



FACTSHEET

CHILDREN MULTI-SECTORAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT



Save the Children



Photo Credit: Sacha Myers/Save the Children



Save the Children

**“ONE YEAR ON”:
THE LIVES AND NEEDS OF CHILDREN IN
AFGHANISTAN SINCE TALIBAN TAKEOVER**

FACTSHEET
CHILDREN
MULTI-SECTORAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT
(MSNA) Wave 2

Authors

Silvia M. Arlini, Jessica Chia, Nischal Lamichhane and Melissa Burgess

Other contributing authors

Afghanistan Core team: Bosco Kasundu, Ahmad F. Malik, Roosman Magdalena, Karyn Beattie

Technical Advisors: Zahra Azemi, Green Hannah, Alice Kidman, David Bloomer, Gomezgani Jenda, Wafullah Hanani and Shuaib Faizi

ACCM team: Sacha Myers and Keyan Salarkia

Photo Credit

Sacha Myers and Ashiqullah Mandozai

Project location

AFGHANISTAN – Seven provinces (Balkh, Faryab, Jawzjan, Kabul, Nangarhar, Sar-e-Pul, Kandahar)

Data Collection

MSNA 1: 17 Nov – 2 Dec 2021

MSNA 2: 7 – 23 June 2022

Household coverage

MSNA 1: 1409 households and 1408 children (685 girls and 723 boys)

MSNA 2: 1450 households and 1450 children (693 girls and 757 boys)

CONTENTS

PRIORITY NEEDS	7
BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT	8
METHODOLOGY	9
ASSESSMENT SAMPLES	11
Child Respondent's Characteristics	11
Adult Respondent's Characteristics	13
Household Characteristics	15
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMY	17
Household Income and Ability to Meet Basic Needs	17
Perceived Household Ability to Meet Basic Needs, and Household Sources of Income	19
Household Coping Strategy from Income Generation or Reduction of Expenditure	19
CHILD PROTECTION	21
Child Labour	21
Child Marriage	23
CHILD MOVEMENT AND MIGRATION	24
CHILDREN'S EDUCATION	26
Child School Enrolment and Attendance	26
Out of School Children	27
Child with Functional Difficulty and School Attendance	28
Reasons for Not Attending School	29
Safety Concerns at School	31
CHILDREN'S WELLBEING	32
Children's Economic Wellbeing	32
Child Hunger	33
Children's Psychosocial Wellbeing	35
Family Expectation for Children to Help	39
CHILD RIGHTS	40
Child Rights to Education	40
Child Rights to Play, to Rest, Do Activities and Freedom of Association	41
Child Rights to Information, to be Heard and Decision Making	43
CHILDREN'S REPORT ON PRIORITY NEEDS	44
CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	47
REFERENCES	52
APPENDIX	53



Photo Credit: Sacha Myers/Save the Children

PRIORITY NEEDS



- Immediate basic needs assistance for children and timely provision of humanitarian food aid essential for the survival of the children, with particular attention to the children from female headed households, households with a person with a disability, and internally displaced households.



- Increased health services and care assistance that is accessible and affordable for children, particularly girls, those with a disability and those from poor households.



- Strengthened child protection programming for girls who are at high risk of being forced into child marriage and for boys who are at high risk of being engaged in child labour or forced migration or leaving home unaccompanied and separated from the family - using a holistic program approach through family strengthening, parenting support, individual case management support and multipurpose cash assistance targeted for poor family with high child protection risk.



- Enabling children to return to school immediately and having a safe learning environment - including opening up a greater access for girls at secondary school level and expanding the development of community based-education centers to enable girls' and boys' access to learning in the short and medium term.



- Additional support in learning and referral to health and rehabilitation service for children identified with a risk of disability or for children observed as having a functional difficulty - to ensure inclusive and equitable access to education, health services, mental health and psychosocial support, and child protection services



- Support for children with psychosocial distress (signs of anxiety and depression) and children with negative feelings, and promoting resiliency through linking basic psychological first aid with humanitarian distribution and other teams

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Afghanistan has been undergoing a long decade of complex humanitarian crises - fuelled by multifaceted issues ranging from political conflict/war, COVID-19 pandemic, deepening levels of poverty and food insecurity passed on from one generation to the next, as well as the increasing effects of climate change resulting in repeated natural disasters. The country is one of the most vulnerable countries in the world in various aspects, such as economic circumstances, education, protection, and wellbeing. More than half the country's population is in dire need of urgent humanitarian assistance.

Children face significant challenges and life-threatening obstacles in their daily lives in Afghanistan. Many are exposed to child protection issues and violence, cultural restrictions that enshrined an inequality in their economic and educational opportunities, and violation of their rights (Human Rights Watch, 2022). It is known that the detrimental effect on child rights is commonly associated with a negative impact on children's emotional wellbeing and protection. An estimated one million children were currently engaged in child labour in Afghanistan (Arlini and Burgess, 2022) and UNICEF estimates 3.7 million children are out of school with 60% of them being girls (UNICEF, no date). Child marriage is a common problem among girls in the country, where 1 in 3 girls are married before their 18th birthday (UNICEF, 2022). In the last decade, over 2.7 million Afghans, both adults and children, have also left their country in hopes of finding better lives. More than half a million people have lost their job since the Taliban takeover and the figure is estimated to increase to 700,000 by the middle of 2022. Children and women are disproportionately affected by this situation (UN, 2022).

The 15th of August 2022 marks one year since the Taliban took Kabul. It is a significant moment in terms of public awareness, interest, and actions related to Afghanistan and marks a milestone for Save the Children's (SCI) humanitarian action, policy and funding decisions in Afghanistan. This assessment aims to deliver updates on the situation and condition of children and the communities Save the Children serves, the understanding of good practices, the progress of Save the Children's humanitarian work in the country, the advocacy/campaigning work to prevent a deepening of humanitarian crises, as well as for use in resource mobilisation purposes.

This assessment frames the evidence and analysis through the eyes of children to understand what has changed in children's lives in the one year after the Taliban took control of the country. It focuses on some important key areas around children's economic wellbeing, protection, displacement, rights, education, and emotional or psychological wellbeing and provides critical up-to-date data on the needs of children and their households.

METHODOLOGY

From November to December 2021, Save the Children conducted a comprehensive Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment (Arlini & Burgess, 2022), where data was collected from a representative sample of 1408 children and 1409 caregivers, located across seven provinces, i.e. Balkh, Faryab, Sar-e-Pul, Jawzjan, Kabul, Nangarhar and Kandahar. A stratified cluster random sampling was performed, with the district as the primary sampling unit and ensuring a gender balance of participants.

This assessment comprises a follow-up survey with adults and children belonging to the households surveyed under MSNA1. All participants from MSNA1 were invited to participate in the follow-up survey. Households from three additional districts were added to the sample in order to include child respondents (in MSNA1) who had moved districts, and meet the minimum sample requirements for each province.

Provinces	Districts
Balkh	Balkh, Chimtal, Dehdadi, Khulm, Mazar-i-Sharif, Nahr-e-Shahi, Sholgara, Charbulak*
Faryab	Andkhoy, Belcheragh, Gorziwan, Khan Charbagh, Khan Charbagh, Maimana city, Pashtonkot, Qaisar
Jawzjan	Aqcha, Faizabad, Khawja Dokoh, Shebirghan
Kabul	Bagrami, Dehsabz, Surobi, Kabul*
Kandahar	Dand, Panjwayee, Kandahar Center, Zhery,
Nangarhar	Behsood, Haska Meena, Kama, Khogyani, Kot, Kuz-Kunar, Rodaat, Surkhrod
Sar-e-Pul	Center, Gosfandi, Sancharak, Sayad, Sozma Qala, SarePul

*The additional districts covered in the MSNA2

Due to the movement and migration of families and children, only 60% of the child respondents in MSNA1 (or 860 children) were able to participate in this follow-up survey. The survey sample was expanded to other children living in the same households (i.e., siblings or other relatives) and nearby residences to meet with minimum samples for the assessment, at least 200 children per province - providing a 95% confidence interval and 5% margin of error for analysing the target population of SCI Afghanistan current program participants. A representative sample of 1450 children and 1450 adults were collected in MSNA2. Similar to MSNA1, a stratified random sampling was performed, with the district as the primary sampling unit and ensuring a gender balance among the child respondents.

To understand the socio-economic situation of the children's household, their caregivers, particularly the primary caregiver, were asked to respond to several questions. These questions covered indicators on household economy, child protection, migration and child difficulties (Child Functioning Module indicators, Washington Group, 2020b) as indicated in the table below.

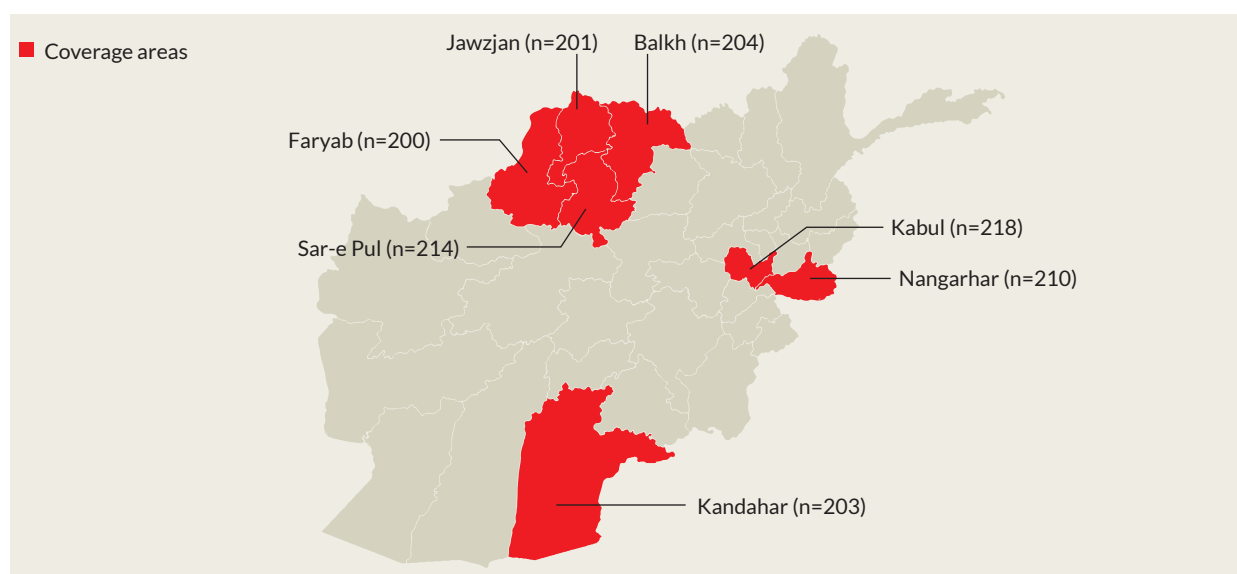
The sector and indicators covered in the MSNA assessment tool can be seen from below table:

Sector	Indicators	Sources (Child Module)	
		Responded by the adult respondents (caregivers)	Responded by the child respondents
Household Economy	Household ability to meet basic needs	√	
	Household source of income	√	
	Household coping strategy to overcome economic difficulties	√	
Child Protection	Child labour	√	√
	Children begging	√	
	Child marriage	√	√
	Child unaccompanied migration	√	
Child Movement/ Migration	Child displaced or moved due to current event		√
	Children leaving elsewhere /migrating for work	√	√
	Entire household migrated	√	
Child Education	Child enrolment and attendance school		√
	Duration of children being out of school		√
	Type of education/learning		√
	Child Reasons for not attending school		√
	Child Safety concerns at school		√
Child wellbeing	Child economic wellbeing – Child perception on household ability to provide the child's basic need to survive		√
	Child hunger:		
	- Going to sleep hungry at night		√
	- Having reduced meals		√
	Children's Psychosocial Wellbeing		
	- Expressing positive feelings		√
	- Expressing negative feelings		√
	- Daily signs of Anxiety and Depression	√	
	Family Expectation for Children to Help		√
Child Rights	Child Rights to Education		√
	Child rights to play, to rest, do activities and freedom of association		√
	Child rights to information, decision making and to be heard		√
Child Priority Needs	Child Priority Needs		√

The survey assessment was conducted from 7 – 23 June 2022 and administered in the local languages either Pashto or Dari through face-to-face survey interviews. The responses were directly entered into the data collection instrument, Kobo Toolbox, by the enumerators on the respondents' behalf. Consent and assent processes with strict ethical consideration were performed. Adult and child safeguarding approaches were also employed throughout the study to maintain the safety of all involved. The study was granted ethics approval (IRB#SCUS-ERC-FY2021-136).

The findings are presented in frequency and proportion charts and tables. Pearson's Chi-Square ($p < 0.05$) was used to analyse associations between selected covariates or predictors and sector-thematic based outcomes. All such findings presented in this assessment are statistically significant. More detail description of measures used to identify disability status of the children and the caregivers are described in the Appendix.

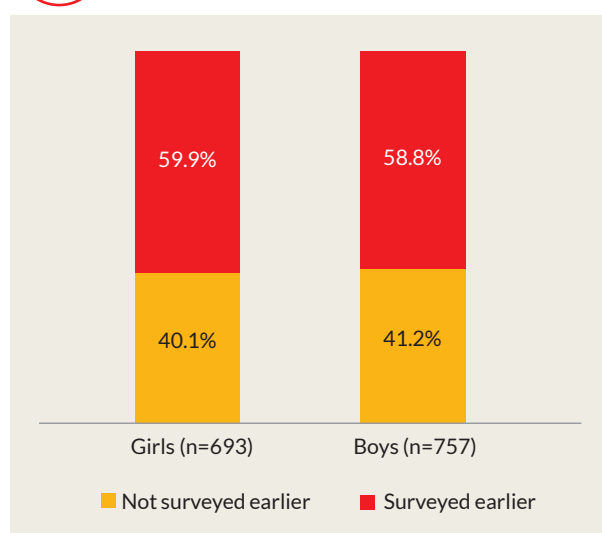
ASSESSMENT SAMPLES



Child Respondent's Characteristics



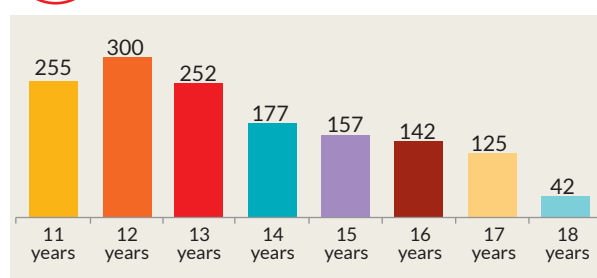
Child's gender



- A total of 1450 children, comprised of 693 girls (47.8%) and 757 (52.2%) boys participated in the survey assessment.
- About 3 in 5 children (59.9% of the girls and 58.8% of the boys) participated in the earlier survey (MSNA1) conducted in Nov-Dec 2021. The remainder were either their siblings or other children in the household who participated in MSNA1 or from neighbouring households.



Child's age

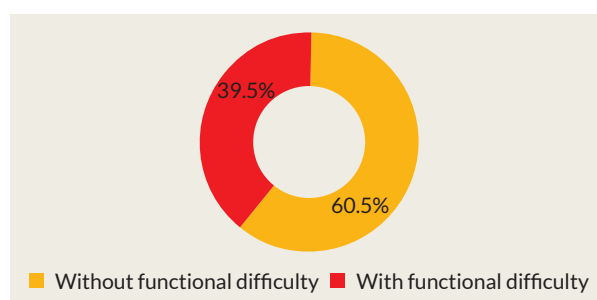


- Two thirds of the child respondents were aged 11-14 years (67.9%) and 32.1% were aged 15-18 years

Child functional difficulty and disability

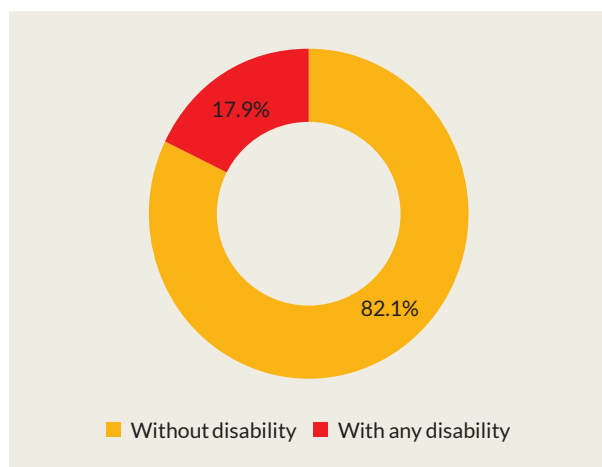


Child Functional Difficulty - in any of 13 functional domains





Child disability – having at least one difficulty in any of 6 functional domains (conversion of WG-SS)*

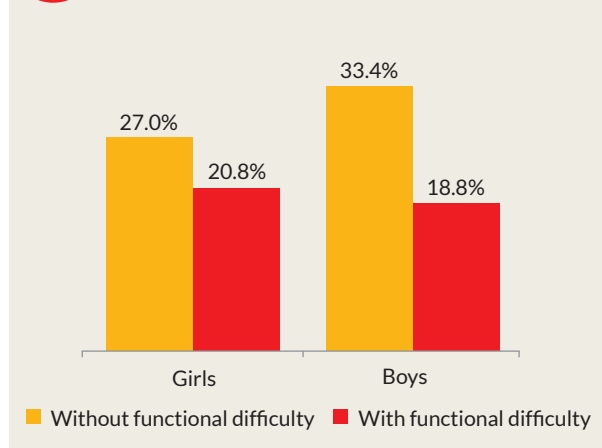


Note: *Responses with “a lot of difficulties” or cannot do at all” in at least one of the six functional domains of Washington Group Short Set Questions (WGSS)-difficulty of hearing, difficulty of seeing, difficulty of walking, difficulty of self-care, difficulties of remembering/concentrating

- Overall, about two out of five children (39.5%) who participated in the survey were reported by their caregiver to have a functional difficulty in any of 13 functional domains measured using Child Functioning Module Indicator (Washington Group, 2020b.)
- 17.9% of children were identified as persons with a disability (based on the WG-SS six functional domains)*.



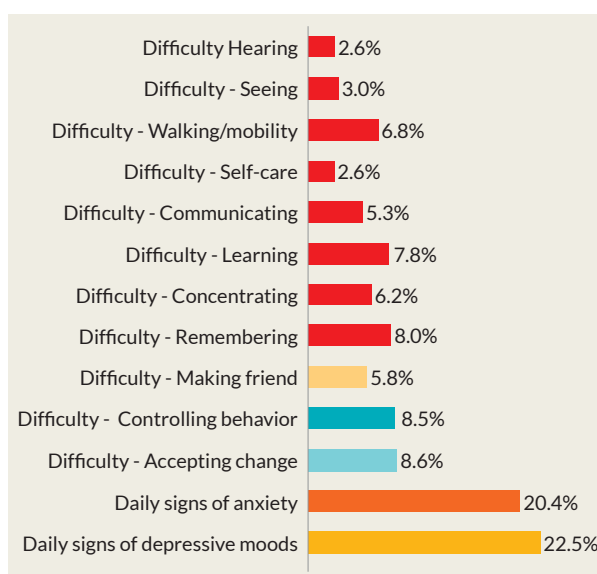
Child functional difficulty, in any 13 functional domains, by gender



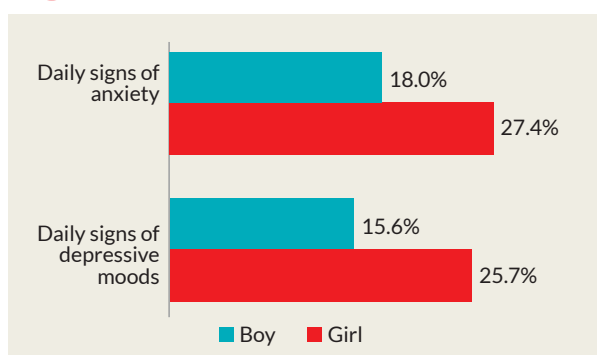
- A slightly higher proportion of girls (20.8%) than boys (18.8%) were identified as having functional difficulties in at least one of the 13 domains.



Child functional difficulty, by 13 functional domains



Caregiver report children showing signs of anxiety and depression daily

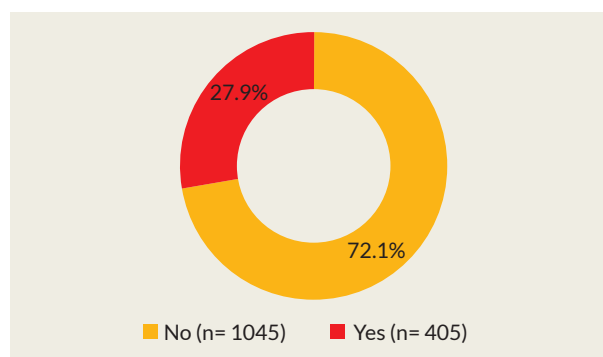


- One in five (20.4%) children were reported by their caregiver to show daily signs of anxiety (appearing very anxious, nervous, and worried).
- Girls were more likely than boys to show signs of anxiety, as reported by their caregiver (27.4% vs 18.0%).
- Over one in five children (22.5%) were reported by their caregiver to show daily signs of depressive moods (appearing very sad or depressed).
- Girls were more likely than boys to show signs of depressive moods, as reported by their caregiver (25.7% vs. 15.6%).
- Nearly 1 in 10 children were also reported to have difficulties with controlling behaviour (8.5%) or accepting changes (8.6%). 5.8% reported having difficulties making friends.

