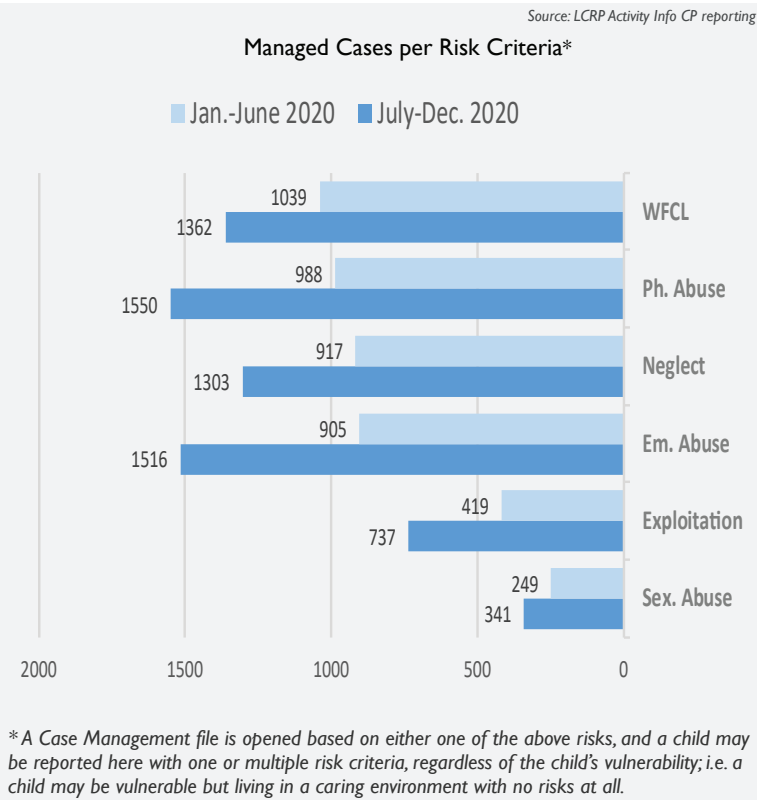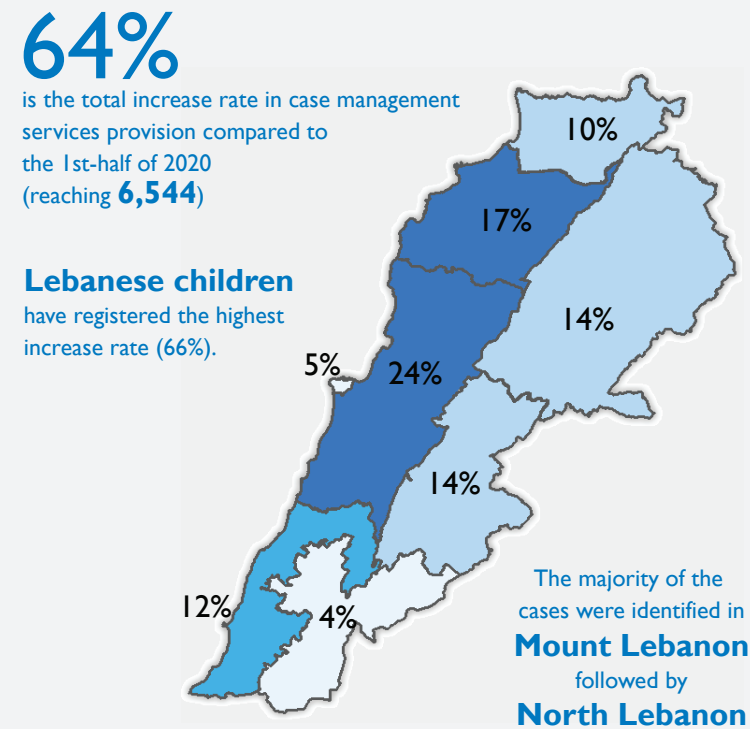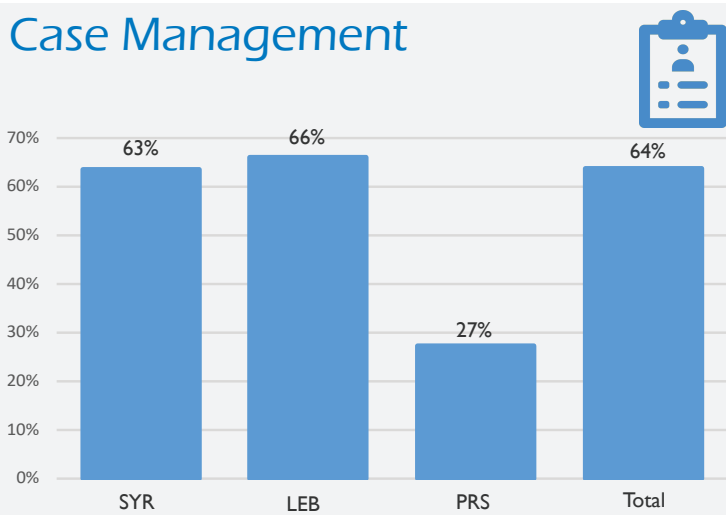The deterioration of the context in Lebanon due to multiple crises became even more pronounced in the second half of 2020. First, with the unstable political situation in the country and the delay in forming a new government, followed by the alarming increase in the inflation rate from 112% in July to 136% in October 2020(1), which had a severe impact on increasing the overall poverty rate in the country from 28 to 55 percent at end of 2020. In addition to increasing in the extreme (food) poverty rate among the Lebanese communities from 8 to 23 percent(2), and which increased the vulnerability and the need of the host community, Syrian refugees in Lebanon faced a grave increase in the proportion of households living under the extreme poverty line, reaching 89 percent in 2020(3). Second, with the Beirut Blast that caused 207 deaths, 7,500 injuries, and 15 billion US dollars in property damage, evidence-based reports estimate that around 300,000 people were affected, including 100,000 children who had their homes destroyed or completely damaged and leaving many homeless through temporary or permanent displacement(4). The Beirut Blast incident played a major role in revealing the hidden vulnerabilities, especially among the Lebanese community who reside in urban settings, and the need to provide a MHPSS response at a greater scale. Last and with the second wave of the COVID19 pandemic that caused a new peak of cases reaching 300,000 cases in January 2021 and 3080 deaths, the Lebanese government launched a full lockdown and further exacerbating the existing economic vulnerabilities and drastically escalating the security and protection situation in country affecting both refugee and host community.

