

COVID-19

Impact monitoring

Internally Displaced Persons

Burkina Faso



Bulletin No.3 — July 2021

KEY MESSAGES

- During the three months of the survey of the survey, the most extreme behavioral responses to food insecurity generally decreased, yet one in three internally displaced people (IDPs) skipped meals regularly - a rate three times higher than the national average.
- Employment rates steadily improved for both IDPs and the national households as a whole, particularly in rural areas (from 52.2 percent in May to 72.1 percent in July for IDPs), likely as a result of the onset of the planting season.
- The agricultural sector, which employs the largest share of the labor force, was not the most important source of income respondents indicated. For both the IDP households and non-displaced revenue from non-farm business was the most important source of income (29 and 33 percent, respectively). Assistance from family or non-family members was also significant, particularly for IDP households (24 percent).
- IDPs were acutely affected by the economic slow-down resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic. Nearly sixty percent of IDP-households experienced a decrease in their income over the past 12 months, compared to 43 percent for non-IDPs households. Camps may have provided some protection as IDPs living there were far less likely to report a decrease in total income over the past year than IDPs living out of camps.
- IDP households were far more likely to receive transfers. Free food was, by far, the most common (42 percent), followed by direct money transfers (16 percent). Government agencies, together with Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), and international organizations provided nearly all of this assistance.
- IDP children face more challenges than their peers. Their caregivers interact less with them in meaningful activities children who are not displaced. Very few households (only 22 percent) spent any time reading or looking at picture books with children aged 2-10, but this is still twice the rate that IDP households read to their children (10.7 percent).
- The use of information and communication technology for learning was low for the country as a whole and was almost nonexistent for IDPs. Only 15 percent of non-IDP households with school age children used television for learning - a rate five times higher than that of IDP households.



CONTEXT

This brief presents the results from the third (and final) round of High Frequency Phone Surveys on Internally Displaced People (IDPs) in Burkina Faso, conducted between June 28 and July 20, 2021, concurrently with the eleventh round of surveys on the general national sample. The survey was designed to assess the socioeconomic experience of these households during the Covid-19 pandemic. As the survey was conducted concurrently on IDP sample and the nationally population, by making inferences on differences, we avoid the challenge of temporal inconsistency when interpreting the results.

The CONASUR¹ database, an administrative dataset that is continuously updated by the government of Burkina Faso and is intended to be a complete list of all IDPs in the country, was used as the sampling frame from which a random sample was drawn. A total of 1,107 households were targeted in this round. 1,043 households were successfully interviewed, yielding a response rate of 94.22 percent.

The Enquête Harmonisée sur le Conditions de Vie des Ménages 2018/19 (EHCVM)² was used as the frame for the national sample, and the survey was successfully conducted for 1,924 households³. For both sub-populations, sample weights were adjusted to allow for non-response⁴ in order to make the samples as representative as possible.

In this brief, the “IDP sample” refers to respondents drawn from the CONASUR sample; the “national sample” refers to the respondents drawn from the EHCVM sample (as it is representative of the population as of 2018/19, it may include some households – 3.10 percent - who were then or have since been displaced).

¹ <http://www.conasur.gov.bf/>

² <https://phmecv.uemoa.int/>

³ <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/3768>

⁴ <https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/4481/download/53414>

Table 1: Sample distribution, July 2021 round

	National	IDP
Ouagadougou	16.4	-
Other urban	15.7	55.9
Rural	67.9	44.1
Male respondents	81.5	65.6
Female respondents	18.5	34.4
Male headed households	86.5	74.9
Female headed households	13.5	25.1
In Camp	-	21.4
Out of Camp	-	78.6

The IDP sample does not include any households from the area of Ouagadougou because less than one percent of the IDPs included in the CONASUR frame were living in Ouagadougou when the sample was drawn. Consequently, to ensure appropriate comparability of the statistics with the overall national sample which includes the stratum of Ouagadougou, the statistics for urban subsamples give averages for urban IDPs (which don't have any households in Ouagadougou, urban non-Ouagadougou strata from the national (EHCVM) sample, and the Ouagadougou stratum from the national (EHCVM) sample. (see Table 1 and Table 2)

The main modules administered during this round of data collection included basic food items and food security; employment (with a focus on agricultural activities); other revenues; social safety nets; and caregiving for early childhood development.