Child displacement status



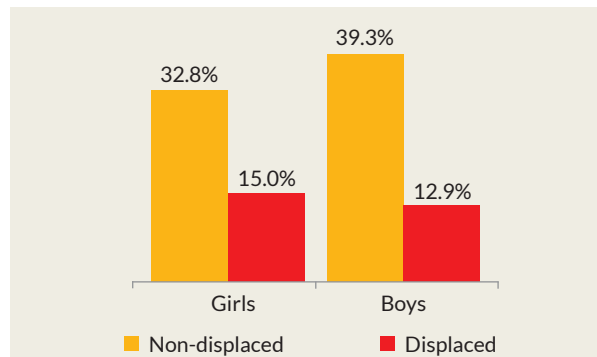
Child displacement status – belonging to IDP or/and refugee groups



- Nearly one in three children (27.9%) identified as belonging to a displaced group, either internally displaced population -IDP (20.4%) or refugee, both documented or undocumented returnee (7.5%).



Child displacement status, by gender

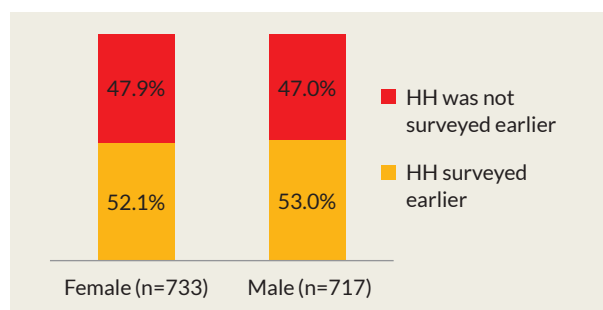


- A slightly higher proportion of girls (15.0%) than boys (12.9%) identified as belonging to a displaced group.

Adult Respondent's Characteristics



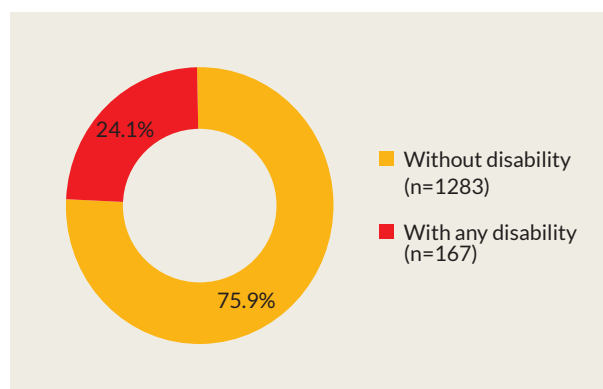
Adult respondent's gender



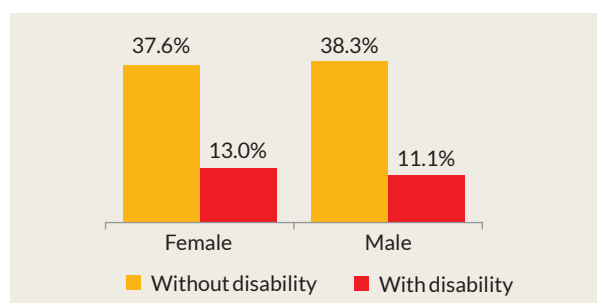
- A total of 1450 adults participated in the survey.
- A gender balance in female (50.1%) and male (49.9%) of male respondents was achieved.
- Over half of the adult respondents participated in the earlier MSNA1 in Nov-Dec 2021.



Adult disability status – in any of 6 functional domains (WG-SS)



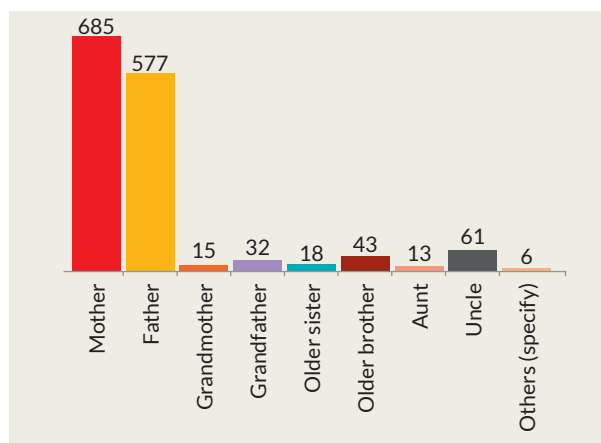
Adult disability status, by gender



- Nearly one-quarter of adult respondents (24.1%) identified as a person with a disability (difficulties in hearing, seeing, walking, communicating, self-care and/or concentrating/remembering).
- A slightly higher proportion of female respondents than male respondents identified as having disabilities (13.0% vs 11.1%).



Relationship between children and the adult respondent



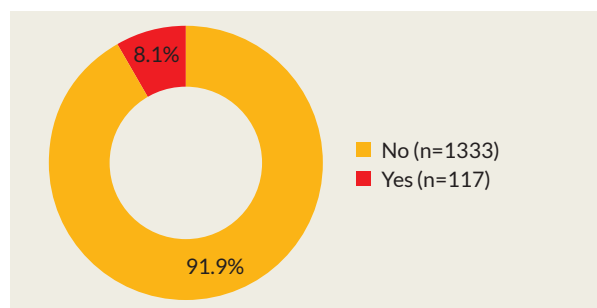
- The vast majority of the adult respondents were the child's parents (87.0%), with mothers accounting for 47.2% and fathers accounting for 39.8% of the total adult respondents.

- The vast majority of primary caregivers were the child's parents (95.4%), with 39.9 % being mothers and 55.5% being fathers.
- The rest of the primary caregivers (4.6%) were the child's grandmother, grandfather, uncle, aunt, brother or sister.

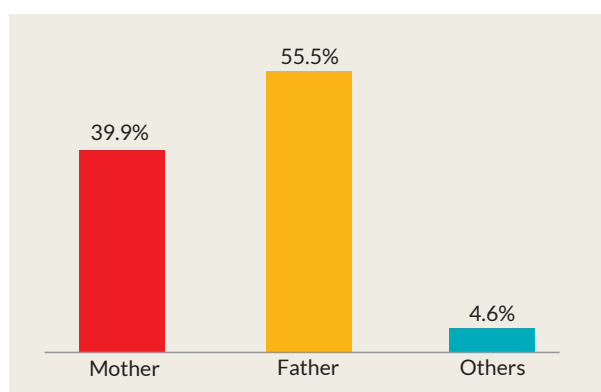
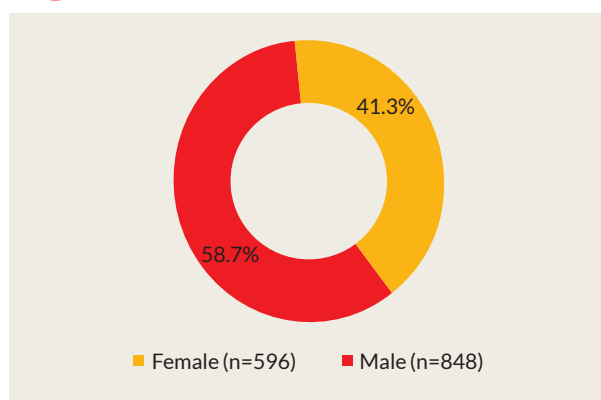
Changes in child's primary caregiver



Change in child's caregiver



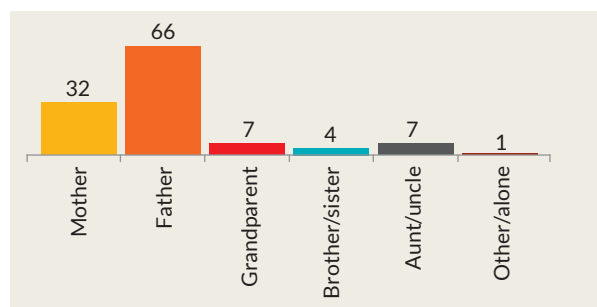
Child's primary caregiver



- A higher proportion of the child's primary caregivers were male (58.7%) than female (41.3%).



Previous child's caregiver

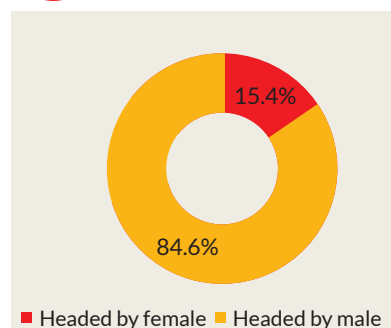


- 8.1% (117) of the children reported their primary caregivers had changed in the past one year.
- Of those children that reported their primary caregiver had changed, over half (56.4% or 66 children) reported their father was their previous caregiver and their current caregiver was now their mother (27 children), other father (23 children), grandparents (8 children), brother/sister (4 children), aunt/uncle (3 children) and alone/no caregiver (1 child).
- Over one-quarter (27.4% or 32 children) reported their mother as their previous caregiver and their current caregiver was now their father (13 children), other mother (13 children), grandparents (2 children), brother/sister (2 children), and aunt/uncle (1 child).

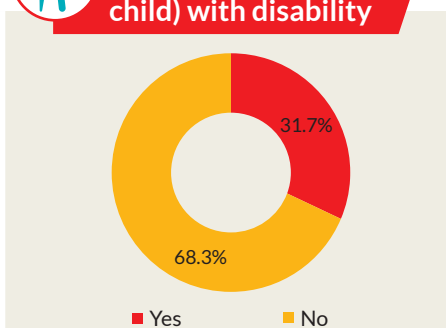
Household Characteristics



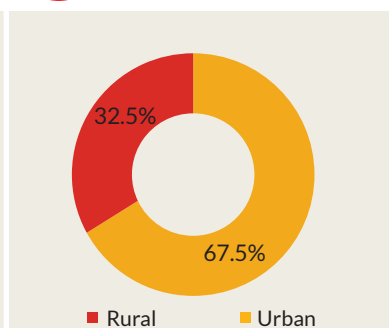
Head of household



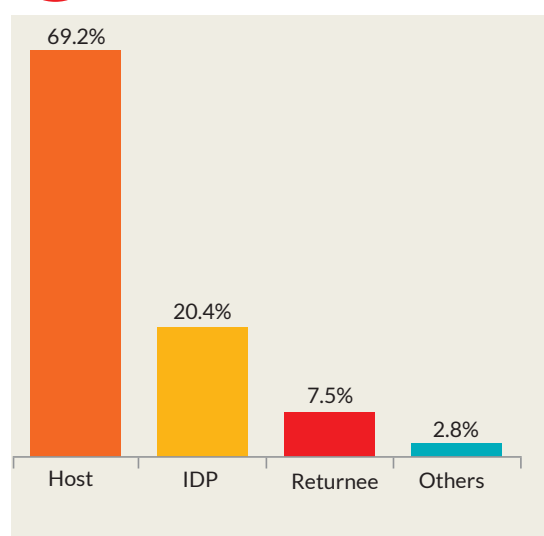
Household with any person (adults or/any child) with disability



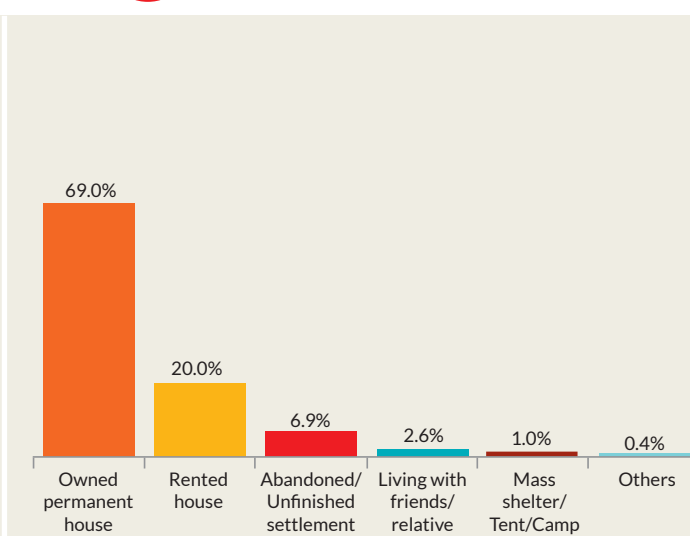
Household setting



Household status



Household dwelling



- The vast majority of households are headed by males (84.6%). Households headed by females accounted for 15.4%. This increased significantly from the previous survey in Nov-Dec 2021 (7.5%).
- 31.7% of the households reported having a member (at least an adult and/or a child) with a disability¹. This proportion is much higher than the 18.6% observed in MSNA1. While in MSNA1, it was only measured reports of the household head with disability, in MSNA2, it measured any report of adult respondents with disabilities and any report of child respondents with disabilities.
- One in five households (20.4%) are internally displaced people (IDP), 69.2% belong to the host community and 7.5% were returnee/refugee households (both documented and undocumented returnees). This showed a similar characteristic to the households surveyed in MSNA1.
- In terms of household dwelling, 89.0% reported living in a house, with 69.0% reported living in their own permanent house and 20.0% living in rented houses. 6.9% live in an abandoned, unfinished, or informal settlement and 2.6% live with friends or relatives. Very few families live in mass shelters, tents or camps (1.0%).

¹ In this measure, the child disability is measured in six functional difficulties domains (difficulty in hearing, seeing, walking, communicating, self-care and concentrating/remembering).

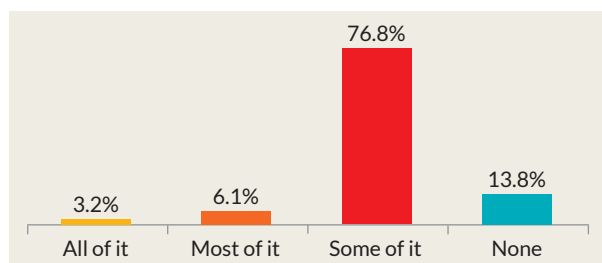


HOUSEHOLD ECONOMY

Household Income and Ability to Meet Basic Needs



Perception of current household ability to meet basic needs



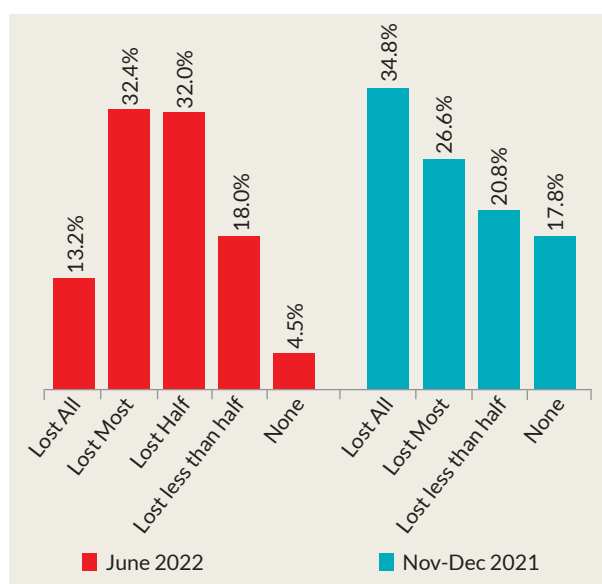
- Only 3.2% of the households perceived that they were able to meet all of their basic needs, such as food, non-food items, shelter, children's education, clean water, and family healthcare. 6.1% perceived being able to meet most of their basic needs.
- Over three-quarters of households (76.8%) perceived that they were able to meet only some of their basic needs and 13.8% perceived that they were not able to meet their basic needs at all.

lost in MSNA1 compared to those who reported the same in MSNA2, when they were asked to compare their income with the same time in the previous year (17.8% vs 4.5%).

- Over 9 in 10 households (95.5%) reported losing some of their income in MSNA 2, compared to those reported in MSNA1 (82.2%).
- A lower proportion of households reported loss of all their income in June 2022, compared to those reported the same in Nov-Dec 2021 (13.2% vs 34.8%). Instead, a much higher proportion of households in June 2022 reported losing most of their income (32.4%) or losing half of their income (32.0%). It suggests some strategies were being used by households to reduce the extent of their household income loss, through engagement in other income generation activities, as discussed in the following section on Household Coping Strategy from Income Generation or Reduction of Expenditure.



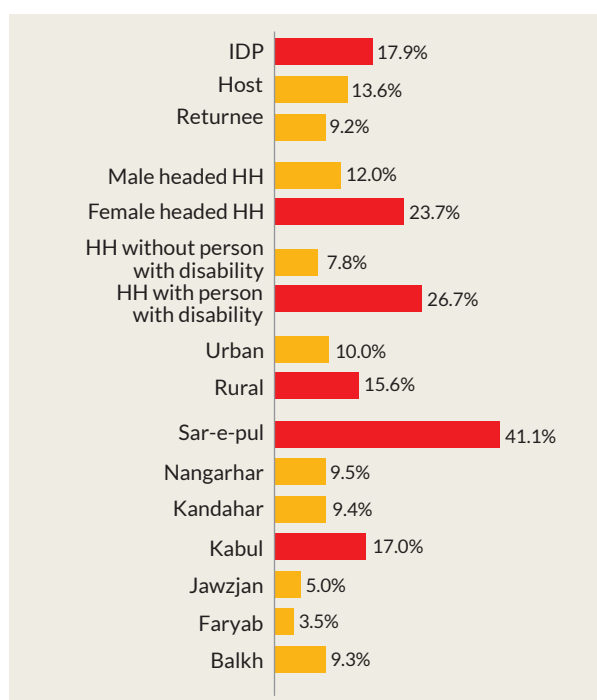
Losing household income compared to last year



- A significant decline is observed among those who reported none of their household income

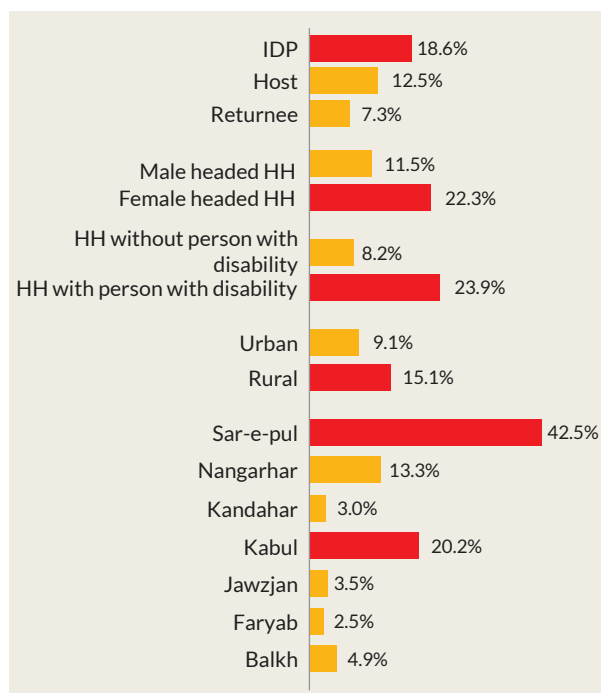


Households unable to meet all basic needs





Losing household income

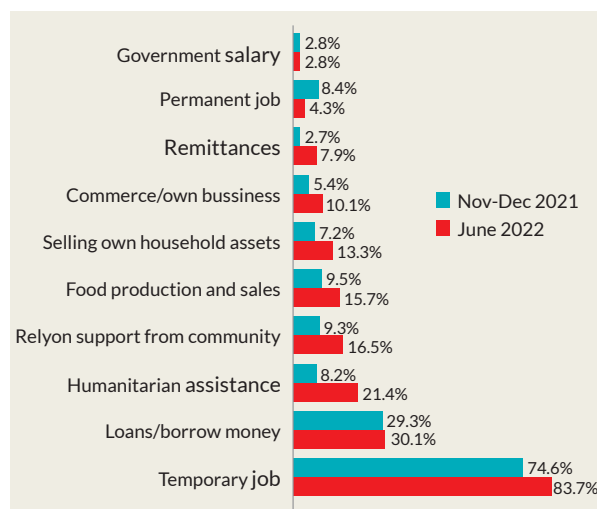


- A higher proportion of households who report being unable to meet all their general basic needs also reported losing all of their household income. A higher proportion of them were from Sar-e-Pul and Kabul than those from other provinces. Likewise, those located in rural areas compared to those in urban areas were more likely to report losing all their household income and were unable to meet all their general basic needs.
- Households headed by females, households with a person with a disability, and IDP households were more likely to report being unable to meet all their general basic needs and losing all of their household income compared with other households.
 - Female headed households were nearly two times more likely than male headed households to report being unable to meet all of their basic needs (23.7% vs 12.0%) and were more likely to have lost all of their household income (22.3% vs 11.5%).
 - Households with any person (a child or/and an adult) with a disability were three times more likely than the households without a person with disability to report being unable to meet their basic needs (26.7% vs 7.8%) and to report losing all of their household income (23.9% vs 8.2%).

- A higher proportion of IDP households - reported being unable to meet their basic needs (17.9%) and losing all of their household income (18.6%) than other households.



Household income sources

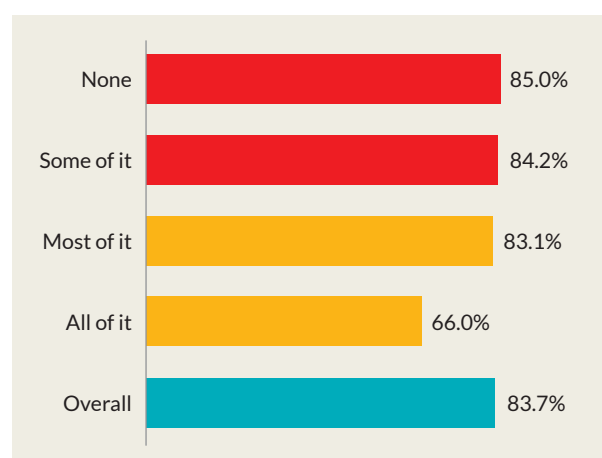


- Comparing the report in Nov-Dec 2021 with the report in June 2022, the proportion of households reported having income source from a permanent job decreased (from 8.4% to 4.3%), while those with an income source from a temporary job increased from 74.6% to 83.7%. In June, opportunities for casual labour usually increases due to the need for labour for harvesting and planting crops. In November and December, the months leading to winter, may bring very limited work opportunities outside of winter wheat planting.
- A temporary job was the most cited current source of household income, both in Nov-Dec 2021 and June 2022.
- 30.1% of adult respondents said their current household income source came from loans or borrowing money - relatively similar to the proportion reported in Nov-Dec 2021 (29.3%).
- A significant increase was seen in the proportion of households sourcing their household income from humanitarian assistance (21.4% vs 8.2%), community support (16.5% vs 9.3%) and remittances from other family member/relatives (7.9% vs 2.7%).
- Similarly, there was a significant increase in the proportion of households sourcing their current income from selling their household assets (13.3% vs 7.2%) and from self-employment activities, such as food production/sales (15.7% vs 9.5%), and commerce/business (10.1% vs 5.4%).