This complex crisis had an even higher impact on women and children who became at further risk of violence within the household (intimate partner violence and violence against children). Overall, the RTM also revealed constant increase in exploitation, and which is mostly linked to child labour including its wort forms along with the deterioration of work conditions (with longer working hours and lower pays). The most common types of work reported were repair work, working as helper in stores, working in streets and in agriculture. These increase in trends as reported by CP partners are also captured in PRT monitoring as one of the increasing negative coping mechanisms adopted by families who had their livelihood severely affected by their current financial crisis.

Overall and although the sector was able to advance fully on service provision (remotely or face-to-face) in the second half of the year, the confinement and the COVID-19 pandemic still impacted outreach capacity and provision of services at optimal level especially as needs of families and children increased exponentially given the deteriorating situation.

(1) https://blog.blominvestbank.com/38175/lebanons-inflation-rate-hit-a-record-high-of-120-in-august-2020/#:~:text=The%20Central%20Administration%20of%20Statistics,of%20120%25%20in%20August%202020
(2) https://www.unescwa.org/news/Lebanon-poverty-2020#:~:text=Estimates%20reveal%20that%20more%20than,2019%20to%2023%25%20in%202020
(3) https://www.unhcr.org/lb/14025-nine-out-of-ten-syrian-refugee-families-in-lebanon-are-now-living-in-extreme-poverty-un-study-says.html#:~:text=One%20of%20the%20most%20concerning,cent%20only%20a%20year%20before
(4) https://www.unicef.org/lebanon/press-releases/hurtling-toward-precipice-no-parachute-attached

Case Management

Chart (percentages): SYR 63%, LEB 66%, PRS 27%, Total 64%

64%
is the total increase rate in case management services provision compared to the 1st-half of 2020 (reaching **6,544**)

Lebanese children have registered the highest increase rate (66%).

