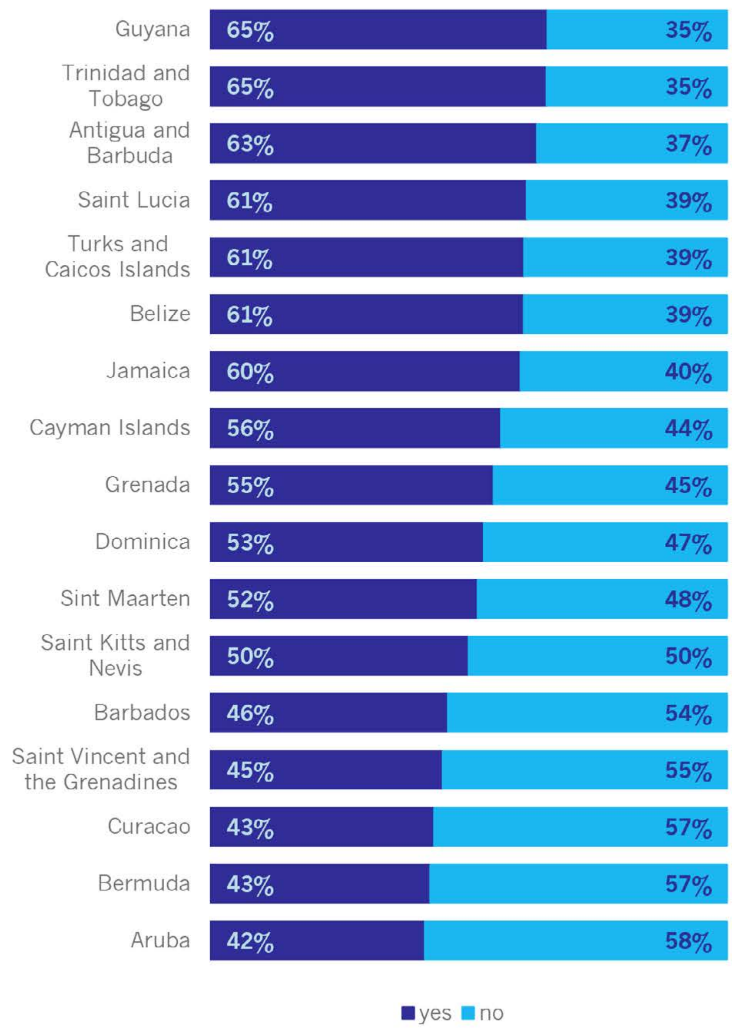
Income changes

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

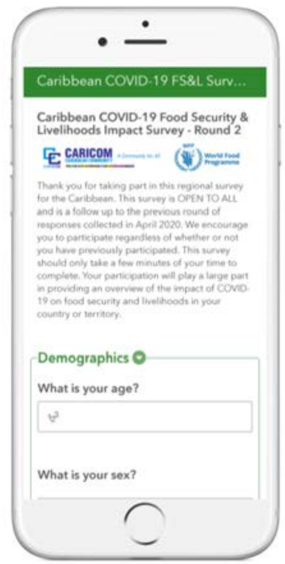
The second round of the CARICOM Caribbean COVID-19 Food Security and Livelihoods impact survey was launched via a webform, which was accessible on mobile/smartphone and PC/desktop. The data collection period was inclusive of 14 June to 1 July 2020. The survey was circulated via email, social media, SMS, 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 for WFP Caribbean by Kagin's Consulting - Edward J. Taylor, Justin Kagin, Momir Blazek, Julian Fletcher-Taylor, Rebbeca Morton, Sebastian Fletcher-Taylor and Heng Zhu.



Link to survey

Link to dashboard
(mobile version)

Link to dashboard (desktop version)

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