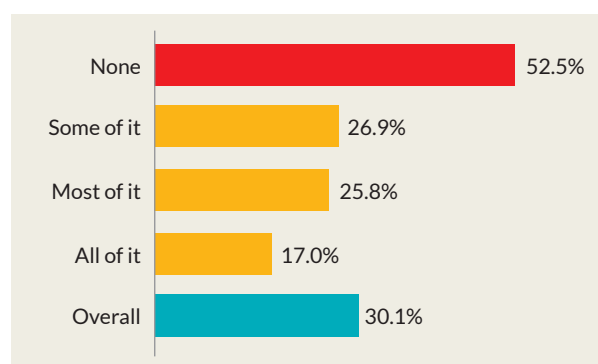
Perceived Household Ability to Meet Basic Needs, and Household Sources of Income

- The households who reported 'none' (85.0%) or only 'some' (84.2%) of their basic needs could be met were those that source their income from temporary jobs.
- Over half of the households who reported meeting 'none' of their basic needs (52.5%) were from those that indicated using loans or borrowing as their source of income.
- Of the households meeting 'none' of their basic needs, over one-fifth (21.5%) reported selling household items for income.

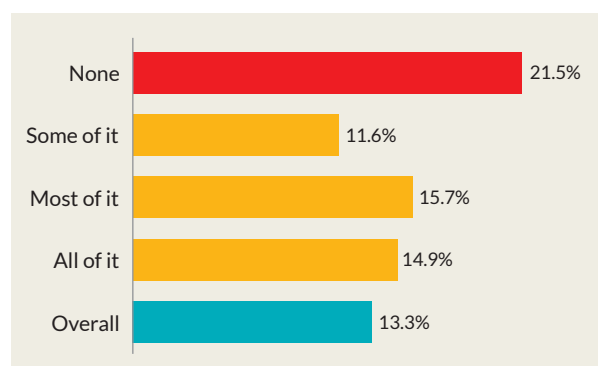
Perceived ability to meet basic needs, reported by households with income source from temporary jobs



Perceived ability to meet basic needs, reported by households with income source from loans/borrowing



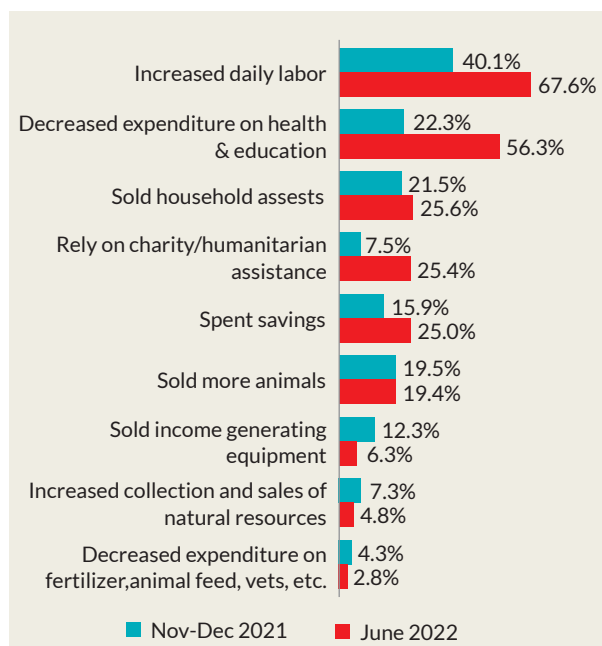
Perceived ability to meet basic needs, reported by households with income source from selling household items



Household Coping Strategy from Income Generation or Reduction of Expenditure

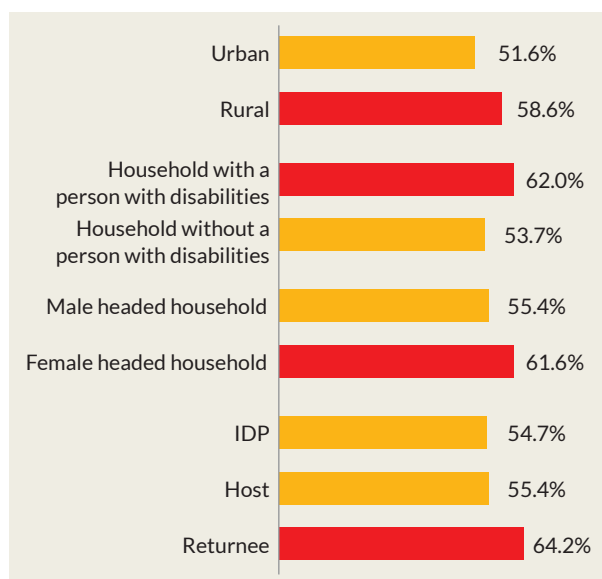
- Over two-thirds of respondents in June 2022 said that they had increased their daily labour as a coping strategy to cover their household expenses – this increased significantly from the previous report in Nov-Dec 2021 (67.6% vs 40.1%).
- A higher proportion of households who increased their daily labour live in urban areas than rural areas (73.0% vs 65.0%) and a higher proportion were from the host community than IDP or refugee groups (69.4% vs 60.5% or 63.3%). This suggests that those in urban areas and the host community may have a greater opportunity to increase their daily labour than others.
- Comparing the current report and previous reports on coping strategies, a significant increase was observed in households reducing their expenditure on health and education (56.3% vs 22.3%), selling household assets (25.6% vs 21.5%), relying on charity or humanitarian assistance (25.4% vs 7.5%) and spending savings (25.0% vs 15.9%) in order to cope.

Coping strategies implemented to cover household expenses reported in Nov-Dec 2021 and June 2022

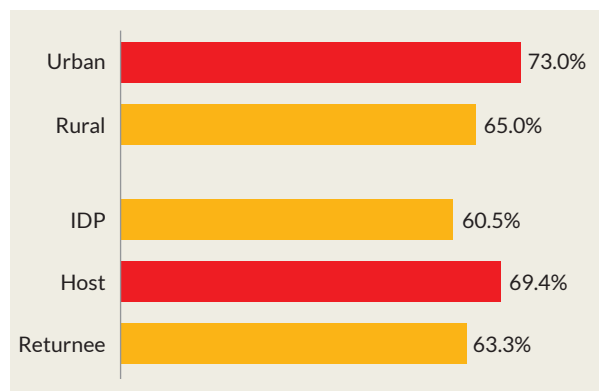


- The proportion of households selling income generating equipment decreased by half (12.3% vs 6.3%). This may suggest that they may no longer have a significant amount of income generating equipment to sell anymore, because they have previously sold it to cope with their economic difficulties.

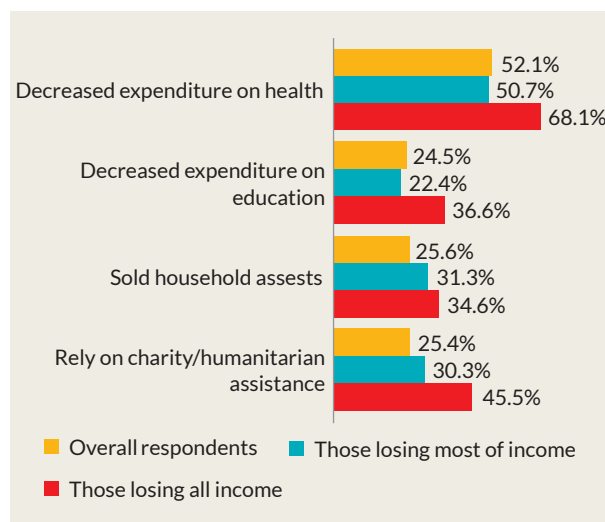
Household decreased expenditure on health and education



Household increased daily labor to cover household expenses



Coping strategies implemented to cover household expenses reported by household losing all income

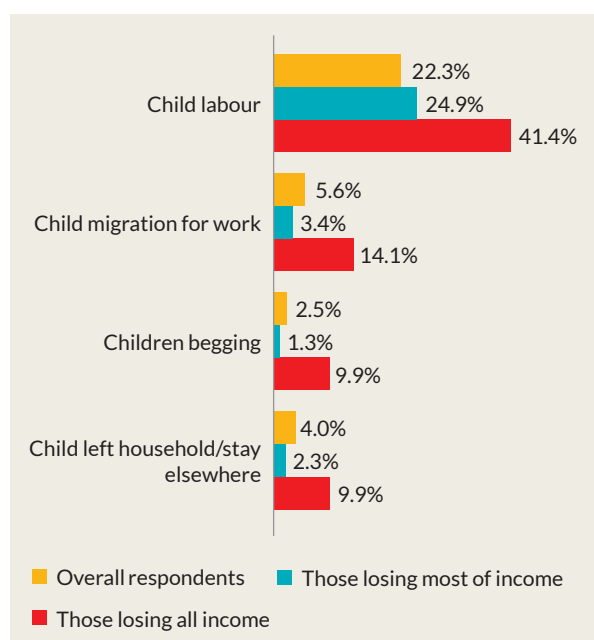


- Among those who said they were coping by reducing spending on health or education or selling household assets, a higher proportion reported losing all their household income – 68.1% vs 52.1% of overall respondents (reducing health expenses); 36.6% vs 24.5% (reducing education expenses); 34.6% vs 25.6% (selling household assets); and 45.5% vs 25.4% (relying on charity).
- Of those who reported reducing spending on health and education, a higher proportion were living in rural areas (58.6%) and were returnee or refugee households (64.2%), female-headed households (61.6%) or households with a person with a disability (62.0%).

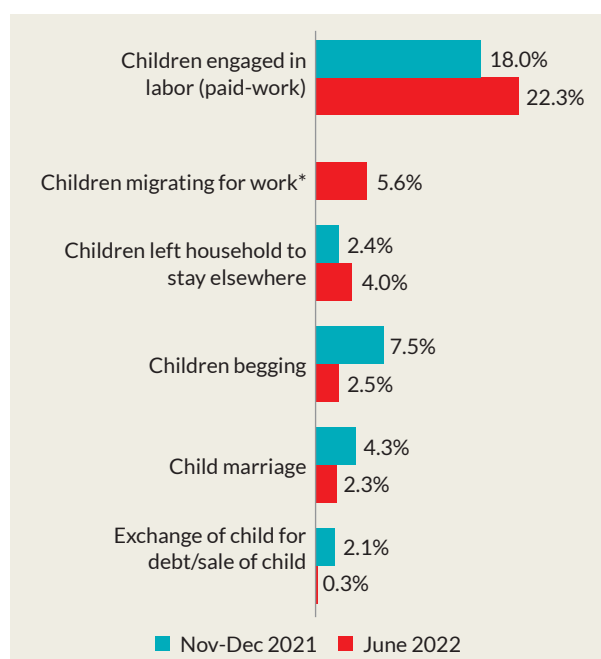
CHILD PROTECTION

- Adult respondents reported using some negative coping strategies to overcome economic difficulties that contribute to child protection issues, such as engaging children in paid work (22.3%), children migrating for work (5.6%), children leaving their household to stay elsewhere (4.0%), children begging (2.5%), child marriage (2.3%), and selling children or exchanging them for debt (0.3%).
- A significant increase was observed among those currently letting their children engage in paid-work (22.3% vs 18% in Nov-Dec 2021), and those letting their children leave home to stay elsewhere (4.0% vs 2.4%).
- The proportion and number of households that reported arranging an early marriage for their children decreased slightly in the June survey from the Nov-Dec survey (2.3% vs 4.3% or 33 households vs 60 households). The proportion and number of families who had exchanged a child for debt or sold a child also decreased (0.3% vs 2.1% or 5 households vs 29 households).

Coping Strategies Resulted in Child Protection Issues, reported by household losing all income



Household Coping Strategies resulted in Child Protection Issues, reported in Nov-Dec 2021 and June 2022



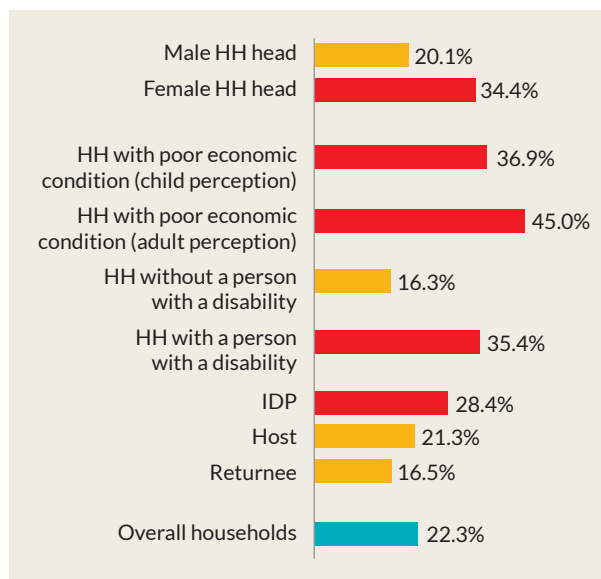
*Missing information in Nov-Dec 2021, as it only collected information on anyone (child and/or adult) migrating for work.

Child Labour

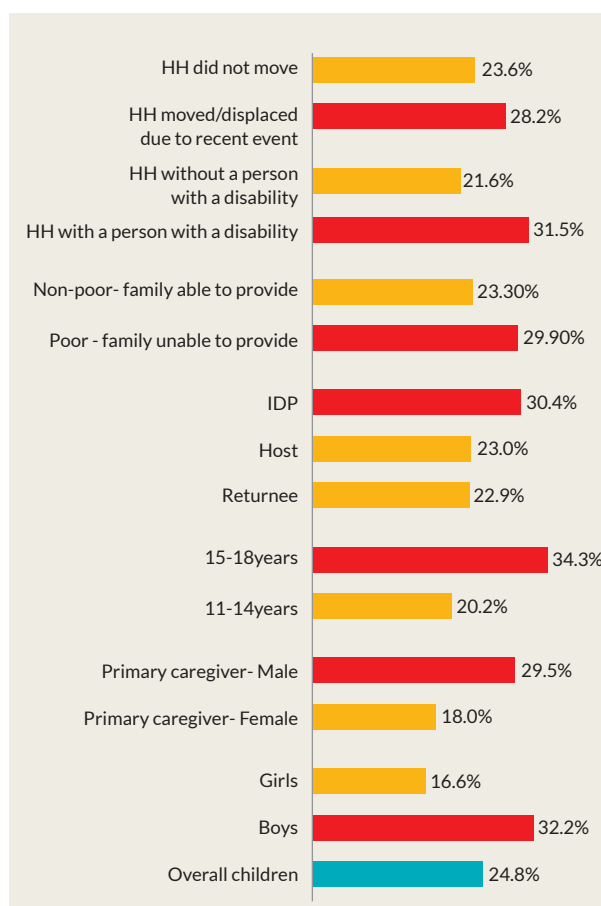
- A significant proportion of households who have engaged children in labour or paid work were those with poor economic circumstances in which both adult respondents (45.0%) and child respondents (36.9%) said that they were not able to afford any of their basic needs.
- A higher proportion of households headed by females than those headed by males reported having children engaged in labour (34.4% vs 20.1%).
- A higher proportion of households with a child and/or an adult with a disability (34.5%) than those without a disability (16.3%) reported their children engaging in labour.
- Likewise, a higher proportion of households with children engaging in labour were IDPs (28.4%) compared to the host community (21.3%) or returnees (16.5%).
- Households in Sar-e-Pul (55.6%), Nangarhar (31.0%) and Kandahar (25.1%) were more likely to engage children in labour than those in other provinces.



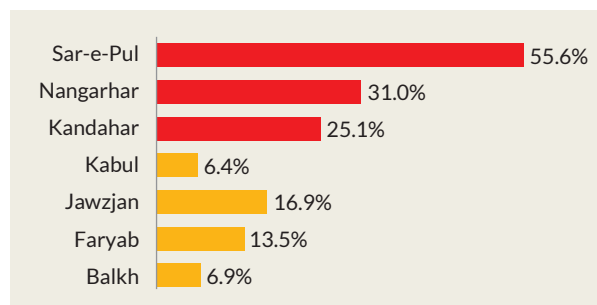
Prevalence of child labor reported by the adult respondents as household coping strategy



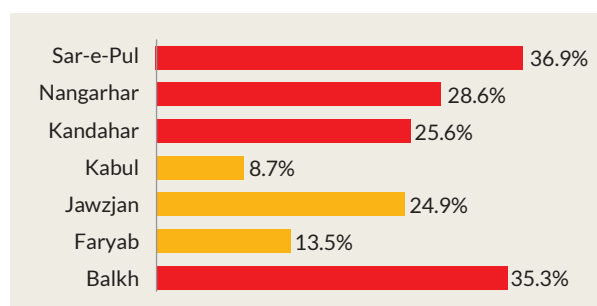
Child respondent was asked to engage in labour or paid work to help the family since the end of last year



Child labor reported by the adult respondents as household coping strategy, by provinces



Child respondent was asked to engage in labour or paid work to help the family since the end of last year, by provinces

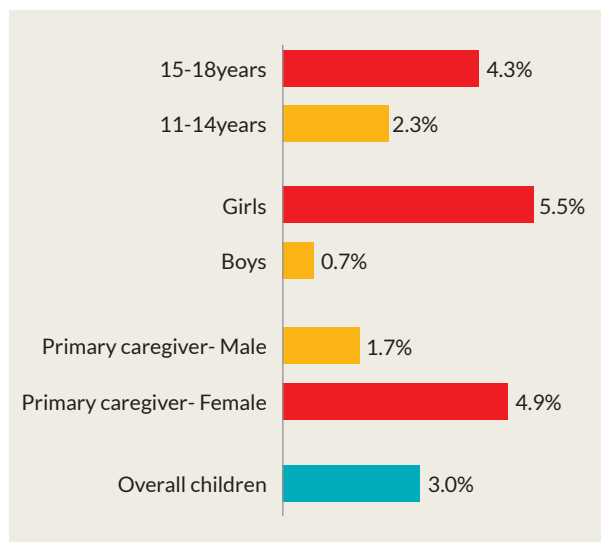


- About one-quarter of the child respondents (24.8%) reported they were asked to help their family by engaging in labour or paid-work.
- A higher proportion of the children who said they had been asked to do paid work were boys than girls (32.2% vs 16.6%), and children aged 15-18 year than 11-14 year olds (34.3% vs 20.2%).
- Child labour was also reported more commonly among households which have a person with a disability than those without a disability (31.5% vs 21.6%), households with a male caregiver rather than a female caregiver (29.5% vs 18.0%), and households that had been displaced due to current events (28.2% vs 23.6% non-displaced).
- Children from poor households were more likely to report being asked to work or engage in labour/paid work than those from non-poor households (29.9% vs 23.3%).
- Children in Sar-e-Pul (36.9%), Balkh (35.3%), Nangarhar (28.6%) and Kandahar (25.6%) were more likely to report being asked to engage in labour than those in other provinces.

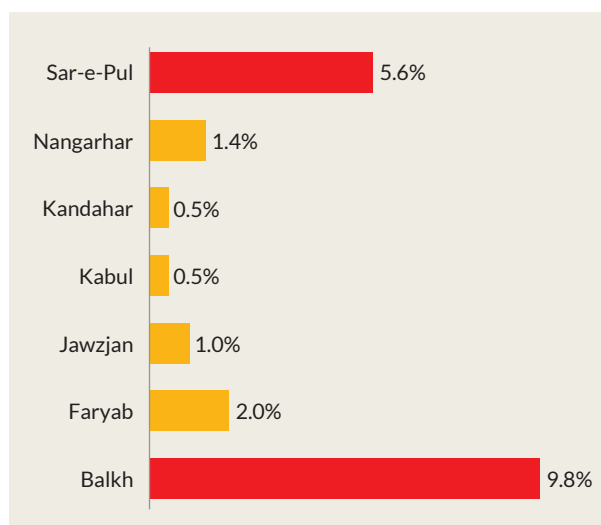
Child Marriage



Child respondent reported being asked to get married to help the family since the end of last year (n=1450)



Child respondent was asked to get married to help the family since the end of last year, by provinces

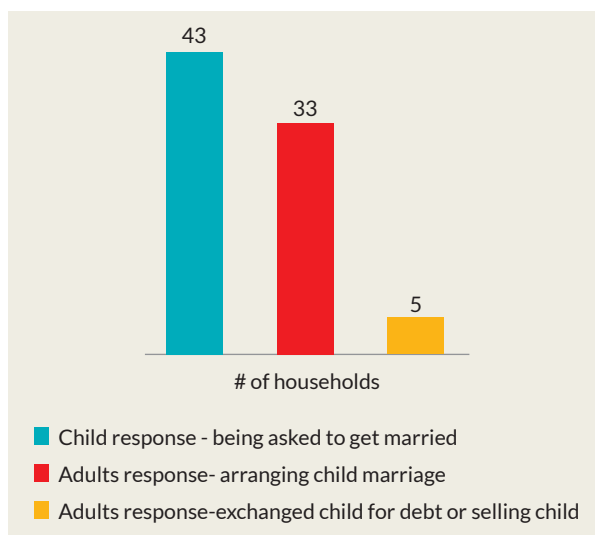


- Child marriage is a prevalent child protection issue in Afghanistan, with one in three girls reportedly getting married before turning 18 (UNICEF 2022). Political and economic turmoil, the ongoing food crises and the COVID-19 pandemic have further increased the risk of girls being married, sold, or exchanged for debt.