Table 2: Distribution of IDP Sample, July 2021 round

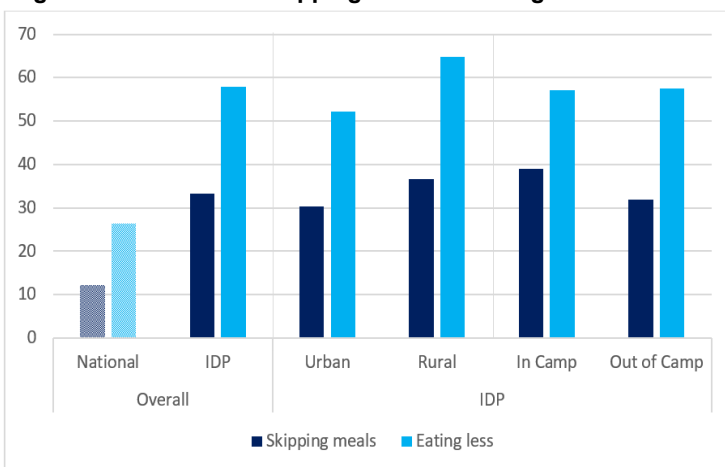
	Male respondents	Female respondents	Male headed households	Female headed households	Urban	Rural	In Camp	Out of Camp
Male respondents			87.5	0.3	65.7	65.6	62.3	66.0
Female respondents			12.5	99.7	34.4	34.4	37.7	34.0
Male headed households	99.9	27.3			76.0	73.6	68.7	75.8
Female headed households	0.1	72.7			24.0	26.4	31.3	24.2
Urban	55.9	55.9	56.7	53.6			45.7	59.1
Rural	44.1	44.2	43.3	46.4			54.3	40.9
In Camp	20.4	23.2	19.8	26.1	17.4	26.5		
Out of camp	79.6	76.8	80.3	74.0	82.6	73.5		



FOOD SECURITY

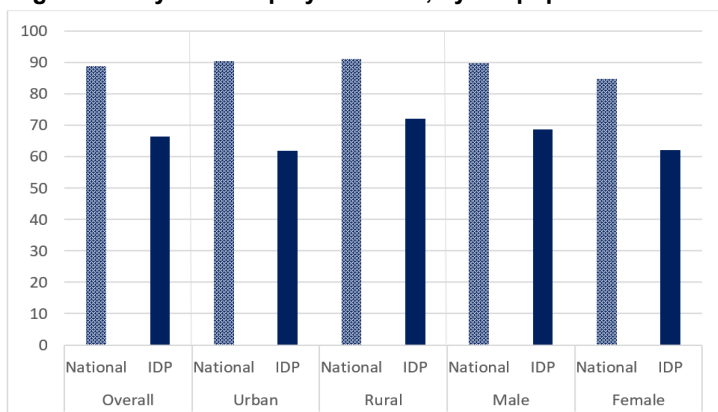
Food security continues to be a concern in Burkina Faso; particularly the coping strategies of households that eat less or skip meals during the lean season which runs from July-September. These drastic behavioral responses to a lack of food during the pandemic are concerning. Although the share who reported skipping a meal steadily decreased over the duration of the survey, IDP households are roughly three times more likely to be taking this extreme step. Concurrently, IDPs are far more likely to report not eating as much as they thought they should – the difference in the two groups was 30 percentage points in July (Figure 1).

The better food access and food insecurity scores of those in rural areas observed in the data (not shown) mask the fact that these rural households, particularly displaced rural households, are more likely to engage in detrimental coping strategies by skipping meals or not eating enough.

Figure 1: Households skipping meals or eating less

EMPLOYMENT

Although the employment rate in July 2021 for the national sample was fairly consistent for urban, rural and male populations at 90-91 percent, there was a clear hierarchy of employment status for IDPs (Figure 2): rural IDPs were most likely to be employed (72.1 percent) compared to urban IDPs (62 percent). Female and urban IDPs had the same likelihood of employment (about 62 percent). The employment gap between male and female IDP respondents (68.7 percent versus 62.2 percent) in July 2021 was comparable to the male-female gap for the national sample (89.9 percent versus 84.8 percent). The employment rate for the out of camp IDPs at this time was not significantly different to in camp IDPs (68.3 and 66.1 percent respectively, not shown).