Map percentages: 10%, 17%, 14%, 5%, 24%, 14%, 12%, 4%

The majority of the cases were identified in **Mount Lebanon** followed by **North Lebanon**

Managed Cases per Risk Criteria*

■ Jan.-June 2020   ■ July-Dec. 2020

Risk Criteria	Jan.-June 2020	July-Dec. 2020
WFCL	1039	1362
Ph. Abuse	988	1550
Neglect	917	1303
Em. Abuse	905	1516
Exploitation	419	737
Sex. Abuse	249	341

*A Case Management file is opened based on either one of the above risks, and a child may be reported here with one or multiple risk criteria, regardless of the child's vulnerability; i.e. a child may be vulnerable but living in a caring environment with no risks at all.

66% 🧍 🧍 34%

The 3 major types of abuse experienced by children supported by case management services were **physical abuse**, **emotional abuse** followed by the engagement in the **worst form of child labor**.
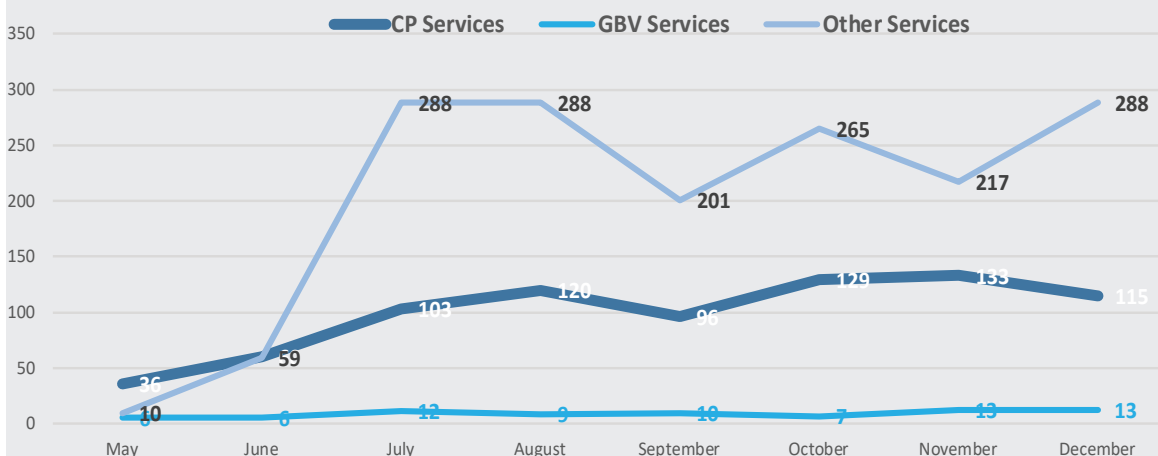
Noting that there was huge increase in other types of abuse including neglect, exploitation and sexual abuse.

CP Hotline tracking

Distribution of monthly calls received on Himaya Hotline between May - Dec. 2020
* Hotline Datasets are available only from May 2020.

HOTLINE

CP Services — **GBV Services** — **Other Services**

	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Other Services			288	288	201	265	217	288
CP Services	36	59	103	120	96	129	133	115
GBV Services	10	0	12	9	10	7	13	13

27% of calls received by Himaya Hotline operators are related to children between the ages of 0 and 14.

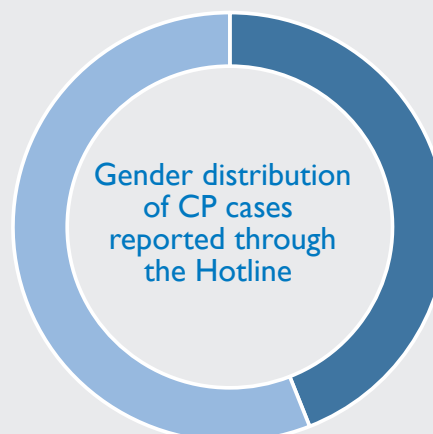**65%** of calls received are related to Syrian households.