- 43 children (3%) said they had been asked to get married to help overcome their family's economic difficulties. This represents an increase from the 27 children (1.9%) who reported being asked to get married in MSNA1. Nearly all the children who reported being asked to get married were girls: 38 girls (5.5% of all children) and five boys (0.7% of all children) in total.
- Children aged 15 or above were more likely to report being asked to get married (4.3% vs 2.3%) and those with female primary caregivers were more likely to be asked to get married than those with male primary caregivers (4.9% vs 1.7%).
- Children in Balkh (9.8%) and Sar-e-Pul (5.6%) were more likely to be asked to get married than children in other provinces.



Child marriage risk and prevalence

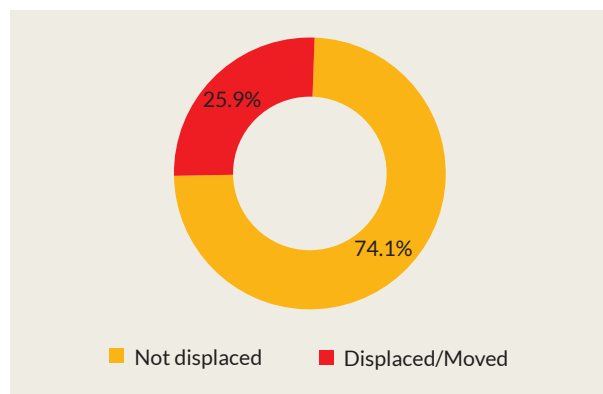


- Of the adult respondents, 33 adults (2.3%) reported arranging a marriage for a child and five adults (0.7%) reported exchanging a child for debt or selling a child. The adult responses appeared to be in line with the child responses. A higher proportion of these were from the households of the girl respondents than those of boy respondents (4.0% or 28 households vs 0.7% or five households) and the households of the female caregivers than male caregivers (3.9% or 23 households vs 1.2% or 10 households).

CHILD MOVEMENT AND MIGRATION



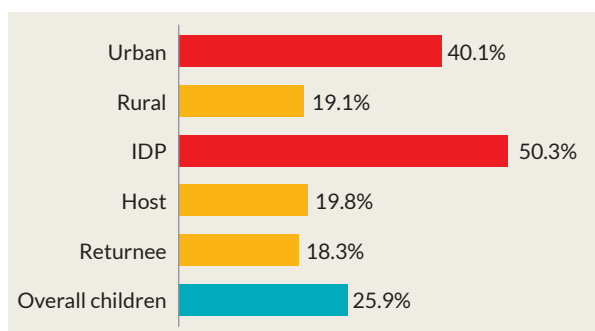
Displacement/movement (n=1450 children)



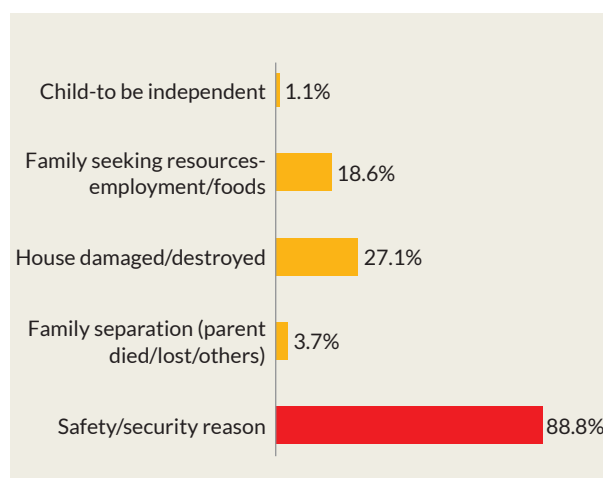
- There was no significant difference between girls and boys or younger children and older children in reporting that they had moved or been displaced from where they normally live.



Child moved/displaced, by household characteristics



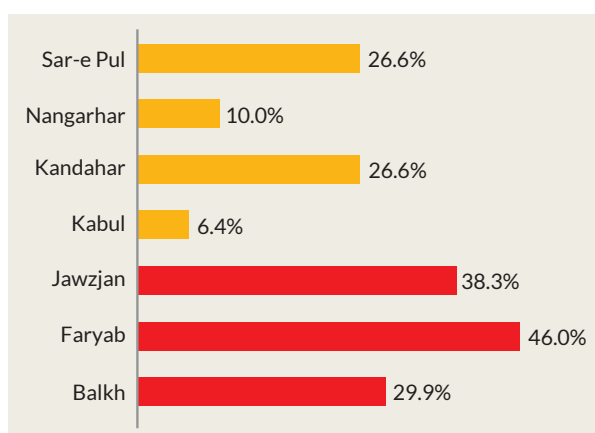
Child reasons for moving by provinces (n=376 Children)



- Over one-quarter of children (25.9%) reported they being displaced/moved from where they normally lived due to the events in the past year.
- Among those who reported being displaced or moving in the past year, the main reasons were for safety and security (88.8%), followed by their house destroyed or damaged (27.1%), to seek employment or better economic access, including food (18.6%).
- 14 children (3.7%) moved due to family separation, including the death or loss of their parents, and four children (1.1%) moved to be independent.



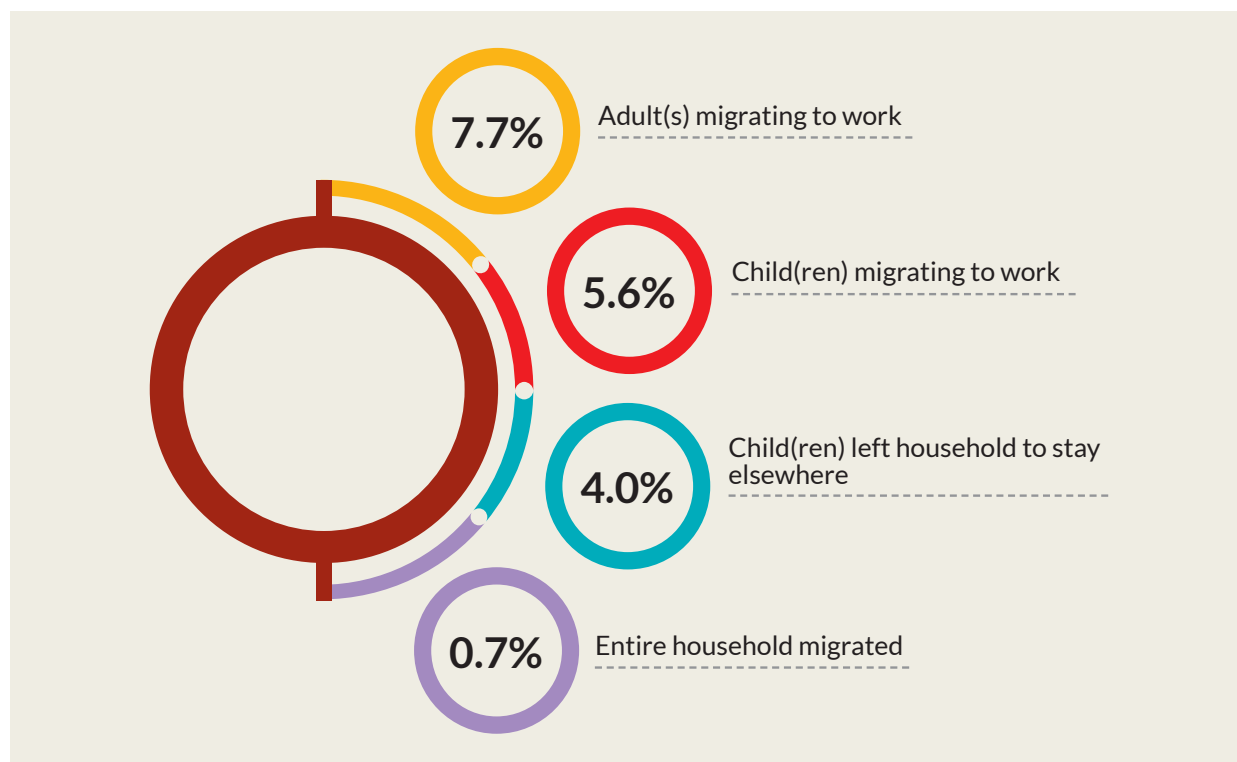
Child moved/displaced, by province



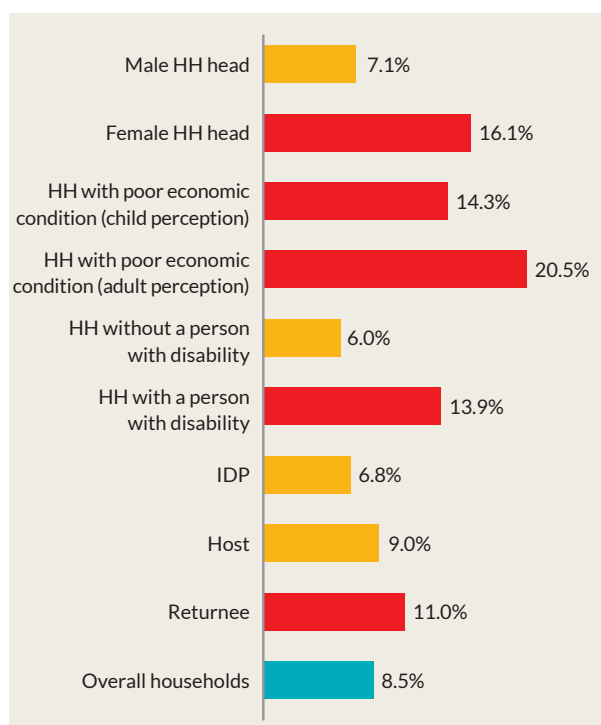
- A higher proportion of the children who moved or were displaced in the past year were those from IDP groups (50.3%) than those from other group and those located in urban areas (40.1%) than those in rural areas.
- A higher proportion of households were from Faryab (46.0%), Jawzjan (38.3%) and Balkh (29.9%) than those from other provinces.
- There were no significant differences between girls and boys or older children (aged 15-18) and younger children (aged 11-14).



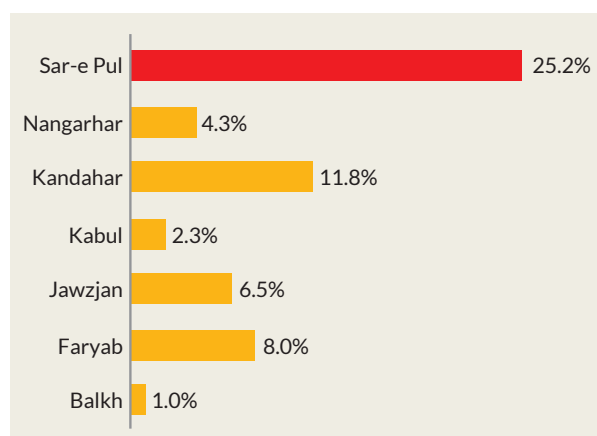
Coping strategies related to migration – implemented to cover household expenses, in June 2022



Child (unaccompanied) migration and/or leaving household-reported by adult respondents



Child (unaccompanied) migration and/or leaving household-reported by adult respondents, by province



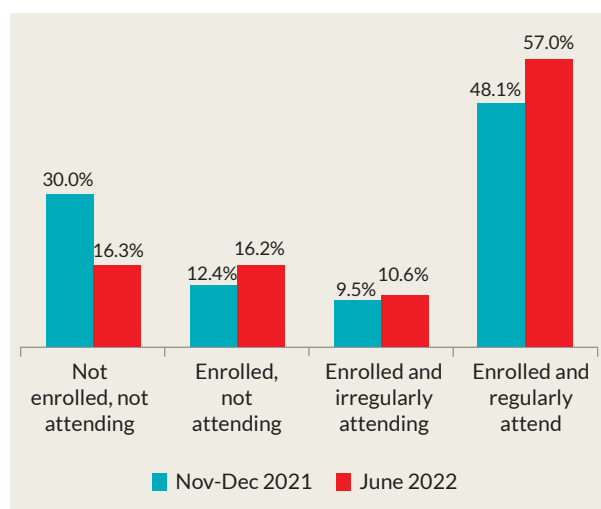
- Migration has been used as a coping strategy to overcome economic difficulties. Nearly one-tenth of households (7.7%) reported any adult(s) in the household migrating to work and 8.5% reported any child(ren) leaving the household unaccompanied to stay elsewhere and/or migrate for work.

- Children migrating unaccompanied to live elsewhere or for work were more likely to be from households that had a person with a disability (13.9%), households with poor economic conditions (based on the child perception - 14.3% - or based on adult perceptions - 20.5%), female-headed households (16.1%) and returnee or refugee households (11.0%).
- Households from Sar-e-Pul (25.2%) were more likely to have had a child migrate than other provinces, as were those in rural areas (63.6% vs 36.5% in urban areas). Sar-e-pul also had a greater proportion of poor households who were unable to meet all their basic needs. This suggests that child migration is a common coping strategy for poor households living in urban areas.

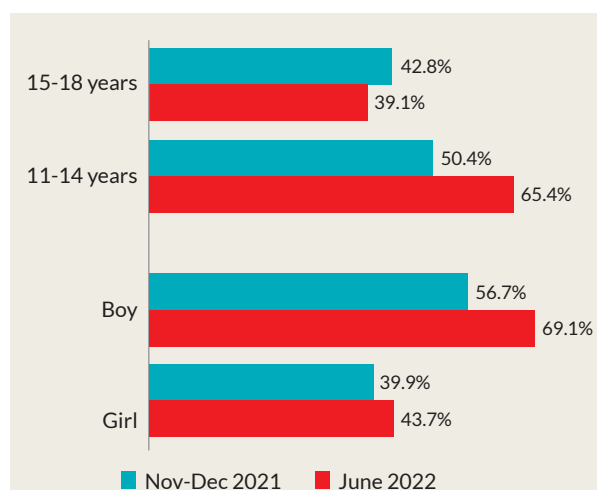
CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

Child School Enrolment and Attendance

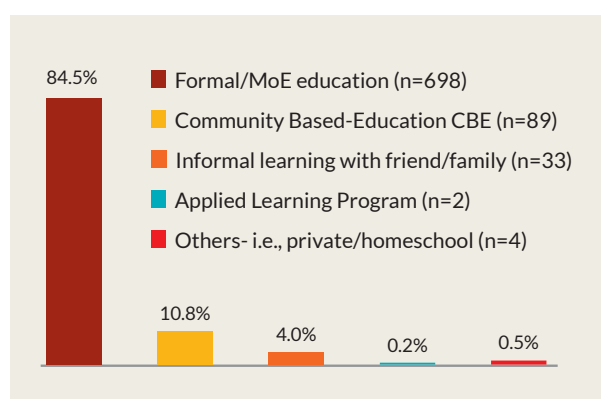
Child enrolled and attending school



Children enrolled in and attending school, reported in Nov-Dec 2021 and June 2022



Types of education/learning received by the child respondents

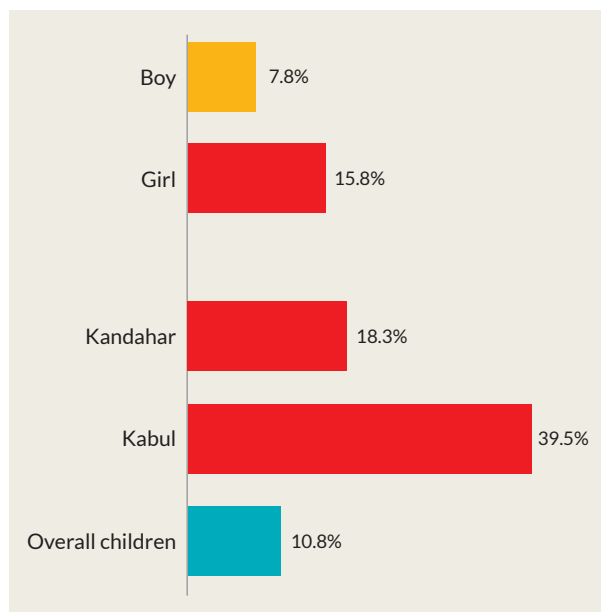


- Approximately one in three children (32.5%) reported not attending school – with 16.3% not even enrolled in school and 16.2% enrolled in school but not attending school.
- The proportion of children not attending school declined comparing Nov/Dec 2021 and June 2022 responses – from 42.2% (594 children) to 32.5% (471 children); while, the proportion of children attending school (either regularly or irregularly) increased from 57.6% (807 children) to 67.6% (979 children).
- In June 2022, nearly 3 in 5 children (57% or 826 children) currently reported being enrolled and

regularly attending school, while in Nov-Dec 2021, 48.1% or 674 children reported being enrolled and regularly attending school.

- A higher proportion of boys than girls reported being enrolled and attending school (69.1% vs 43.7%). A higher proportion of those aged 11-14 year olds than those of 15-18 year olds (65.4% vs 50.4%).
- There was a significant increase in the attendance of boys (increased from 56.7% to 69.1%) and younger children, both boys and girls (increased from 50.4% to 65.4%).
- The vast majority of the children (84.5%) reported attending their education or learning from formal school or education run by the Ministry of Education.

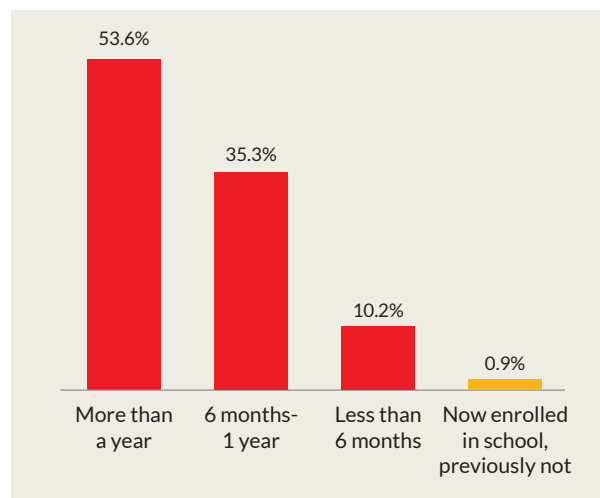
Children attending CBE and informal learning with friends/family, by child gender and age



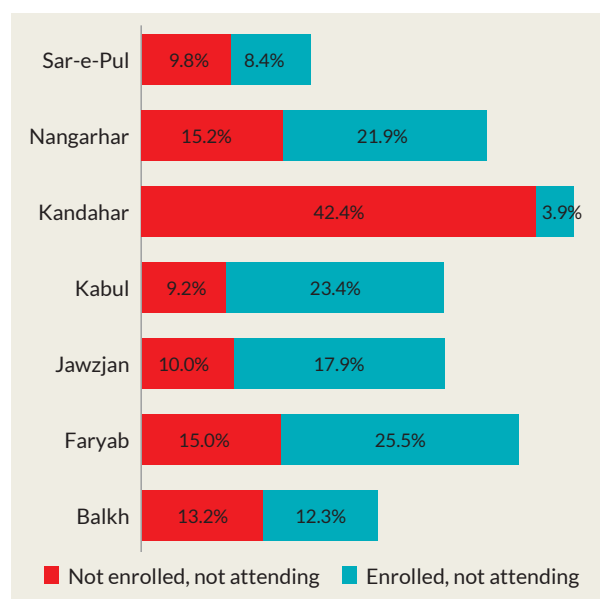
- Over 1 in 10 children reported attending community-based education (CBE). A higher proportion of those who reported attending CBE were the girls than the boys (15.8% vs 7.8%) and those in Kabul (39.5%) and Kandahar (18.3%) as compared to others.

Out of School Children

Duration of children being out of school



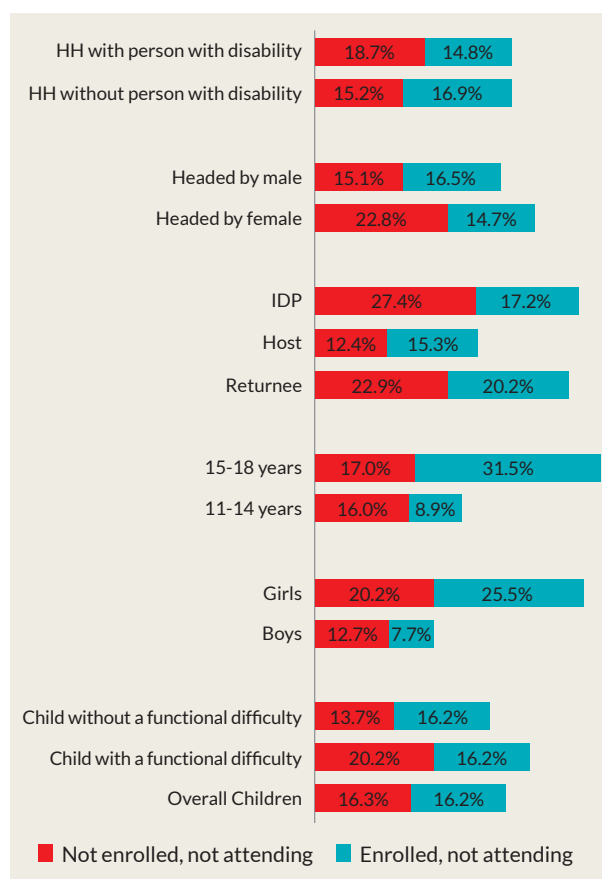
Children not attending school, by provinces



- Among the 235 children who were enrolled in school but currently not attending school, over half (53.6%) have not attended school for more than a year while 35.3% have not attended school for six months to a year and 10.2% have been out of school for under six months. Two children (0.9%) reported previously not being enrolled in school, have since enrolled in school but are unable to attend.



