Since October 2019 nationwide protests have erupted across Lebanon, sparked by a taxation plan and fueled by citizens’ discontent with Lebanon’s response to the deteriorating economic and financial situation alongside demands for achieving good governance and an independent judiciary. During this phase, vulnerable Lebanese and refugees reported having experienced negative repercussions to their income, thus falling short of meeting their basic rights and needs. Many businesses had to close, and hundreds of thousands of people became unemployed or experienced severe salary deductions. On 21 February 2020, Lebanon confirmed its first case of COVID-19, and subsequently imposed lockdown measures affecting the entire economy as well as access to services. This multi-sectoral needs assessment was conducted between April 20-30, 2020 via phone survey with 188 refugee households (HH) and 21 Lebanese HH with the aim of understanding the immediate implications of said developments on their needs as well as entry points for an appropriate response. To do so, DRC selected a sample from beneficiaries who, in the past six months, have been referred to protection, basic assistance, or health services through the Referral Information Management System (RIMS). While these findings are not to be generalised, they provide useful insights on the needs and priorities of some of the most vulnerable segments of Syrian refugees and displacement-affected communities.

**Sample Profile**

- **Head of Household**
  - Yes: 60%  
  - No: 40%

- **District of Residence**
  - 40
  - 63
  - 20
  - 1

- **Household Nationality**
  - Syrian: 10%  
  - Lebanese: 90%

- **Gender of Respondent**
  - Female: 32%  
  - Male: 68%

- **Dependency Ratio (Children/Elderly/Persons with Disabilities)**
  - Low (<50% of HH are dependents): 53%
  - Medium (51-75% of HH are dependents): 35%
  - High (>75% of HH are dependents): 11%
  - Other: 1%

- **Average Household Size**: 5.9
- **Average Number of Families Under One Roof**: 1.4

**209 Surveys**
### Work and Income

- **Number of Household Members/HH Working Before COVID-19 restrictions**
  - 0: 34%
  - 1: 50%
  - 2: 14%
  - 3: 1%

  **Average # of Household Members/Household Working Before COVID-19 Restrictions**: 0.8

- **Number of Household Members/HH Working During COVID-19 restrictions**
  - 0: 83%
  - 1: 15%
  - 2: 1%

- **Of the households working before COVID-19 restrictions, % engaged in:**
  - Wage Employment: 46%
  - Cash for Work: 16%
  - Self-Employment: 6%

- **% of households who are renting who consider themselves at risk for eviction if the situation continues**: 73%

- **% of Households that Received Cash Assistance**: 18%

### Savings

- **% of Households Do Not Have Savings**: 99%

  - All households reporting having savings expect them to end in less than 1 month.

### Impact on Basic Needs

- **% of Households do not have enough food to last the next two weeks**: 91%

- **% of Households who plan to forego rent payment next months**: 58%

### For households not working, Primary Source of Income over the Last 3 Months

- **Formal work (having a contract) among household working in wage employment**: 99%

- **Humanitarian/Family or Friends**: 49%
- **Others**: 23%
- **None**: 13%
- **Government**: 8%
- **Charitable Donations**: 4%
- **Other**: 3%
**Perceived Security Situation Since March 2020**

- **Safe**: 57%
- **Neutral**: 25%
- **Unsafe**: 18%

**Protection and Rule of Law**

- % of Households know they should report COVID-19 symptoms: 97%
- % of Households able to report COVID-19 symptoms: 85%
- % of HH do not feel informed of new containment/prevention measures on COVID-19: 13%
- % of Households who are unwilling to inform local authorities of movements: 14%

**Access to Services**

- How do they access a service when a need arises:
  - Phone: 54%
  - Walking: 22%
  - Others: 24%

**Movement Top Challenges**

- % of Households that should travel a long distance: 24%
- % of Households who are afraid to be in contact with someone with COVID-19: 80%

**Social Stability**

- % of Households who are still going to work: 25%
- % of Households with health fears: 89%
- % of Households that are still moving to get food: 92%
- % of Households were affected by municipality restrictions: 26%

**Information Sources**

- Media/facebook: 88%
- Family/Friends: 27%
- UNHCR: 17%
- NGOs: 12%
- Government: 5%
- Mosque/Church: 1%

**Call for a Service Provider Top Challenges**

- % of Households do not have enough phone credits: 45%
- % of Households do not know a phone service provider: 42%
- % of households were not able to access any services since March 2020: 64%
Older people are reportedly being affected by social tensions, especially with neighbours. It was also reported that refugee families and children are being subject to bullying and discrimination.