Summary

Forcibly displaced populations more often needed health care, compared to host populations, but had similar access to treatment. While a larger share of children returned to school as of January 2022, those from forcibly displaced households continued to be less likely in school than children from host community families.

Forcibly displaced households continue to be more often employed, compared to host populations, with a slightly higher share engaged in agriculture. Yet, a larger share of the former group continues to report a decrease in income from agriculture.

In addition, reducing food consumption continues to be prevalent, with both groups similarly relying on this coping mechanism. Food insecurity continues to be widespread, with a larger share of forcibly displaced populations self-reporting food insecurity. Despite this, a similar share of both groups reported having received food aid, which represents an increase among host populations.

Overall, forcibly displaced and host populations equally reported their livelihood, food security and social life was affected by COVID-19.

Majority of households reported telling stories and singing songs to their children. Simultaneously, both groups reported much less frequently to read books, naming, counting, or drawing, and taking children out of the house. Around 2 out of 10 households can be classified as suffering moderately severe or severe depression, with no differences between both groups. Yet, feelings associated with moderate to mild depression have been more frequently reported among forcibly displaced population members.

### Access to food and medical supplies

Compared to hosts, forcibly displaced populations more frequently reported needing access to health care, while a similar share among both groups accessed the required treatment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Displaced</th>
<th>Non-displaced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required health care</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessed treatment</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displaced</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-displaced</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Schooling

Forcibly displaced populations less commonly reported that children had returned to school as of January 2022, compared to host populations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Displaced</th>
<th>Non-displaced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IDPs</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugees</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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1. R3dis survey was fielded from January 5-15, 2022.
2. This infographic was prepared by Alexandra Jarotschkin, Kenedy Kihangi Bindu, Esther Ongay Gonzalez, Gonzalo Nunez-Chaim, and Kodjo Koudakpo.
**Employment**

Forcibly displaced respondents were more often employed compared to host populations, and over half of households in each group engaged in agriculture.

**Household revenue sources**

A smaller share of forcibly displaced populations reported a decrease in income from occasional work, compared to host populations.

**Coping strategies**

Forcibly displaced populations and host populations equally reduced food consumption, while nearly half of both groups also reporting reduced non-food consumption and buying on credit.

**Food security**

Almost 8 out of 10 forcibly displaced households were food insecure, compared to 7 out of 10 households among host populations.
**Assistance from government and other sources**

6 out of 10 forcibly displaced households received food aid, mainly from family.

**Perceived negative effects**

Forcibly displaced households equally frequently reported their livelihood and food security to be affected by COVID-19, compared to host populations.

**Child development**

Forcibly displaced households more often declared telling stories, singing songs and reading books to children, compared to host populations.

**Mental health**

At least 1 out of 5 forcibly displaced and host households declared experiencing some sign of mental health issues.
Box: Survey Methodology

DRC CO

The DRC CO High-Frequency Phone Survey (HFPS) calls individuals from the social registry in Eastern DRC that was built up by the Social Protection and Jobs (SPJ) program and managed by Fonds Social de la RDC (FSRDC) across different sites in Eastern DRC. The social registry is comprised of individuals showing up to the public lotteries of the program. With those selected through the public lottery becoming beneficiaries of the SPJ-FSRDC project. The program remunerates beneficiaries US$3 per day for their participation in community works, which is announced prior to the public lottery. As a result, the selection mechanism ensured that only individuals from poor and vulnerable populations participated in the lotteries – who were willing and able to carry out work for respective daily wage. The SPJ-FSRDC program collected phone numbers during public lotteries. Hence, the current panel survey by the DRC Crisis Observatory was able to select from a pool of vulnerable and poor populations residing in Eastern DRC who showed up to the public lottery AND provided a phone number to MARTA (Monitoring Automated for Real Time Analysis). MARTA recorded a total of 68,558 respondents across Beni (including Kalunguta), Bunia, Goma, Lubero, and Komanda, 51,007 of which provided a phone number, out of which the Crisis Observatory successfully contacted 1,453 respondents (716 women and 737 men) in R1.

In R7, 1,448 were successfully interviewed. In this sample, without stratification, 311 were forcibly displaced. An additional survey was collected, mimicking the same survey instrument, but with focus on forcibly displaced, including sampling strategy, R1-displaced. The social registry counts 376 refugees, 6,501 internally displaced and 1,145 returnees. As part of R1-displaced, 126 refugees, 898 internally displaced, and 403 returnees were successfully interviewed in R7. In R8, 1,445 were successfully interviewed, and separately with 163 refugees, 879 internally displaced, and 399 returnees as part of R2-displaced. Similarly, in R9, 1,441 were successfully interviewed, with 139 refugees, 911 internally displaced, 389 returnees as part of R3-displaced separately.

Interviewers followed a protocol of calling a potential respondent at least six times in three days, with at least one hour between two calls to ensure that those less likely to pick up their phones on a first try would not be systematically left out, yielding potentially biased results. The presented survey results are strictly based on the sample of respondents who answered the survey. The HFPS is therefore illustrative of forcibly displaced population in urban and peri-urban areas in Eastern DRC, most notably those of Goma, Beni, Bunia, and Lubero.

The HFPS entailed household-level and individual-level questions comprising modules on socio-demographic, health, education, employment, revenue, (social) assistance, shock coping strategies, attitudes, insecurity as well as knowledge and behavioral questions regarding and in response to COVID-19. In the coming rounds, the DRC Crisis Observatory will be calling the same beneficiaries and eligible individuals to the extent possible to follow the evolution of their welfare across crisis, resilience, and recovery.

Data collection parameters

- Data collection period:
- Average duration of interviews: 30-35 mins.