Children not attending school, by household groups

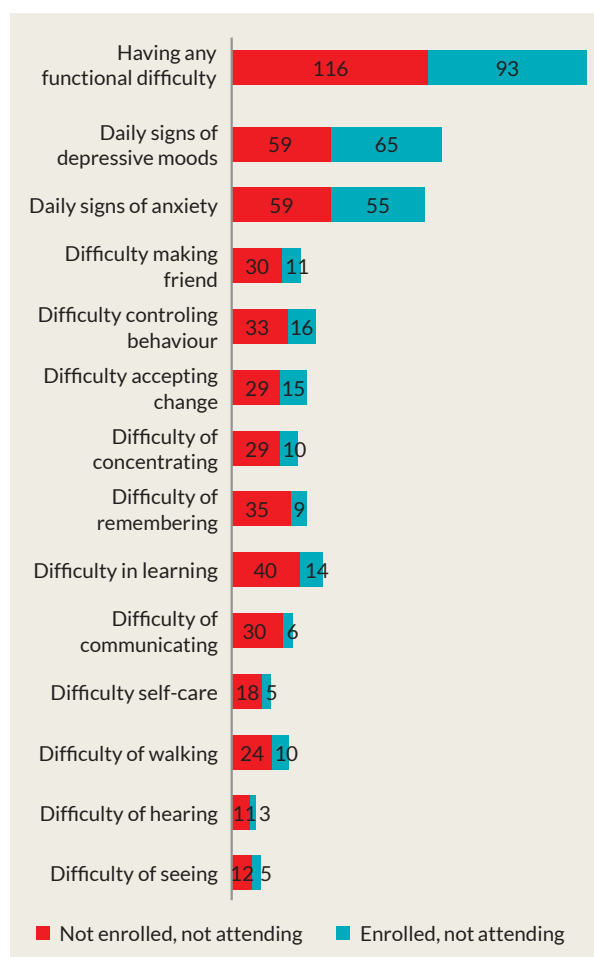


- A higher proportion of children who reported not attending school were from Kandahar (46.3% - with 42.4% not enrolled in school and 3.9% enrolled in school), Faryab (40.5% - with 15.0% not enrolled in school, and 25.5% enrolled in school) and Nangarhar (37.1% - with 15.2% not enrolled in school and 21.9% enrolled in school).
- Girls were more likely than boys to not be attending school (45.7% vs 20.4%). Older children aged 15-18 were more likely to be out of school than those aged 11-14 (48.5% vs 24.9%). Children with a disability were more likely to be out of school than those without a disability (36.4% vs 29.9%).
- Children from IDP households (27.4%) and returnee households (22.9%), children from female-headed households (22.8%), and children from households with a person with a disability (18.7%) were more likely to report not being enrolled and not attending school, as compared to the overall child respondents (16.3%).

Child with Functional Difficulty and School Attendance



Number of children not attending school, by child difficulties domains



- Over 1 in 3 children (36.4% or 209 children) who was reported by their caregivers as having a functional difficulty were not attending school. A larger number of them were reported by their caregivers as showing daily signs of anxiety – looking very anxious, nervous and worried daily (124 children), and showing daily signs of depressive moods– looking very sad or depressed (114 children)².

² The depression and anxiety was assessed from the responses of the caregivers' reports on the validated questions and consensus tool between Washington Group and UNICEF in the Child Functioning Module (https://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/fileadmin/uploads/wg/Documents/Washington_Group_Questionnaire_5_-_WG-UNICEF_Child_Functioning_Module_ages_5-17_.pdf), specifically questions CF 23 and CF24.

- Using the measures of a perceived sign of anxiety and depression reported by caregivers (Child Functional Module, 2020b), it appears that there is a strong association between children showing daily signs of depressive moods and anxiety and the likelihood of children not attending school.
- There was also a strong association between child development issues such as cognitive/learning difficulties and behaviour issues and the likelihood of children not attending school. Further research needs to be conducted to examine the causal relationship between the likelihood of not attending school and psychosocial difficulties, child learning difficulties, and child's behavioural issues by considering mediators and other confounding factors³ to understand the cause and effect.
- A larger number of children with cognitive difficulties – including difficulties in learning or/and remembering, or/and concentrating (71 children) reported not attending school. Likewise, children with difficulties in controlling behaviour (49 children) and children with difficulties in accepting changes (44 children) reported not attending school.

Reasons for not attending school

School closures and lack of nearby schools or learning spaces

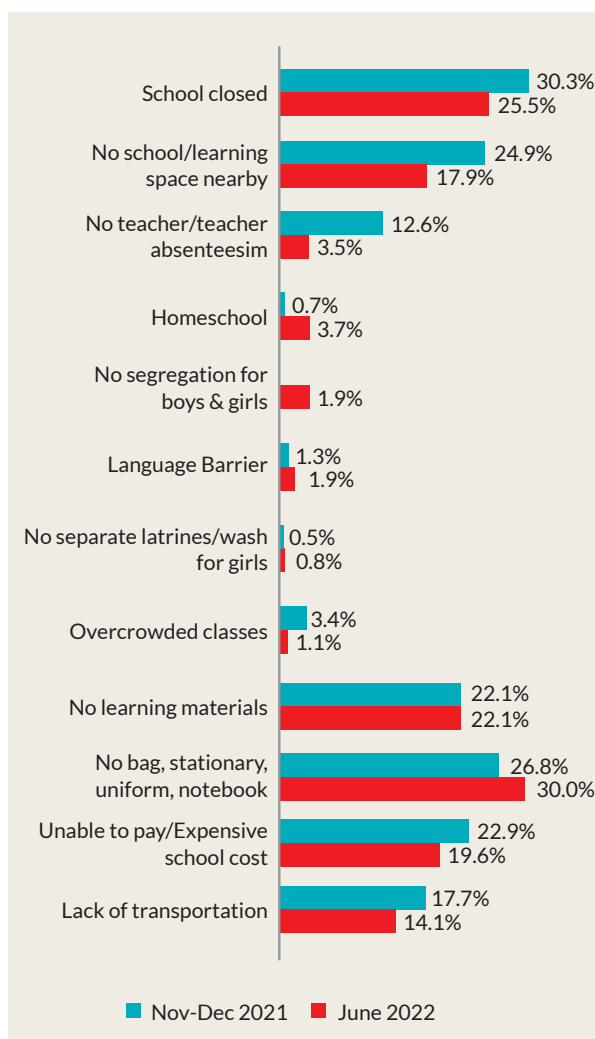
- Over one in four children (25.5%) said they were unable to attend school because their school remained closed.
- A higher proportion of girls reported unable to attend school due to school closed as compared to boys (35.6% vs 8.5%). This is in line with recent evidence that secondary schools for girls are currently only open in a few provinces but remain closed in the majority of provinces.
- Children in Nangarhar (45.3%), Kabul (38.0%), Faryab (34.7%) and Kandahar (33.6%) were more likely to be unable to attend school due to

the school closures than those in other provinces. In Jawzan and Sare-Pul, no children cited school closures as their main reason for not attending school.

- Nearly one in five children (17.9%) cited the unavailability of nearby schools or learning spaces as one of their reasons for not attending school – although this figure was slightly lower in June than last year (24.9%).
- Transportation cost remained a key reason for children not attending school (14.1%). A higher proportion of boys than girls said transportation costs were the reason they were not attending school (18.4% vs 11.5%).



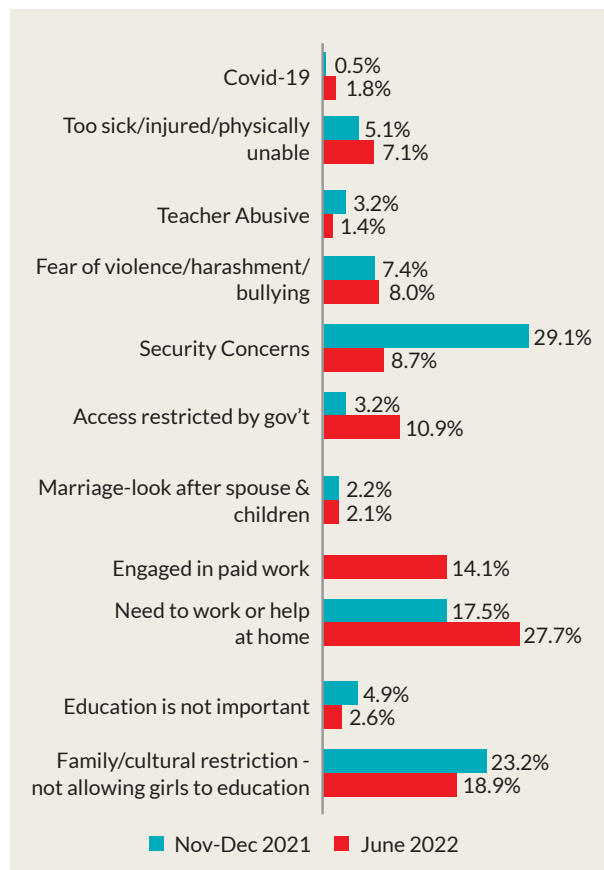
Child's reasons for not attending school due to the lack of school infrastructure, learning access/materials, and costs related issues



³ Confounding factors refer to other factors that may compete with the exposure of interests in explaining the outcome. The confounding factors might be able to provide more appropriate estimate of the true association – the association of “above and beyond”.



Child's reasons for not attending school due to family/cultural perception, access restrictions, security, health related problems, household or work responsibilities

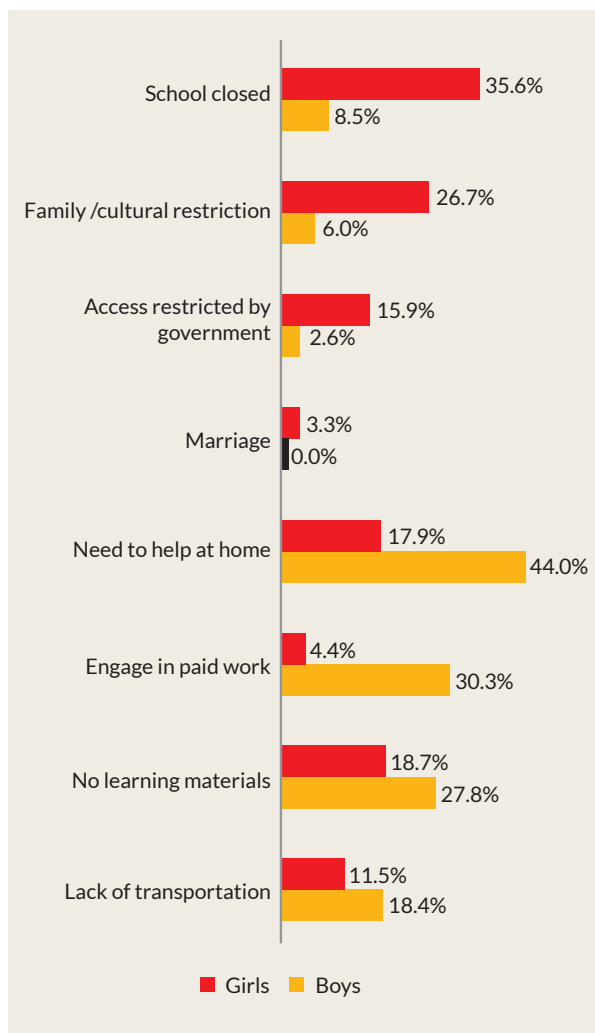


School related cost and learning material issues

- About one in five children (19.6%) said they were not attending school because their family was unable to pay school-related costs. This represented a slight decrease from 2021 (22.9%).
- Three in 10 children (30%) said a lack of stationery, bags, notebooks and/or uniform was one of the reasons they were not attending school – an increase from Nov-Dec 2021 (26.8%).
- The proportion of children citing a lack of learning materials as one of their reasons for not attending school remained high at 22.1% - the same as in 2021. A higher proportion of boys than girls reported a lack of learning materials as a reason for not going to school (27.8% vs 18.7%).



Child's reasons for not attending school, by gender



- There was a significant decrease in the proportion of children reporting unavailability of teachers and teacher absenteeism as their reason for not attending school (12.6% to 3.5%).
- A slightly higher proportion of children reported participating in home-schooling than in 2021 (3.7% vs 0.7%).

Health related Issue

- Nearly 1 in 10 children (7.1%) cited health issues including being physically unable or having a sickness/injury as their reason for not attending school.
- A very low proportion of the children (1.8%) cited the COVID-19 pandemic as the reason for not attending school.

Family perception, cultural restrictions and household responsibilities

- A significant proportion of children (27.7%) reported increasing household responsibilities helping or working for the family at home as a reason for not attending school. This increased significantly from the previous survey (17.5%). Boys were more likely than girls to be out of school due to responsibilities at home (44% vs 17.9%).
- 14.1% of children said they were not attending school because they were engaged in paid work. Boys were more likely to cite this as a reason for being out of school than the girls (30.3% vs 4.4 %).
- The proportion of children who said they were not attending school due to marriage and looking after their spouse and children remained the same as in 2021 (2%). All of them were girls (nine children), accounting for 3.3% of all girl respondents.
- 2.6% (16 children) said they were not attending school because of a perception in their family that education is not important for children.
- There was a slight decrease in the number of children who said they were not attending school due to family or cultural restrictions, including restrictions on girls going to school (18.9% vs 23.2% in 2021). Girls were four times more likely than boys (26.7% vs 6%) to report family or cultural restrictions as the reason they were not attending school.

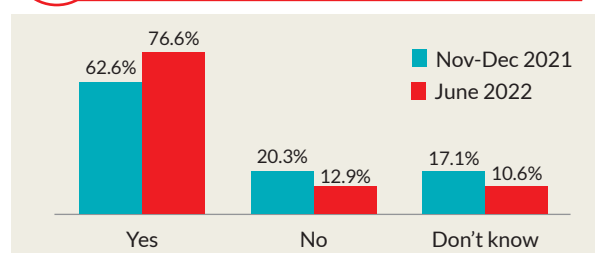
Security Concerns

- Children citing security concerns as their reason for not attending school declined significantly from 29.1% in Nov-Dec 2021 to 8.7% in June 2022.
- However, the proportion of children reporting not attending school due to restricted access by the de-facto authorities was even higher in June 2022 than in Nov-Dec 2022 (10.9% vs 3.2%).
- A higher proportion of girls than boys reported not attending school due to restricted access by de-facto authorities (15.9% vs 2.6%).
- 8% of children said they were not going to schools due to fear of violence, harassment, and bullying.

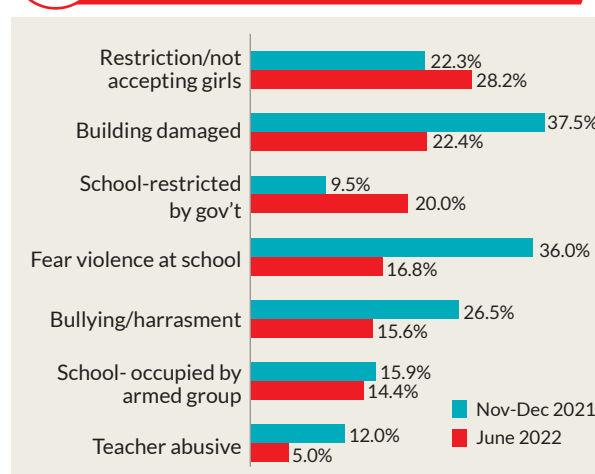
Safety Concerns at School



Children feeling safe at school



Child's reasons for not feeling safe at school



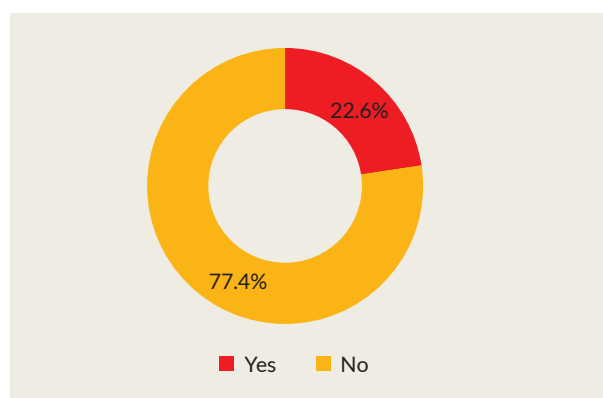
- Three in four children reported feeling safe at school, increasing from 62.6% in Nov-Dec 2021 to 76.6% in June 2022. The proportion of children who said they did not feel safe at school or do not know if they are safe at school declined from the previous year.
- Among those who reported not feeling safe, a higher proportion cited cultural restrictions (e.g. not accepting girls in school) as the reason. This increased from 22.3% in Nov/Dec 2021 to 28.1% in June 2022.
- There was a significant increase in the number of children who did not feel safe due to restrictions on attending school by de-facto authorities, from 9.5% in 2021 to 20% in 2022.
- There was a significant decrease in the number of children who said they felt unsafe due to damaged buildings (37.5% to 22.4%); fear of violence at school (36.0% to 16.8%); bullying or harassment (26.5% to 15.6%) and an abusive teacher (12.0% to 5.0%).

CHILDREN'S WELLBEING

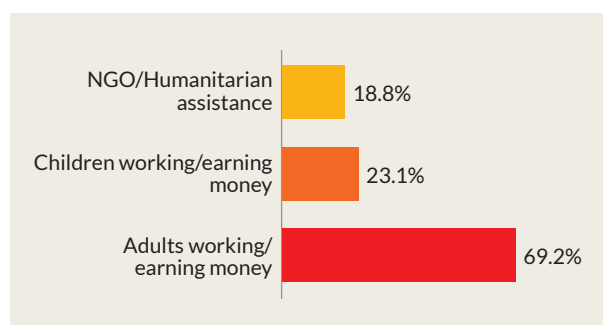
Children's Economic Wellbeing



Child perceived the families are poor – unable to provide general basic needs



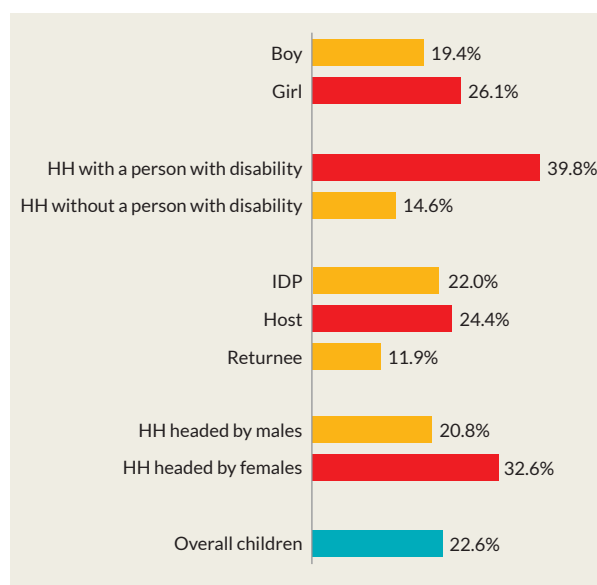
Child perception on how family able to provide economically



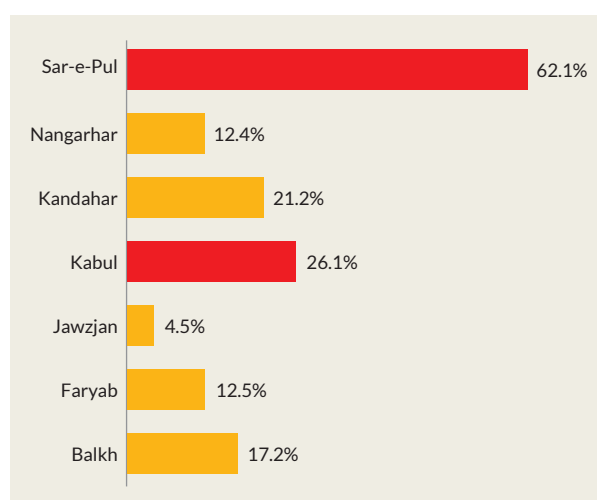
- Nearly 1 in 4 children (22.6%) perceived their family was unable to provide them with general basic needs for life survival such as food, shelter and clean water.
- Around 7 in 10 children (69.2%) reported their families were able to provide their basic needs by working or earning money.
- 23.1% reported that their families were able to provide their basic needs by engaging children in the household in work to earn money.
- 18.8% reported receiving humanitarian assistance to support their family economic wellbeing.



Children perceived their families are poor – unable to provide, by household and child characteristics



Children perceived their families are poor – unable to provide, by provinces



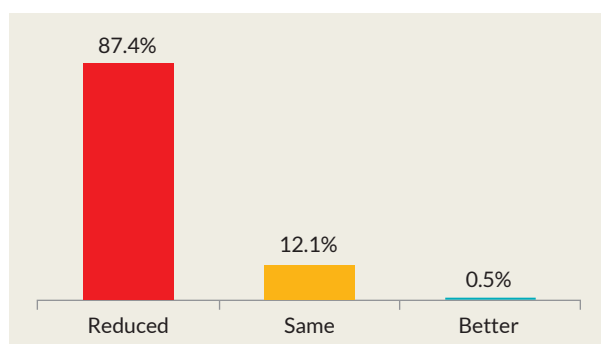
- A higher proportion of girls than boys (26.1% vs 19.4%) perceived their family to be poor and unable to provide their basic needs for their survival such as foods, water and shelter.

- Children from households with a person with a disability (39.8%), from host community households (24.4%) and from female-headed households (32.6%) were more likely to perceive their family as poor and unable to provide for their basic needs than other children basic needs, as compared to the overall children.
- Children in Sar-e-Pul (62.1%) and Kabul (26.1%) were more likely to report that their family was unable to provide their basic needs than those in other provinces.