In 2020, Himaya has received a total of 2,720 calls on their National Hotline. The majority of the calls were in July, August and December. The top 3 requests mentioned by callers were Non-food services, Child Protection services & Food Assistance.

Number of children referred to Case Management Services through the Hotline have increased from 31 requests in May to 115 in December, i.e. an increase rate of 271%.

Gender distribution of CP cases reported through the Hotline

54% 46%

Source: Himaya Hotline (May to December records)

Child Protection Referrals

1,050 is the total number of general CP referrals in the 2nd-half of 2020. (as compared to 508 in the 1st-half of the year).

80% are referred to CP Case Management services

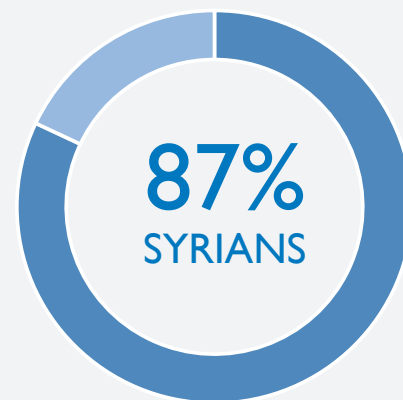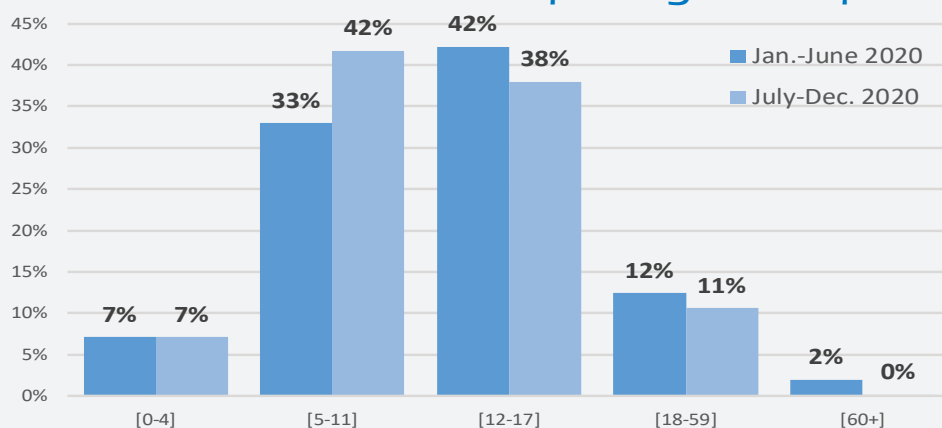**20%** are referred to CP prevention and/or psycho-social service providers

These referrals are done by **41 NGO's**, i.e. around **26 referrals** per NGO on average, which is clearly in increase compared to around **16 referrals** per NGO on average for the 1st-half of 2020.

56% of total referrals during the year have been Intra-Sectoral, i.e. within the **CP Sector**.

Protection and **GBV** Sectors account respectively for **18%** and **11%** of referrals to the CP Sector.

Source: DRC-RIMS

Child Protection Referrals - per Age Groups

Jan.-June 2020 / July-Dec. 2020

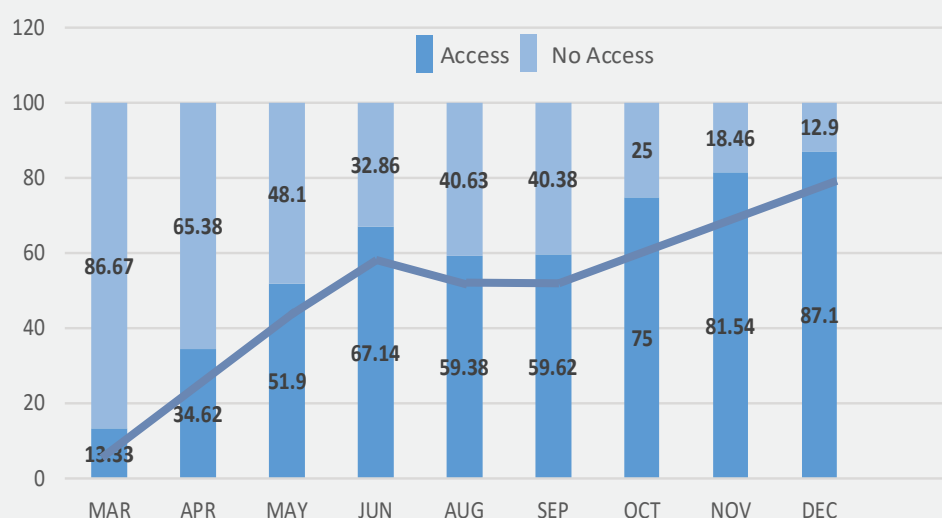| Age Group	Jan.-June 2020	July-Dec. 2020
[0-4]	7%	7%
[5-11]	33%	42%
[12-17]	42%	38%
[18-59]	12%	11%
[60+]	2%	0%