Figure 2: July 2021 employment rate, by subpopulation

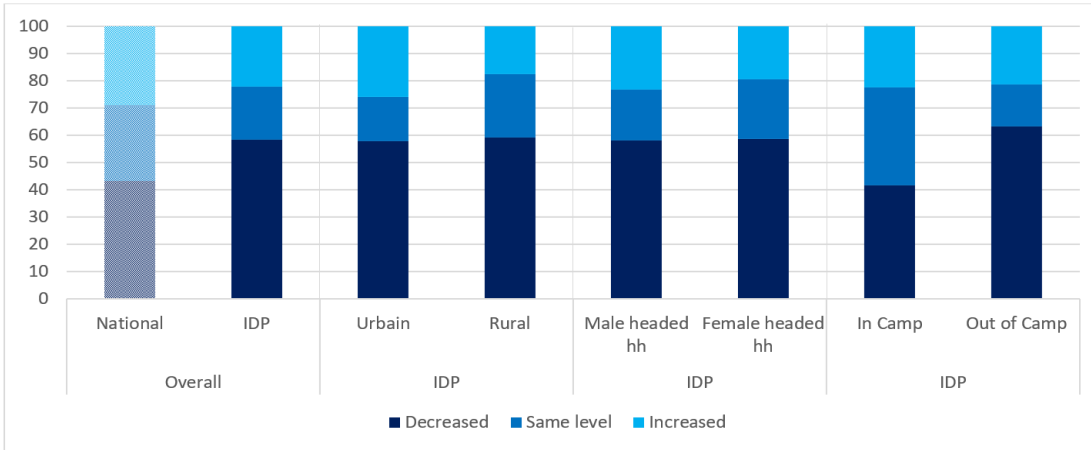


SOURCE OF INCOME

While agriculture is the most important sector of employment for Burkinabè households generally, this sector is less important for internally displaced Burkinabè. There are three probable reasons: first, a lesser share of IDPs are engaged in agriculture (82 percent of the national rural sample were employed in agriculture, compared to just 57 percent of employed rural IDPs – not shown here); second, food produced by agriculture in Burkina Faso is mainly used for own consumption (see Figure 4); and third, because the July round was conducted towards the end of planting activities, the survey did not capture revenue from the sale of agricultural products.

Even so, the economic slowdown resulting from Covid-19 caused a reduction in total income for most of IDP households (Figure 3). Nearly six in ten displaced households reported that their income decreased over the year prior to the survey (43 percent for non-IDP households), and only 22 percent experienced an increase of total income (compared to 29 percent for non-displaced households). Importantly, income reduction was more common for IDPs living out of camps (63 percent, compared to 42 percent for IDPs living in camps).

Figure 3: Total household income compared to the same period in the previous year



AGRICULTURE

The July survey round occurred towards the end of planting activities thus additional information about the characteristics and challenges faced by farmers was collected. Although owning a family farm is very common in the country as a whole (70 percent overall and 94 in rural areas, not shown here), the likelihood of IDP households owning a farm is much lower (37 percent, 53 percent in rural areas, 44 and 34 for in camp and out of camp).

As observed in Figure 4, agriculture in Burkina Faso is intended mainly for own consumption and does not represent a source of income for many households. This is particularly true for displaced households: 93 percent of IDP households that grow food do so solely for their own consumption, compared to 60 percent for the general Burkinabe population. IDP households living out of camps were even more likely to produce food solely for their own consumption (96 percent versus 90 percent for camp IDP households). Although the gender of the household head is an important driver of own consumption of food produced by agriculture for the general population, there aren't significant gender differences in this regard for internally displaced households.

The share of households that faced challenges during the current agricultural season is higher for the general population, whose had more difficulty acquiring inputs (fertilizers, in particular) and faced more delays in planting activities (51 and 24 percent, respectively) (Figure 5), than IDPs. While these issues are also relevant for IDP households, movement restrictions, mainly related to insecurity reasons, was the main issue faced by IDP farmers in deploying normal agricultural activities.