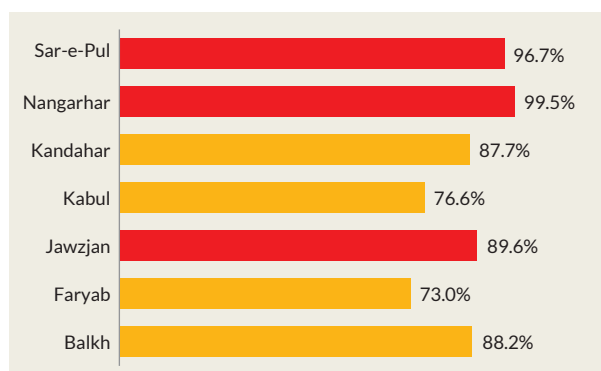
Child Hunger



Children with reduced meals



Children with reduced meals, by provinces

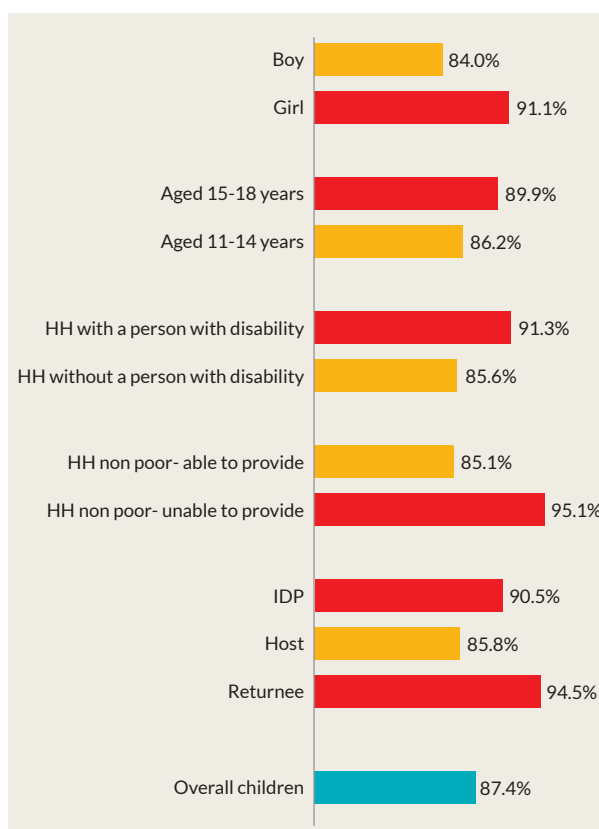


- Nearly 9 in 10 children (87.4%) reported their number of meals have reduced when they were asked to compare it the previous year, 12.1% reported having same meal intakes, and a very few of them (0.5%) or only 7 children reported having a better meal intake compared to the previous year.

- Children in Nangarhar (99.5%), Sar-e-Pul (96.7%) and Jawzjan (89.6%) were more likely to report eating fewer meals than those in other provinces.



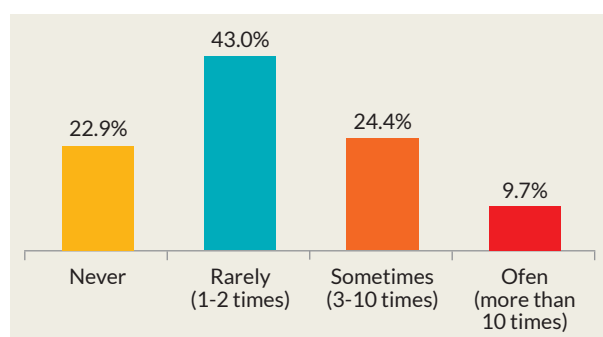
Children with reduced meals, by household and child characteristics



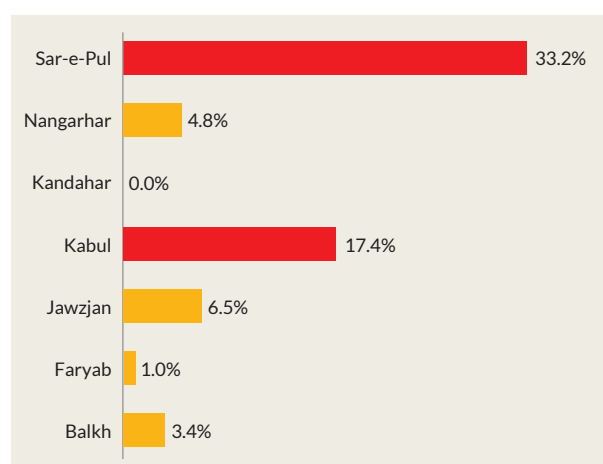
- Girls were more likely than boys to report having reduced meals (91.1% vs 84.0%). Likewise, older children aged 15-18 were more likely than the younger children aged 11-14 to report their meals being reduced (89.9% vs 86.2%).
- Children who perceived their family to be unable to provide general basic needs were more likely to report their meals having reduced than those who perceived otherwise (95.1% vs 85.1%).
- Children from households with a person with a disability (91.3%), refugee/returnee households (94.5%) and IDP households (90.5%) were also more likely to report a reduction in their meals than those from other households.



Children going to bed at night hungry in the past 30 days



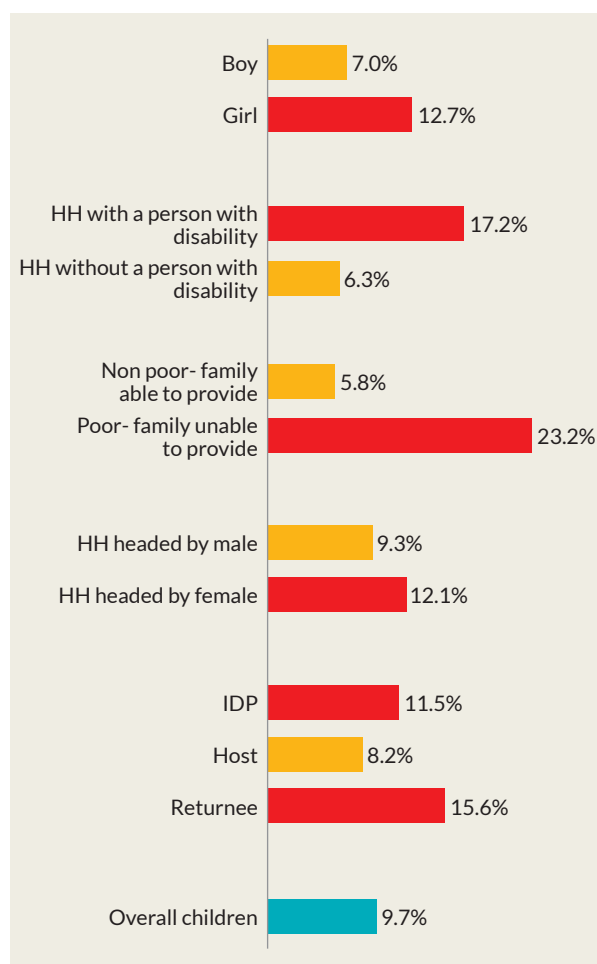
Children often going to bed at night hungry in the past 30 days, by provinces



- Over three-quarters of children (77.1%) reported they have gone to bed at night hungry in the past 30 days and 22.9% said they have never gone to bed hungry in the past 30 days.
- Among those reporting going to bed at night hungry, 1 in 10 children (9.7% or 141 children) reported it happened often – more than 10 times in the past 30 days.
- About 1 in 4 children (24.4%) reported sometimes going to bed hungry – 3 to 10 times in the past 30 days; and 43.0% reported rarely going to bed hungry – 1-2 times in the past 30 days.
- In line with the report on reduced meals intake, children living in Sar-e-Pul (33.2%) were also more likely to report often going to bed hungry (more than 10 times in the past 30 days), compared to those living in other provinces.



Children often going to bed at night hungry in the past 30 days, by household and child characteristics



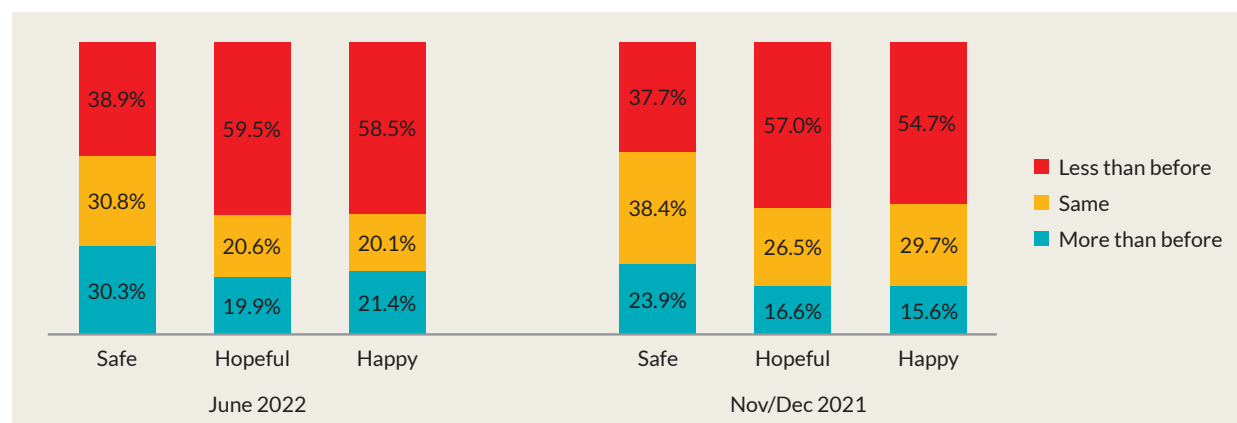
- Although a higher proportion of children living in Nangarhar reported having reduced meals, only 4.8% reported they often go to bed hungry. Instead, a higher proportion of them reported 'sometimes' (35.0%) and 'rarely' (45.7%) gone to sleep hungry in the past 30 days.
- A higher proportion of children who reported going to sleep hungry at night were those from poor households where children perceived their family to be unable to provide their basic needs (23.2%), households with a person with a disability (17.2%), female-headed households (12.1%), returnee households (15.6%), and IDP households (11.5%).
- Girls were also more likely to report often (more than 10 times in a month) going to sleep hungry at night than boys (12.7% vs 7.0%).

Children's Psychosocial Wellbeing

Children with positive feelings



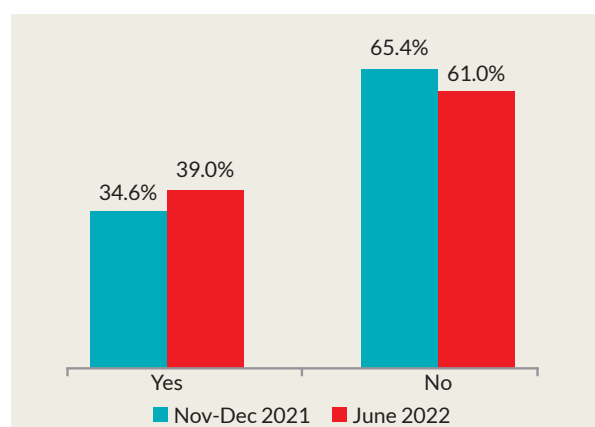
Children expressing feelings – happy, hopeful, and safe



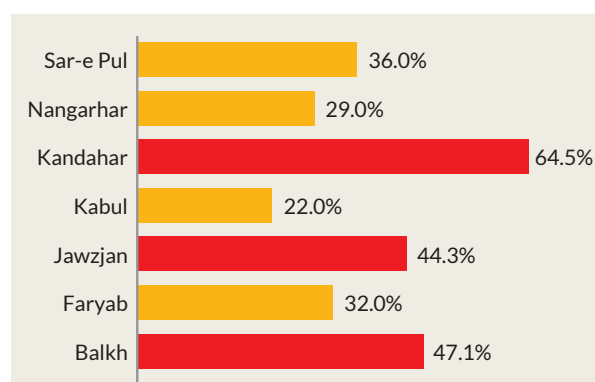
- Despite the current economic crises and security concerns, about one in five children (21.4%) reported being happier when they were asked to compare their general happiness before and after the Taliban taking control. The proportion of children who reported feeling happier increased from 15.6% in 2021 to 21.4% in 2022.
- There was a slight increase in the proportion of children reporting feeling safer now (in June 2022) than those reported feeling safer in Nov-Dec 2021 – from 23.9% to 30.3%.
- Likewise, there was a slight increase in the proportion of children reported feeling more hopeful now (in June 2022) than those reported feeling hopeful in Nov-Dec 2021 – from 16.6% to 19.9%.
- Overall, two in five children (39%) said they have more positive feelings – either feeling happier and/or more hopeful, and/or safer – than before the Taliban took control – a slight increase from 2021 (34.6%).
- Of the children who expressed overall positive feelings, a higher proportion of them were from Kandahar (64.5%), Balkh (47.1%), and Jawzjan (44.3%) than other provinces.



Children expressed any positive feelings

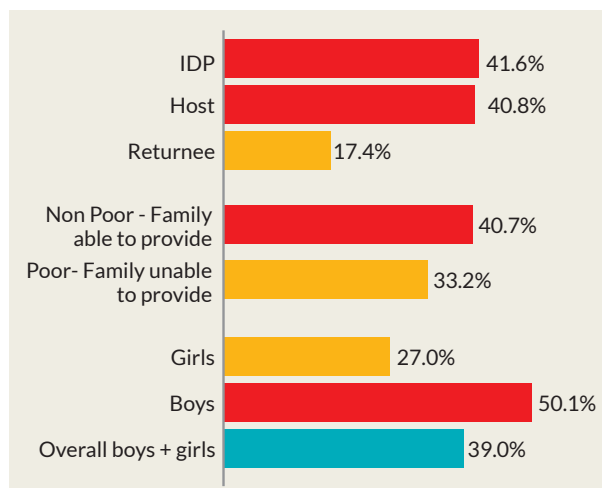


Children expressing any positive feelings, by provinces





Children expressing any positive feeling, by household and child characteristics

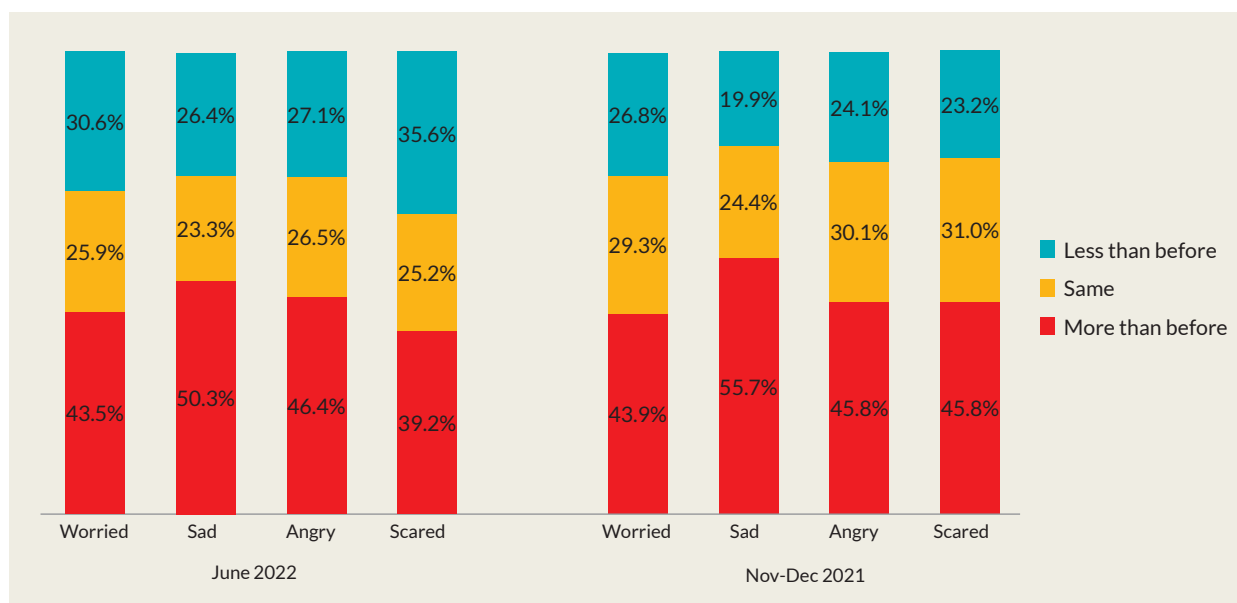


- Boys were significantly more likely than girls to express positive feelings (50.1% vs 27.0%). Statistically, there was no significant difference across different age groups and between the children with a disability and children without a disability.
- A higher proportion of children who expressed positive feelings were from relatively non-poor households (as per child's own perception of their family's ability to provide their basic needs) than poor households (40.7% vs 33.2%).
- Children from host community households (40.8%) and IDP households (41.6%) were more likely to express positive feelings than those from returnee households (17.4%).

Children with negative feelings



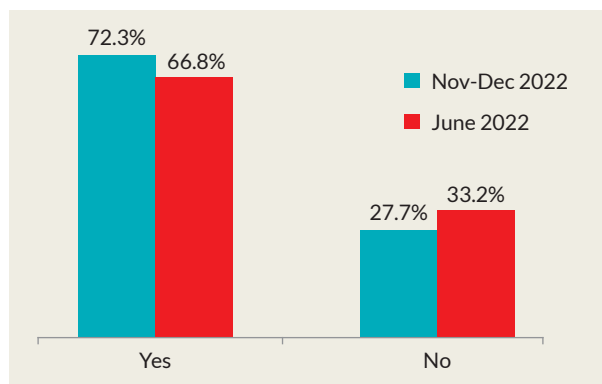
Children expressing feeling – worried, sad, angry and scared



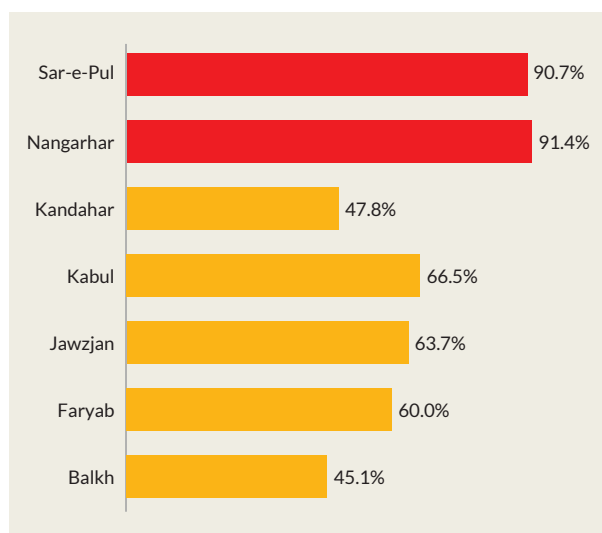
- Half of the children (50.3%) reported being sadder than before when they were asked to compare their general sadness before and after Taliban taking control. The proportion decreased slightly from Nov-Dec 2021 (from 55.7% to 50.3%).
- Likewise, a decrease could also be seen in the proportion of children who reported feeling 'more scared' now (in June 2022) than those reported feeling 'more scared' in Nov-Dec 2021 – decreasing from 45.8% to 39.2%.
- The proportion of children reporting feeling 'more worried' and 'more angry' remained relatively the same as in Nov-Dec 2021.



Children expressing overall negative feelings



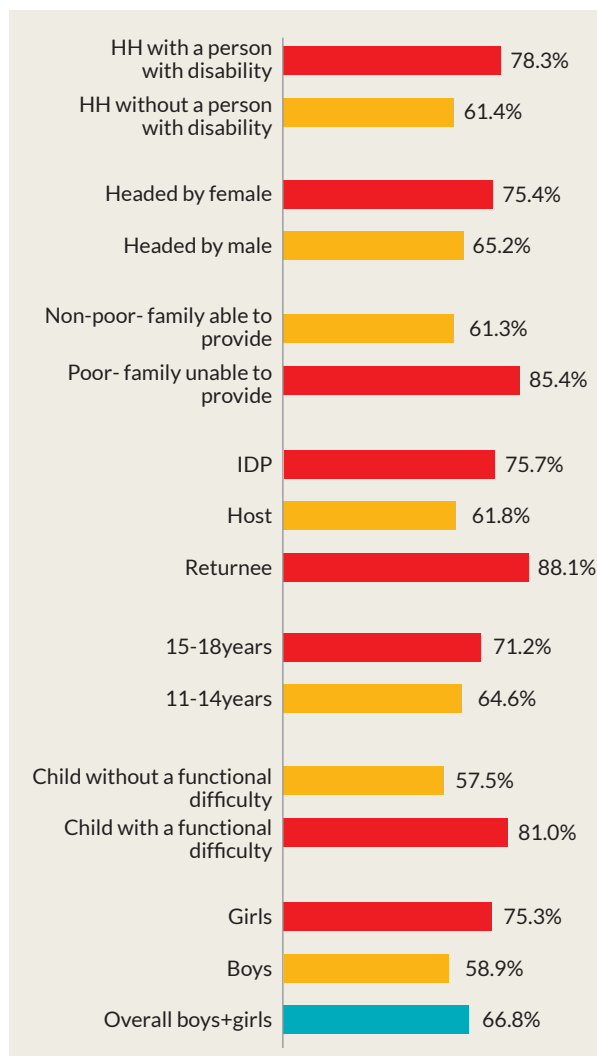
Children expressing overall negative feelings, by provinces



- Overall, two in three children (66.8%) expressed negative feelings, either feeling more worried, and/or sadder, and/or more angry, and/or more scared and/or more bored after the Taliban control. This decreased slightly from Nov-Dec 2021 (from 72.3% to 66.8%).
- Girls were more likely than boys to express negative feelings (75.3% vs 58.9%).
- A higher proportion of children aged 15-18 year olds than 11-14 year olds expressed any negative feelings (71.2% vs 64.6%). Likewise, a higher proportion of the children with a functional difficulty than children without a functional difficulty expressed the same feelings (81.0% vs 57.5%).