87% SYRIANS

* Source: DRC-RIMS

Accessibility to Child Protection Services
as monthly observed by NGO Partners (in % of responses)

Access / No Access

Month	Access	No Access
MAR	13.33	86.67
APR	34.62	65.38
MAY	51.9	48.1
JUN	67.14	32.86
AUG	59.38	40.63
SEP	59.62	40.38
OCT	75	25
NOV	81.54	18.46
DEC	87.1	12.9

* Source: CP Sector Real-time monitoring (CP RTM)

The demand and the accessibility to CP services were increasing with time, which has been reflected by the ability of the sector to respond through remote modality and some ease of lockdown in different periods of the year.

Group activities (namely CBPSS for children, FPSS and Caregivers Program), remained the most inaccessible, as a result of increased COVID-19 prevention measures and restrictions.

89% of the inaccessibility reasons are related to **COVID-19 restrictions**
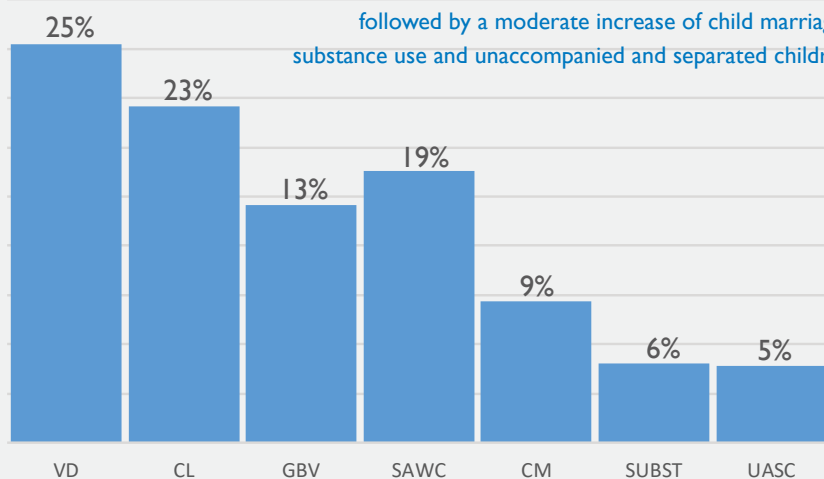
The accessibility to services is aligned with the GoL decision on lifting the lockdown at different time frames, as well as the sector preparedness to provide remote services.

Prevalence of CP concerns/negative trends
as observed by NGO's between July and December 2020

Most respondents have reported a major increase in violent discipline (25%), child labor (23%) and street and working children (19%), followed by a moderate increase of child marriage, substance use and unaccompanied and separated children.

Category	Percentage
VD	25%
CL	23%
GBV	13%
SAWC	19%
CM	9%
SUBST	6%
UASC	5%

* Source: CP RTM

Abbreviations used in the document:

CBPSS: Community-based psychosocial support
CL : Child Labour
CM : Child Marriage
CP : Child Protection
F/NFI : Food and Non-Food Items
FPSS : Focused psychosocial support
GBV : Gender-based Violence
GoL : Government of Lebanon
RC : Residential Care
RIMS : Referral Information Management System
RTM : Real-time Monitoring
SA : Social Assistance