Figure 4: Share of households producing by agriculture for own consumption only

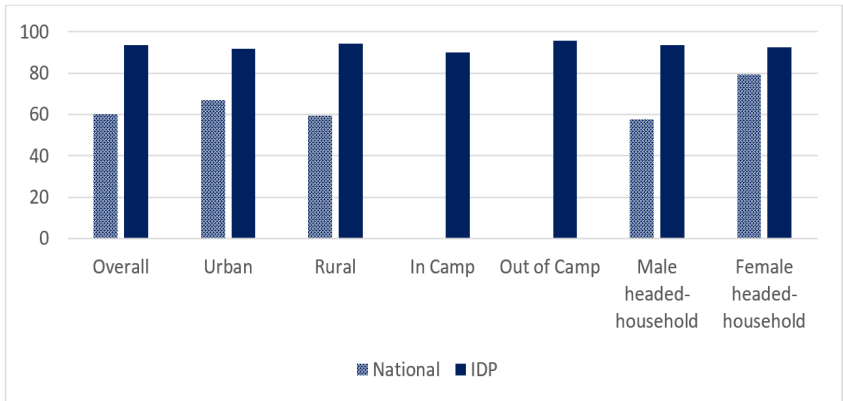
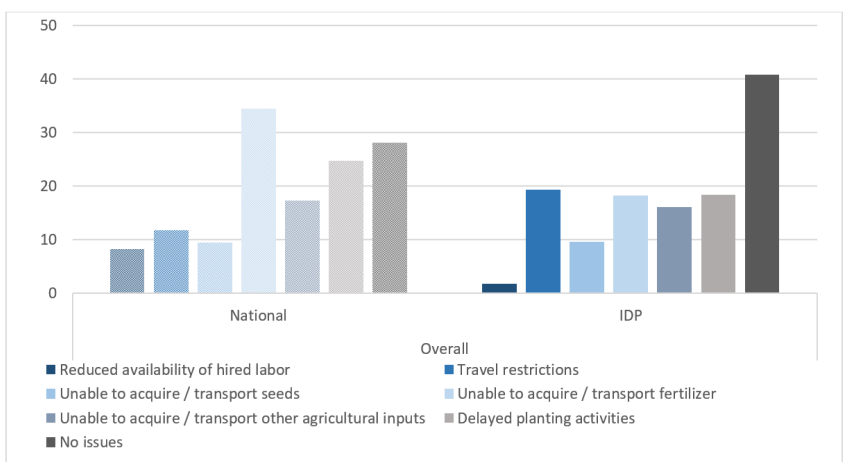


Figure 5: Issues faced during the current agricultural season





SOCIAL PROTECTION

The share of IDP households receiving transfers from the government or other entities dwarfs that of the national population. For IDPs, free food is by far the most important source of assistance (42 percent), followed by direct money transfers (16 percent). There are no significant differences between in camp and out of camp IDP households (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Share of households that received assistance in the last two months