Children expressing any negative feelings, by household group

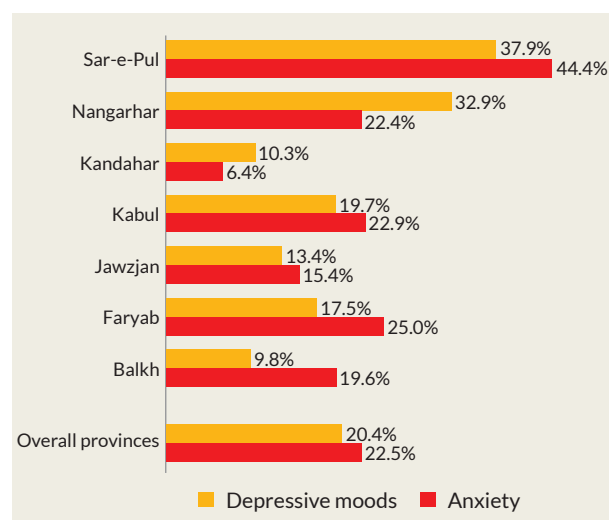


- A higher proportion of children expressing negative feelings was reported by children from relatively poor households as compared to those from non-poor households (85.4% vs 61.3%), children from a female-headed households than those from a male-headed household (75.4% vs 65.2%) and children from a household with a person with disability than those from a household without a person with a disability (78.3% vs 61.4%)
- Likewise, a higher proportion of children from returnee and IDP households than those from the host community (88.1%, 75.7% vs 61.8%), and children from households with a person with a disability than those without a person with a disability (78.3% vs 61.4%)

Daily signs of anxiety and depressive moods in children



Children showing daily signs of anxiety and depressive moods, by provinces



- Using indicators from Child Functioning Module, over 1 in 5 children was reported by their caregiver showing daily signs of anxiety (22.5%) and daily signs of depressive moods (20.4%).
- Children in Sar-e-Pul (37.9%) and Nangarhar (32.9%) were more likely to show signs of depressive moods than those living in other provinces.
- Children living in Sar-e-Pul (44.4%) were also more likely to show daily signs of anxiety than those living in other provinces.

Children with daily signs of anxiety

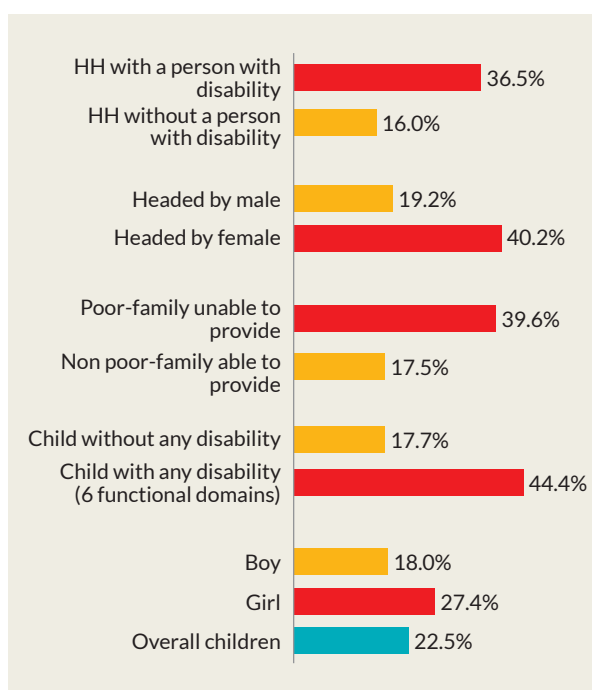
- A higher proportion of girls than boys were reported by their caregiver to show daily signs of anxiety, such as nervousness or being sad (27.4% vs 18.0%).
- Similarly, a higher proportion of children with a disability⁴ than those without a disability reported struggling with signs of anxiety on daily basis (78.3% vs 61.4%)

⁴ Measured based on caregiver report of any difficulties in six functional domains – having difficulties in seeing or hearing or walking or remembering/concentrating or communicating or self-care

- Statistically, there was no significant difference in the report of daily signs of anxiety between children aged 11-14 and those aged 15-18.
- In terms of household characteristics, a higher proportion of children from poor households than those from non-poor households had daily signs of anxiety (39.6% vs 17.5%). Likewise, a higher proportion of children from female-headed households than children from male-headed households had a daily sign of anxiety (40.2% vs 19.2%).



Children with daily signs of anxiety, by household & children characteristics

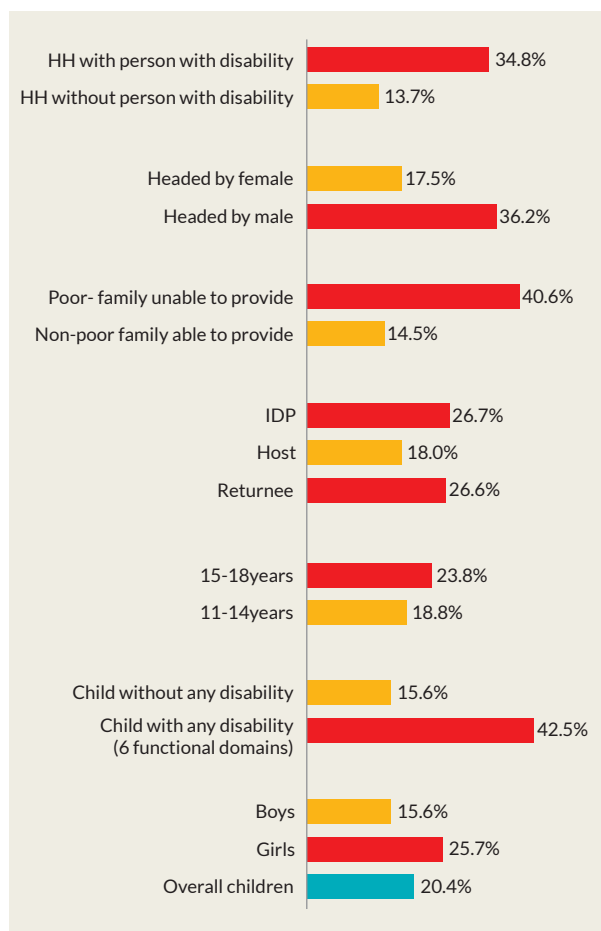


Children with daily signs of depressive moods

- A higher proportion of girls than boys were reported by their caregivers to show daily signs of depressive moods or sadness (25.7% vs 15.6%).
- Similarly, children with a disability were nearly three times more likely than those without a disability to show daily sign of depressive moods (42.5% vs 15.6%)
- Children aged 15 to 18 were also more likely to show signs of depressive moods than younger children aged 11-14 (23.8% vs 18.8%).



Children with daily signs of depressive moods, by household & children characteristics



- In terms of household characteristics, a higher proportion of children from poor households than those from non-poor households (40.6% vs 14.5%), children from female-headed households than male-headed households (36.2% vs 17.5%) and children from IDP or returnee households than those of host community (26.7% vs 18.0%) reported showing these signs of depressive moods on daily basis.

Family Expectation for Children to Help



Household expectation for children to help the family

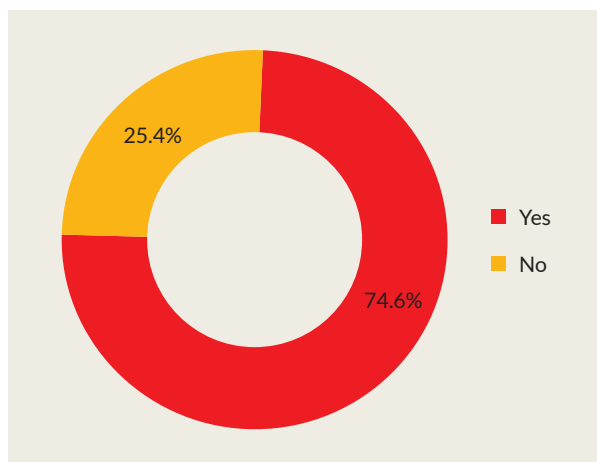
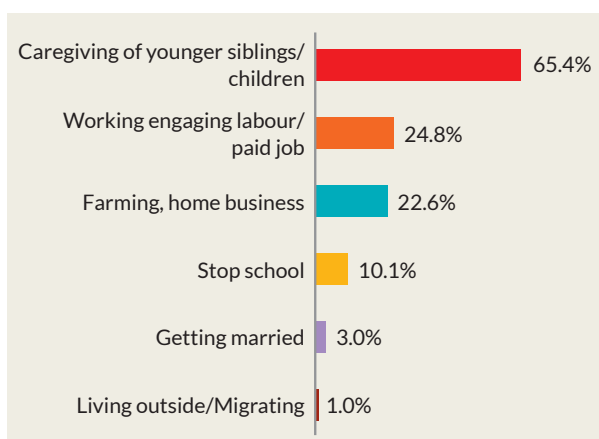


Photo Credit: Sacha Myers/Save the Children



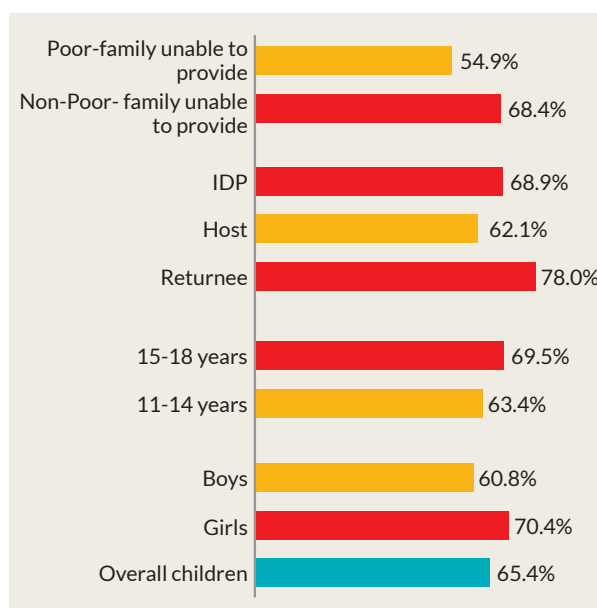
Children being asked to help their family



- Three-quarters (74.6%) of children reported being asked to help their family to take care of younger siblings/children, work in the farming or family business, engage in labour/paid work, stop schooling, get married, or live outside the house or migrate.
- Of those being asked to help their family, nearly 2 in 3 of them (65.4%) reported being asked to help with caring for younger siblings/children, 24.8% reported being asked to do paid work/labour and 22.6% reported being asked to do farming or help with family business.
- Three in five boys (60.8%) were asked to help their family care for younger siblings/children. However, a higher proportion of girls (70.4%) than boys were asked to do caregiving.



Children – asked to help in caregiving/ household chores, by household & children characteristics



- Children from IDP (68.9%) and returnee (78.0%) families were also more likely than the children from host community (62.1%) to report being asked to help with caregiving.
- A lower proportion of children from poor households than those from non-poor household reported being asked to take care of younger siblings (54.9% vs 68.9%). Instead, as shown in the earlier section, children from poor households were more likely to be asked to engage in paid work or labour.

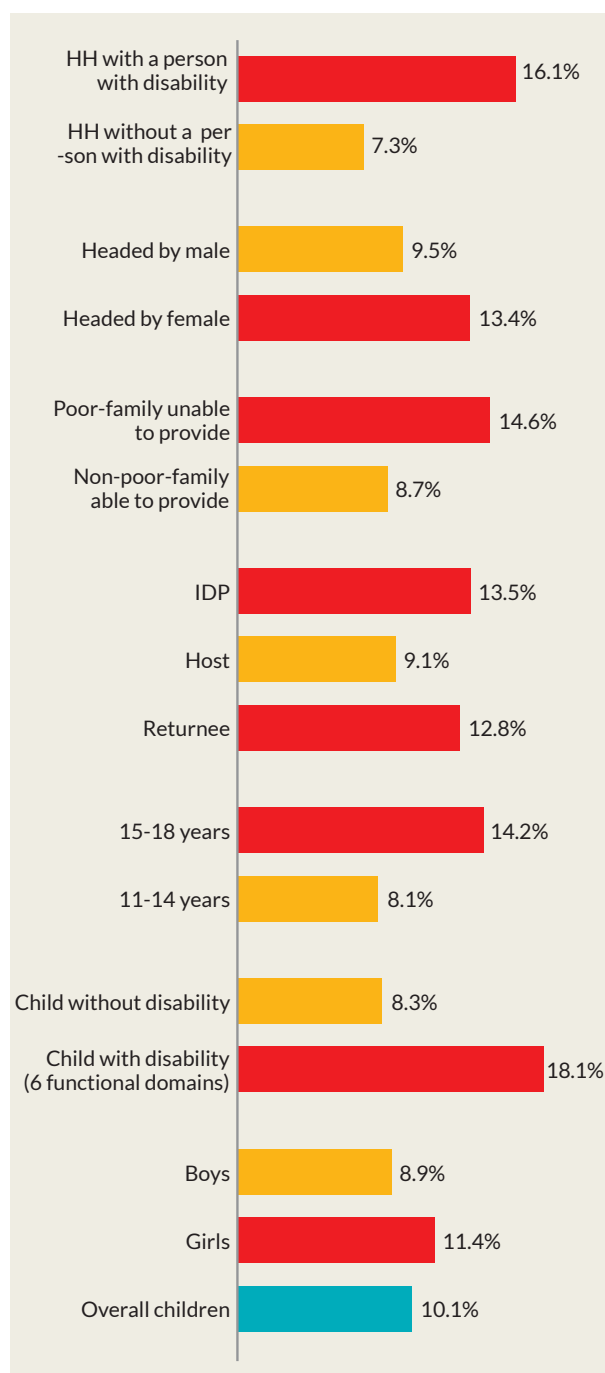
CHILD RIGHTS

Child Rights to Education

- While 32.5% of children reported not attending school, 10.1% of children also reported being asked to stop school as a way to help their family overcome economic difficulties.
- Girls were more likely to be asked to stop school than boys (11.4 vs 8.9%). Likewise, older children (aged 15-18 years) were also more likely to be asked to stop school compared with younger children aged 11-14 years (14.2% vs 8.1%).
- A higher proportion of children from female headed households than those from male-headed households (13.4% vs 9.5%) and a higher proportion of IDPs or returnees than host community children (13.5% and 12.8% vs 9.1%) were asked to stop going to school.
- Children with a disability compared to those without a disability were twice more likely to report being asked to stop school (18.1% vs 8.3%).



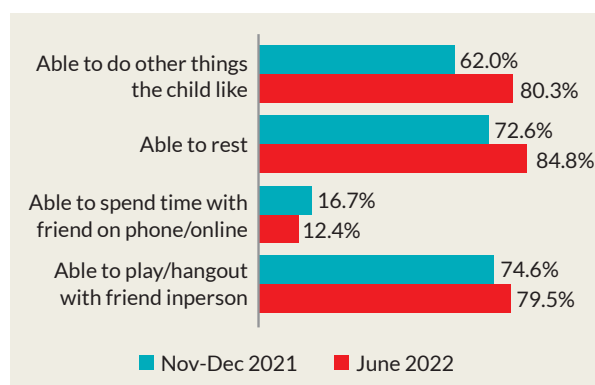
Children – asked to stop school, by household & children characteristics



Child Rights to Play, to Rest, Do Activities and Freedom of Association



Child rights to rest, play, do activities and freedom of association



- Around 4 in 5 children reported being able to play or hangout with friends in person (79.5%), do things or activities they like to do (80.3%), and rest (84.8%).
- Boys were more likely than girls to report able to play or hangout with friends in person (88.1% vs 67.7%). Likewise, children aged 11-14 were more likely than children aged 15-18 to report being able to play or hangout with friends in person (88.1% vs 67.7%).
- Boys were also more likely than girls to report being able to rest (88.1% vs 81.2%). There was no significant difference between children aged 11-14 and children aged 15-18.
- Likewise, boys were also more likely than girls to report being able to do things/activities they like to do (83.0% vs 77.5%) and there was no significant difference between children aged 11-14 and children aged 15-18.
- Only slightly over 1 in 10 children (12.4%) reported being able to spend time with friends over the phone or online. This declined slightly from the previous report in Nov-Dec 2021 (16.7%). Boys were also more likely to report this than girls (16.5% vs 9.2%).



Photo Credit: Sacha Myers/Save the Children

Child Rights to Information, to be Heard and Decision Making

- There was significant progress in children's ability to access information, the right to make decisions, the right to be heard and the freedom to speak.
- Nearly 2 in 3 children (63.7%) reported they were able to ask questions – increasing significantly from the previous report in Nov-Dec 2021 (46.3%). There was no significant difference between genders.
- Over half (57.8%) reported that adults at home listen to children – increasing significantly from the previous report in Nov-Dec 2021 (36.9%). There was no significant difference between genders.
- In terms of freedom to speak, 32.2% of children reported that adults at home asked their opinion now – increasing from the previous report in Nov-Dec 2021 (22.3%). A higher proportion of boys than girls reported that adults at home asked their opinion (39.1% vs 25.0%).

- In terms of making decisions together between children and adults, around 1 in 5 children (18.6%) reported adults and children were able to make decisions together. A higher proportion of boys than girls reported that adults and child were able to make decisions together (22.7% vs 14.0%).



Child rights to ask questions, to be listened to, and decision making

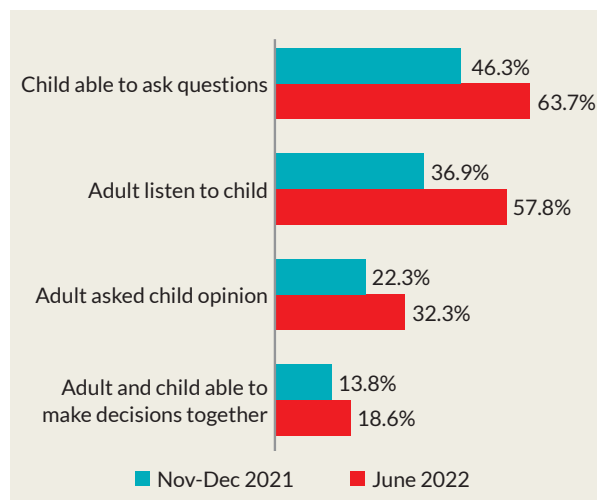
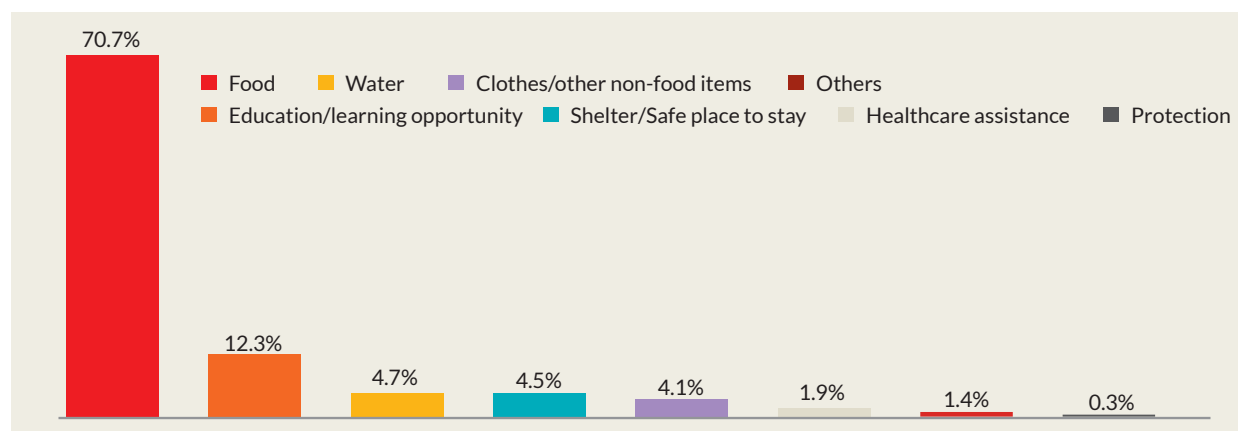


Photo Credit: Sacha Myers/Save the Children

CHILDREN'S REPORT ON PRIORITY NEEDS



Child first priority needs



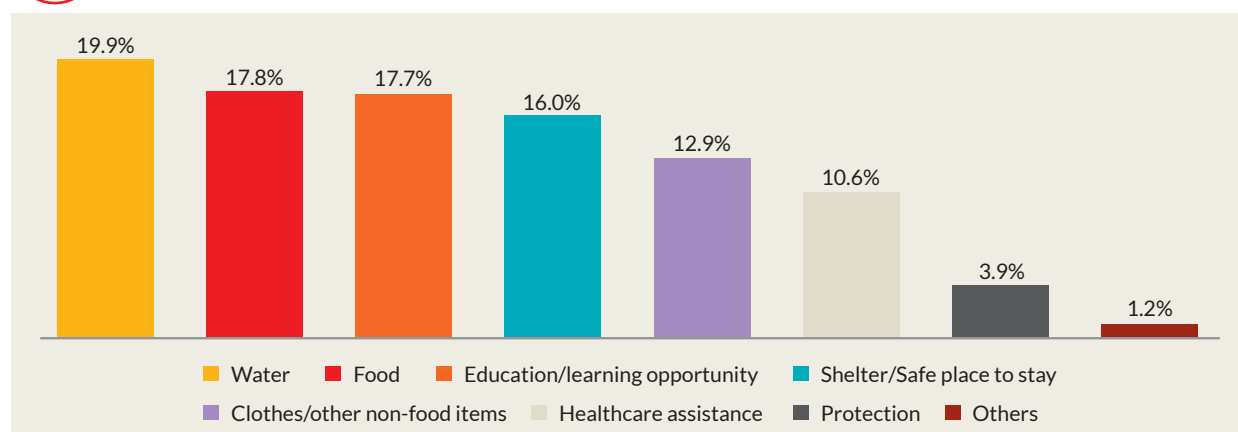
- Children cited food as their number one priority - reported by over 7 in 10 children.
- This indeed supports the findings that more than 3 in 4 children reported their family was unable to provide what they need to survive such as

food, water and shelter, and the vast majority of children (87.4%) reported eating fewer meals now, as compared to last year.

- A slightly higher proportion of boys than girls reported that their first priority was food (72.8% vs 68.4%).



