

Socio-economic impact assessment of COVID-19 in Cambodia Dec 2021

ADB

In the month of December '21...



Fewer households faced income reductions (44%) and job losses (13%) due to COVID-19 compared to Oct '21. Female-headed households were more likely to experience negative employment changes. Borders re-opening and other such measures to re-vitalize the economy has translated into better socio-economic outcomes at the household level.



World Food Programme

Compared to Oct '21, 20% greater households received increased wages. However, income reductions in Dec '21 disproportionately impacted ID Poor households.

unicef

48% of households now have a monthly income above USD 150 compared to 30% in Oct'21 but 67% of ID Poor households still receive an income lower than 150 USD.



57% of respondents now have a loan at a median value of USD 3,000, mostly from MFIs. 9% of them took it out the last 30 days.







91% of households reported that schools were open for all their children. There is a steady decline in the number of households (1) using violent methods of child discipline, (2) with children engaged in non-household work, and (3) with children reporting feeling anxious/depressed.



Households report not spending time to support their children with homework (compared to 39% in Oct'21) Despite returning to schools, 1/3rd of children are still using online materials prepared by government and schools.

Food Consumption Score- Nutrition

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The quality of diets is improving with the highest reported daily consumption of micronutrient-rich foods since August 2020 and small overall improvements in Food Consumption levels and Dietary Diversity. The latter is worse in rural areas and among IDPoor 2 households.



While the frequency of consumption and diversity of diets, at the household level, are recovering, the percentage of women consuming minimum acceptable diets (more than 5 food groups), has declined since the onset of the pandemic (68%), to 55% women in Dec '21.

- The household economic situation is continuing to improve with a significantly lower proportion of respondents losing their jobs and facing wage reductions.
- While fewer households in total are adopting livelihood and food-based coping strategies, ID Poor households, those in rural areas and female-headed households were more likely to revert to negative coping mechanisms.
- Intra-household differences in diet are visible with only 55% of women in the study consuming an acceptable diet.
- The spread of the Omicron variant in the country could potentially threaten the socio-economic improvements if new restrictive measures are introduced.