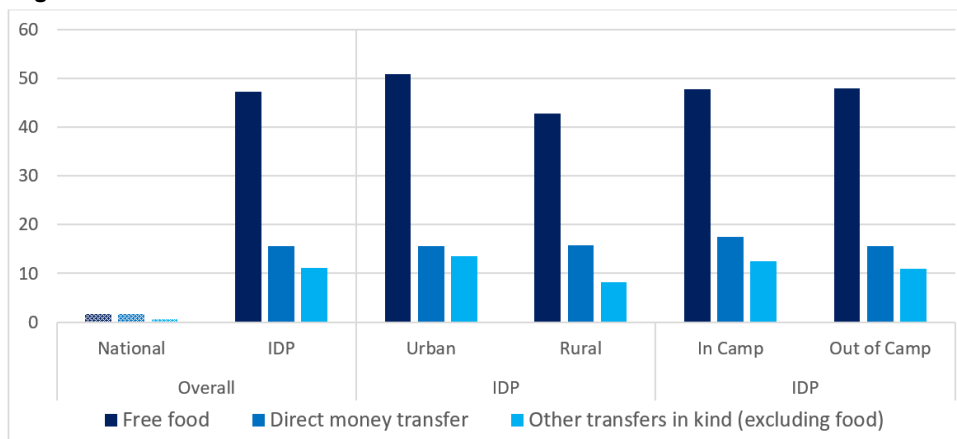
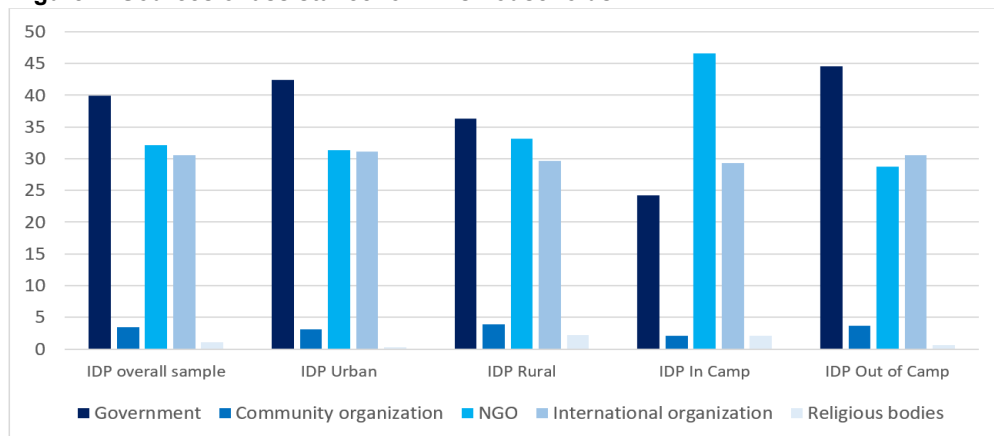


Figure 7: Sources of assistance for IDPs households



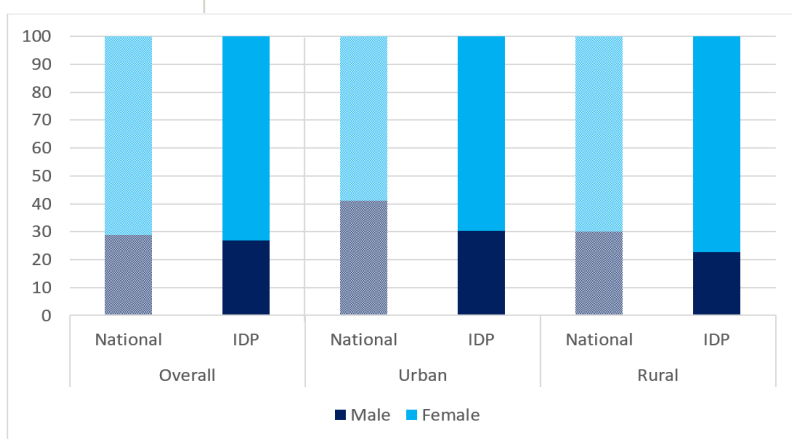
Government interventions represent the most frequent source of IDP assistance (40 percent) (Figure 7), particularly for IDP households living out of camps (45 percent). IDPs in camps receive assistance mainly from NGOs (47 percent) and international organizations (29 percent). Assistance from community or religious bodies is minimal for all subgroups.



EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT

One important feature of the July round was to examine the components of early child development and, in particular, the channels through which learning (educational content) could be accessed for children between two to ten years old. The survey asked households with children aged two to ten years several questions about the characteristics of the main caregiver, their engagement with educational content, and support to children at home. The results for the IDP sample from July 2021 round are compared with the results from March 2021 for national non-IDP sample.

Figure 8: Gender of the main caregivers



As might be expected, the analysis shows that, in general, caregivers of children aged two to ten years are female (Figure 8) in both IDP and non-IDP households (73.0 and 71.2 percent, respectively), but especially in rural IDP households (77.3 percent). These caregivers are concentrated in the 25-34 (29.1 and 31.5 percent) and 35-44 (26.1 and 28.2 percent) age groups for both IDP and non-IDP households (not shown here), although the share of caregivers in the age groups' extremes (below 15 and above 65) is higher for IDP households (19.8 and 8.4 percent for IDPs below 15 and above 65, compared to 10.5 and 5.7 for non-IDPs).