Child second priority needs



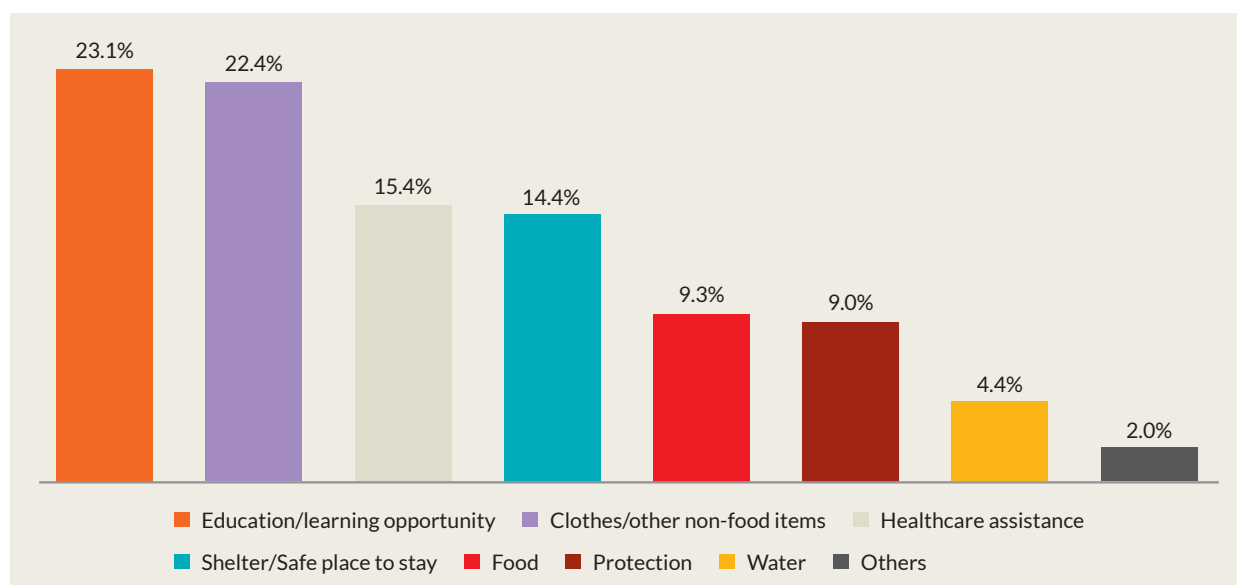
- Children's second most important priority varied across children. 19.9% of children reported needing water as their second priority, followed by the need for food (17.8%), education or learning opportunities (17.7%), shelter or a safe place to stay (16.0%), clothes (12.9%) and health care assistance (10.6%).
- Boys were more likely than girls to report their second priority as water (25.5% vs 13.7%) and clothes (14.0% vs 11.7%). On the other hands, girls

were more likely to report their second priority as food (21.4% vs 14.6%), shelter or safe place to stay (19.1% vs 12.1%), and healthcare assistance (11.7% vs 9.5%). There was no significant difference in reporting the needs of education/learning opportunities between boys and girls.

- Specific to healthcare needs as a second priority needs, children with disabilities were more likely to report healthcare needs than those without disabilities (13.9% vs 9.0%)



Child third priority needs



- Children's third priority ranged from education or learning opportunities (23.1%), clothes or other non-food items (22.4%), healthcare assistance (15.4%) and shelter or a safe place to stay (14.4%). Girls were more likely than boys to report needing healthcare assistance (16.8% vs 14.1%) as their third priority, while boys were more likely than girls to report shelter or a safe place to stay as their third priority. There was no significant difference in reporting the needs of education/learning opportunities and the needs of clothes or other non-food items between the boys and the girls.
- 9.0% of children also reported needing protection as their third priority. A higher proportion were girls compared to boys (11.9% vs 6.5%) and displaced (either IDP or refugee) rather than non-displaced children (13.1% vs 7.5%).



Photo Credit: Sacha Myers/Save the Children

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Household Economy

Key findings:

- The vast majority of households perceived they were unable to meet their basic needs at all or only able to meet some of their basic needs.
- Over 9 in 10 households reported losing income in recent times, increasing significantly from the previous report, from 82% to 96%.
- However, a lower proportion of households reported losing all their income, decreasing from 35% in Nov-Dec 2021 to 12% in June 2022. A much higher proportion of households reported losing most of their household income or at least half of their household income.
- The most vulnerable households – who reported being unable to meet any of their basic needs and losing all of their household income – were female-headed households, households with a person with a disability, IDP households, and households located in Sar-e-Pul and Kabul.
- The proportion of households that reported receiving income from permanent jobs has decreased, while those with income from temporary jobs has increased.
- The proportion of households that are sourcing income from selling household assets, humanitarian assistance, community support and remittances from other family members/relatives has also increased significantly.
- Over 1 in 10 households reported sourcing income from self-employment activities, such as food production/sale and commerce/business.
- The main coping strategies used by poor households who have lost all their household income included decreasing expenditure on health and education, relying on charity or humanitarian assistance and selling household assets.
- More than 7 in 10 children cited food as their top priority need. Healthcare was also cited as the second priority, particularly by children with disabilities. Water, education or learning opportunities, and shelter or a safe place to stay

were also cited by children as their second and third priorities.

Recommendations

- Increase and continue supporting populations in need, particularly poor children and families who have lost most or all of their household income, and those who are unable to meet their general basic needs for survival, with urgent lifesaving assistance (i.e, food, water and shelter/safe place to stay). Particular attention should also be paid to the households located in Sar-e-Pul and Kabul, which have a high number of relatively poor households.
- Ensure equitable and disability-inclusive humanitarian support and interventions that include households with adults or children with a disability, female headed households, IDP and returnee households as well as their families and children.
- Strengthen livelihoods of those involved in self-employment activities – providing assistance in their income generating activities in the agriculture sector (food production and sales) and small to medium enterprises/commerce to increase their returns and productivity. This may include diversifying sources of food and income so households can sustain their livelihoods through lean season and reduce negative coping strategies during this time.
- Ensure timely emergency food security and livelihood protection measures such as distribution of crops and livestock inputs during winter and planting seasons.
- Ensure that poor households who reported reducing their expenditure on health and education can access healthcare assistance and receive education opportunities for their children through free healthcare and education services.
- Ensure support for children with disabilities who reported needing healthcare assistance – such as through expanding the deployment of mobile health teams/clinics and rehabilitation services for people with disabilities.

Child Protection

Key findings

- A significant proportion of households reported implementing some negative coping strategies to overcome economic difficulties that resulted in some child protection issues, such as child labor, child (unaccompanied) migration, children begging on the street, child marriage and children exchanged for debt.
- A significant proportion of the households who lost all their income compared reported letting their children engage in labour, migrate for work, leave the house to stay elsewhere and beg or stay on street.

Child Labour

- The prevalence of child labor is significant across households with poor economic conditions as perceived by adults and by child respondents.
- A higher proportion of children who were asked to engage in child labour were from female-headed households, IDP households, households with any child or adult with disability and households from Sar-e-Pul, Balkh, Nangarhar, and Kandahar.
- Children with a male primary caregiver were also more likely than children with a female primary caregiver to report being asked to engage in labour.

Child Marriage

- Girls and older children (aged 15-18 years) were more likely to be asked to get married than boys or younger children
- Arranging early marriage and selling their child or exchanging them for debt were also reported by a few households, particularly households belonging to girl respondents.
- A higher proportion of children with female primary caregivers than those with male primary caregivers, and those living in Balkh and Sar-e-Pul than those living in other provinces reported being asked to get married to help overcome household economic difficulties

Child Movement/Migration

- Over a quarter of children reported being displaced or moved from where they normally lived. A high proportion of them were from Balkh, Faryab and Jawzjan
- Security concerns, damaged house, family seeking resources, and family separation were reported as the main reasons for child movement or migration.
- Children from urban areas reported moving from where they normally lived. They may perceive that urban areas could provide a better opportunity for seeking resources for their family.

Recommendations

- Address negative coping mechanisms used by the poor households that resulted in child protection issues (such as child labour, unaccompanied child migration, early forced child marriage, and the sale of children or children exchanged for debt) and implement an integrated holistic program approach through family strengthening, parenting support, individual case management support, and multipurpose cash assistance targeted for poor families with high protection risks.
- Strengthen protection programming for girls who are at high risk being forced into child marriage, when possible to implement safely for staff and child, and for boys who are at high risk of being asked to engage in child labour or forced migration/leaving their house to stay elsewhere or be separated from the family.
- Work in partnership with thematic teams to ensure child protection risks are assessed and accounted for in other thematic programming so that they are able to safely identify and refer children with protection needs in other thematic programmes, such as protection risk in education/health /nutrition /WASH /CVA programming, psychosocial support and humanitarian distribution, and other programming to improve household economy.
- Include protection risk awareness and information on available services and psychological aid support across humanitarian teams.

Children's Education

Key Findings

- The number of children not attending school declined to about 20%, from 594 children (42%) in Nov-Dec 2021 to 471 children (33%) in June 2022. On the other hand, the number of children attending school every day increased significantly by 23%, from 674 children (48%) as reported in Nov-Dec 2021 to 826 children (57%) as reported in June 2022). This suggests a noteworthy progress on child education enrolment and attendance in the current situation that may potentially be contributed by the achievement of education programmes or initiatives implemented by Save the Children Afghanistan or other community and humanitarian organisations - including ensuring school-age children are able to enrol in formal or MOE education, and establishing community-based education or informal learning centres/ places.
- The increase in school attendance and enrollment was still dominated by the attendance and enrollment of boys rather than girls. Moreover, a lower proportion of those enrolled and attending school was seen among the older children (aged 15-18 years) in the current period, as compared to the previous period (Nov-Dec 2021).
- A significant proportion of children in Kandahar, Faryab and Nangarhar were not attending school.
- A higher proportion of girls, older children (15-18 year olds), children of IDP or inability, children of female-headed households, and children with disability reported not attending school than other children.
- Children with a functional difficulty, particularly those with daily signs of depression, anxiety, and difficulties in psychosocial aspects, such as cognitive/learning and behavioral aspects, were likely not to attend school.
- Significant reasons cited by children for not attending school included: school closure, unavailability of learning space nearby, inability to pay the school related costs and transport costs, and not having learning materials, uniform,

school bags, or notebooks. The school closure was more likely to be reported by girls than boys, particularly those in Nangarhar, Kabul, Faryab, and Kandahar

- The proportion of children feeling safe at school increased in June 2022 as compared to the previous report in Nov-Dec 2021. However, the proportion of children who did not feeling safe at school due to learning access restrictions by de-facto authorities and family/cultural restrictions remained high - increasing from the previous survey.

Recommendations

- Continue and expand education programmes and initiatives including establishing a greater number of community-based schools and fund their maintenance to increase access, opportunity and participation of the children in education, particularly for girls and adolescents (older children).
- Provide children with more support to access learning materials, such as school bags, stationery, uniforms, notebooks, reading books, textbooks and other school supplies.
- Prioritize Kandahar, Faryab, Nangarhar provinces in future proposals for education programming or initiatives to increase children's enrollment and attendance in education or learning activities.
- Provide additional learning support and/or referral to health service for children identified as having a 'risk of disability' or who are observed by their caregiver as having a functional difficulty, such as in cognitive or learning difficulties, behavioral issues and difficulty and managing emotions, who were unable to attend school.
- Strengthen engagement and dialogue between community and families to encourage children generally, and girls particularly, to attend and be enrolled in schools.
- Strengthen messaging and campaigns on the importance of education and communication/ campaigns on the zero cost education to circumvent misperception of costly education.

- Strengthen ties and referrals between Education and Cash Assistance specific to supporting children's education.
- Continue to raise awareness through risk mapping exercises as well as emphasis on communicative teaching skills to increase feelings of safety for boys and girls.
- Raise awareness of promotion of girls' education, safe conditions for girls to attend school

Children's Wellbeing

Key Findings:

Economic Wellbeing

- Over one in four children perceived their family to be relatively poor – unable to provide the needs for their survival such as food, water or shelter. Children from female-headed households and households with any person with a disability, as well as girls were more likely to report that their family was unable to provide basic needs than other children. Furthermore, a higher proportion of them lived in Sar-e-Pul and Kabul than other provinces.
- Among those reporting their family was able to provide basic needs, 23% of them reported that the children in the household had to work to earn money to help the family.

Child Hunger

- The vast majority of children reported having reduced meal intake as compared to the previous year. A higher proportion of girls than boys and a higher proportion of older children than younger children reported this. It might be common for older children/adults' and girls' meals to be restricted, limited or reduced in order for younger children or boys to eat.
- There was a strong association between poor economic conditions and children going to bed hungry at night in the past 30 days. Children from perceived poor households, household headed by females, households with any person with a disability, and those from IDP and returnee households were more likely going to bed hungry at night for more than ten times in the past 30 days, than children from other households.

Children Expressing Positive Feelings

- Despite the challenging situation, 1 in 5 children expressed a happier feeling when comparing their general happiness before and after the Taliban took control - an increase from Nov-Dec 2021. There was also a slight increase in the proportion of children feeling more hopeful and feeling safer now (June 2022) compared to previous reports in Nov-Dec 2021.
- 2 in 5 children expressed overall positive feelings, either happier and/or safer and/or more hopeful. A higher proportion of them were from Kandahar, Balkh, and Jawzjan than other provinces. Likewise, boys, children from non-poor households and children from host community and IDP were more likely to report overall positive feeling than children overall.

Children Expressing Negative Feelings

- There was a significant decline from 2021 in the proportion of children who said they have more negative feelings now – worry, sadness, anger or fear – than after the Taliban took control (from 72% in 2021 to 67% in June). However, a higher proportion of girls and children with disabilities expressed negative feelings compared to boys and those without disabilities, or children overall.
- Children from female-headed households, households perceived as poor, returnee households and IDP households were more likely to express overall negative feelings than others.

Recommendations

- Provide support for children with psychosocial distress (signs of anxiety and depression) and children with negative feelings, and promote resiliency through linking basic psychological first aid with humanitarian distribution and other teams, as well as through community and family strengthening activities and other group activities that promote child wellbeing, including providing child and girl friendly spaces as appropriate.
- Strengthen the ability of communities and families to respond to the psychosocial needs of children and align community/ household interventions with parenting programmes and family strengthening as a way to improve children's economic and psychosocial wellbeing.

- Strengthen ties with thematic teams to ensure children's economic and psychosocial wellbeing is assessed and accounted for to develop better child-sensitive programming.
- Increase activities focused on adolescents and girls - who show the highest levels of anxiety, depression and negative feelings - to increase their resilience and wellbeing.
- Further research into the gaps around children's psychosocial distress and negative feelings including understanding their needs, the causes, the coping mechanisms and community perceptions and responses.

Child Rights

Key Findings

Rights to Education

- One in 10 children appeared to have their right to education violated – as they have been asked to stop school as a way to help overcome their family's economic difficulties.
- A higher proportion of them were girls than boys and older children (15-18 years) than younger children (11-14 years).
- Children with disabilities (in any of six functional domains) were two times more likely to report being asked to stop school.

Rights to Play, to Rest, and Freedom of Association

- The vast majority of children (4 in 5 children) reported being able to play or hangout with

friends in person, being able to do things they like to do and rest.

- Boys and the older children were more likely than girls and the younger children to report this.

Rights to Information, Decision-making, and Being Heard

- There is a significant increase in the proportion of children reporting having some improvement in their rights related to information, decision making and being heard/listened from the previous report in Nov-Dec 2021 to the current report (June 2022).
- While there was no significant difference in the proportion of children reporting that adults at home listen to them, in terms of freedom to speak, such as adults asking for children's opinions and making decisions together with the child - a higher proportion of boys than girls reported these.

Recommendations

- Support the children at risk of infringement of their rights to education, life and survival, rights to be heard and rights to access information and freedom of association, particularly girls.
- Understand, mitigate and raise awareness of existing inequalities in child rights
- Strengthen messaging, campaigns and dialogue between communities and families to ensure "best interest of the child" principles are always adhered to, which includes involving children in deciding what their best interests and needs are in response to the current situation.



Photo Credit: Sacha Myers/Save the Children

REFERENCES

- Arlini, S. and Burgess, M. (2022) *Afghanistan Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment*, Save the Children's Resource Centre. Available at: <https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/pdf/Afghanistan-MSNA-Full-Report-March2022.pdf> (Accessed: 14 April 2022).
- Arlini, S. (2022). *Factsheet Report: Multisectoral Needs Assessments in Afghanistan*. Save the Children's Resource Centre. Available at: https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/pdf/MSNA_FACETSHEET_March2022.pdf
- Arlini, S., Orsander, M., Kasundu, B., Rossmann, M. and Zeratsion, H. (2022). *Household with Disability in Afghanistan- Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment*. Save the Children's Resource Centre. Available at: https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/pdf/child_household_disability_afghanistan_2022.pdf
- Arlini, S., Burgess, M., Lamichhane, N., Dsouza, J., Lopes, K., Possmayer, S., Kasundu, B. and, Rossmann, M. (2022). *Gender Brief-Afghanistan Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment*. Save the Children's Resource Centre. Available at: https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/pdf/multisectoral_needs_assessment_gender_afghanistan_2022.pdf
- Human Rights Watch (2022) 'Afghanistan: Taliban Deprive Women of Livelihoods, Identity', *Human Rights Watch*, 18 January. Available at: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/01/18/afghanistan-taliban-deprive-women-livelihoods-identity> (Accessed: 1 June 2022).
- UN (2022) *Afghanistan: 500,000 jobs lost since Taliban takeover*, *UN News*. Available at: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/01/1110052> (Accessed: 31 May 2022).
- UNICEF (2022) *Child protection*. Available at: <https://www.unicef.org/afghanistan/child-protection> (Accessed: 1 June 2022).
- UNICEF (no date) *Education*. Available at: <https://www.unicef.org/afghanistan/education> (Accessed: 1 June 2022).
- Washington Group (2020a) *The Washington Group Short Set on Functioning (WG-SS)*. Available at: https://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/fileadmin/uploads/wg/Documents/Questions/Washington_Group_Questionnaire__1_-_WG_Short_Set_on_Functioning.pdf.
- Washington Group (2020b) *WG Short Set on Functioning (WG-SS), The Washington Group on Disability Statistics*. Available at: https://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/fileadmin/uploads/wg/Documents/Washington_Group_Questionnaire__5_-_WG-UNICEF_Child_Functioning_Module_ages_5-17_.pdf (Accessed: 14 April 2022).

APPENDIX

Measure of Disability Status of Adult

The Washington Group Short-Set (WG-SS) questions were used in the MSNA survey to identify the disability of adult respondents. The WG-SS focuses on the component of activities limitations to provide information on difficulties a person may have in undertaking basic activities (Washington Group, 2020a). The questions were designed to provide comparable data cross-nationally for populations living in a variety of cultures with varying economic resources. The WG-SS is widely accepted and used as an important methodology for identifying disability as defined by the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It defines “persons with disabilities” as “those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.”

The WG-SS questions were asked to the caregivers of the child respondents. The WG-SS questions in MSNA2 were administered to identify the difficulties experienced by the adult respondents themselves. This is different from the WG-SS questions in MSNA1, which were asked to the adult respondents in reference to the difficulties experienced by household heads.

The WG-SS looks at six functional domains, i.e., difficulty in seeing, difficulty in hearing, difficulty in mobility, difficulty in remembering or concentrating, difficulty in self-care, and difficulty in communication. It does not capture all types of disability, particularly psychosocial disabilities. A disability is present if a respondent answered “a lot of difficulties” or cannot do at all” in at least one of the six domains. On the other hand, a person without disability is defined as anyone who did not respond with “a lot of difficulties” or cannot do at all” in all domains.

Measure of Functional Difficulty and Disability of Children

The Washington Group/UNICEF Child Functioning Module (CFM) for ages 5-17 years was used in the MSNA2 Survey to identify disability and functional difficulty of the child respondents (Washington

Group, 2020b). These were new questions asked in the MSNA2, which were not asked in the MSNA1 survey. The CFM was designed specifically to collect information on children, from a knowledgeable proxy respondent - the child's primary caregiver - providing information for difficulties faced by their child. The CFM (5-17 years) assesses difficulties from children, as observed by their caregiver, in 13 domains - of (1) seeing, (2) hearing, (3) walking, (4) self-care, (5) communicating, (6) learning, (7) remembering, (8) concentrating/focusing attention, (9) accepting change, (10) controlling behaviour, (11) relationships/making friend, and emotions, including (12) anxiety and (13) depression. Each area was assessed against a rating scale to identify a sub-population of children who are at greater risk of experiencing limited participation in unaccommodating environments.

Completing the CFM questionnaires can help identify a child “at risk of disability” and for who, additional learning support and/or referrals to health services may be required. It does not automatically mean that the child has disability as it does not generate a diagnosis of disability. The caregivers only responded and recorded their observation of their child's level of function different activities. Therefore, this specific assessment uses the term “child with a functional difficulty” in reporting the results of CFM. However, it uses the terms of “child with a disability” when responses are analysed and converted from CFM indicators into WG-SS indicators - which captures six domains of difficulties (i.e., difficulty in seeing, difficulty in hearing, difficulty in mobility, difficulty in self-care, difficulty in communication, and difficulty in remembering or concentrating).

Child with a functional difficulty

Using CFM indicators, a functional difficulty is present if the child's caregivers answered “a lot of difficulties” or “cannot do at all” in at least one of the first eleven domains and answered “daily” in the questions on “How often does your child seem very anxious, nervous or worried” and “How often does your child seem very sad or depressed”. On the other hand, a child without a functional difficulty

is defined if the child's caregivers did not respond with "a lot of difficulties" or "cannot do at all" in the first eleven domains nor responded "daily" in the emotion questions domain (signs of anxiety and signs of depressive moods).

Child with a disability

From the CFM indicators, a variable measuring child disability was created based on six domains following the WG-SS indicators. (i.e., difficulty in seeing, difficulty in hearing, difficulty in mobility, difficulty in self-care, and difficulty in communication and difficulties in remembering and/or concentrating). A

disability is present if a child's caregiver answered "a lot of difficulties" or cannot do at all" in at least one of the six domains. On the other hand, a child without disability is defined as those with no report of "a lot of difficulties" or "cannot do at all" in all six domains.

Measure of Disability Status of Households

The disability status in the household level was measured by accounting the prevalence of disability of the adult or/and the child respondents in the households. A disability is present if at least one person – either adult respondent or child respondent was identified as a person with any disability in the six domains.



Photo Credit: Sacha Myers/Save the Children