People who care for children on a daily basis interact with them in several ways (Figure 9). Two types of interaction dominate: (i) caregivers interacting with the child by spending a good proportion of time playing with children; (ii) bringing children out of the house. In particular, playing is by far the most common activity for both IDP and non-IDP households, irrespective of the area where they live. Very few households read to their children, but this is twice as likely to occur in the general population than for the IDP sample (22.0 and 10.7 percent, respectively). However, IDPs are also nearly ten percentage points more likely to tell stories to their children (45.9 versus 36.5 percent).

Figure 9: Activities done by the main caregiver with children

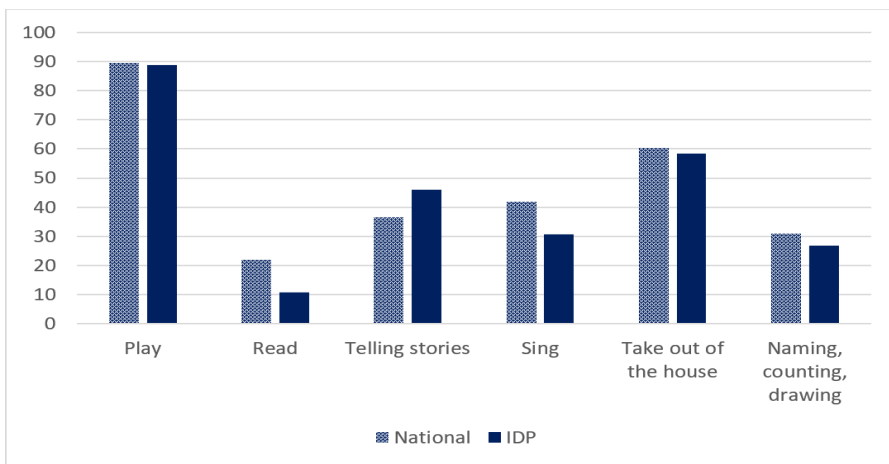
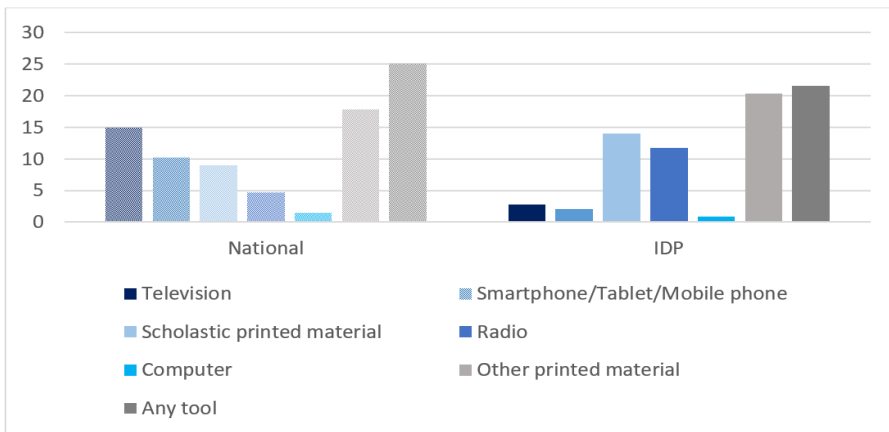


Figure 10: Use of tools for children learning activities



In aggregate, the general population engages in more child learning activities than the IDP population (2.8 and 2.5 per household), a difference that persists for both urban and rural groups (not shown here). Children in camps are likely to receive more types of caregiver engagement than those out of camps (2.8 and 2.4 activity types).

Regarding the tools used for free learning activities (Figure 10), the main difference between IDP households and households nationally is the use of television (used by 14.9 percent of non-IDP households compared to only 2.8 percent of IDP households) and smartphones or tablets (used by 5.2 percent of non-IDP households compared to 1.2 percent of IDP households), which probably reflects the difference in the availability of these tools. The use of television is particularly common for national households living in urban areas. On the other hand, IDPs are much more likely to use printed scholastic material and radio (14 versus 9 percent and 11.7 versus 4.7 percent). Computers, as a learning tool, are almost non-existent across the country. Again, probably because very few households have them.

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