

COVID-19 Impact Monitoring at the household level

Burkina Faso



Brief No.7 — March 2021

KEY MESSAGES

- Two in five respondents are demotivated (or discouraged)....
- ...There is a strong correlation between the status of poverty and depression. This reflects the difficulties that poor households face in meeting their basic needs;
- Overall, the activity situation remained stable between the 2017/18 EHCVM and the seventh pass of the HFPS. On the other hand, there is a remarkable increase, of 5.8 percentage points, in the proportion of those who are temporarily absent from work...
- ... However, this aggregate information masks a very large dynamic at the individual level. For example, 12.8 percent were active during the EHCVM and inactive during the seventh pass in 2021. In contrast, 15.8 percent were inactive during 'EHCVM and active during the seventh round in 2021;
- Compared to the third round, there is a marked reduction in the proportion of households that received assistance. The sphere of social protection remains far dominated by local NGOs (52.8%), international NGOs (25.0%), the government (13.9%), and religious organizations (7.8%) .
- Local and international NGOs concentrate the majority of contributions to the poor.

Confirmed Cases of COVID-19

Burkina Faso



143 Deaths 11,588 Recovered

Source: INSD (as of March 1st, 2021)



BACKGROUND

This note presents the results of the seventh round of a nationally representative telephone survey (HFPS). The BFA Covid-19 HFPS - Round 7 was administered between February 12 and March 2, 2021. The following modules were administered during the 7th visit: Access to basic services; Employment and income; Food Safety; Mental health, and Social protection. In addition to the 1985 households successfully interviewed in the sixth round, in an effort to maintain sample size, additional 47 households that had not been successfully interviewed in previous rounds but did not refuse to participate in the survey were called in this seventh round. 18 households were excluded from the sample as they refused to participate in Round 6, and 21 were excluded as they weren't contacted in the past three consecutive rounds. 1994 households (98.13% of the 2,032 attempted) were contacted and 1,979 (97.39%) were successfully interviewed. 13 households refused outright to be interviewed. For the sake of simplicity, this note focuses on modules related to mental health, employment dynamics, and social protection.

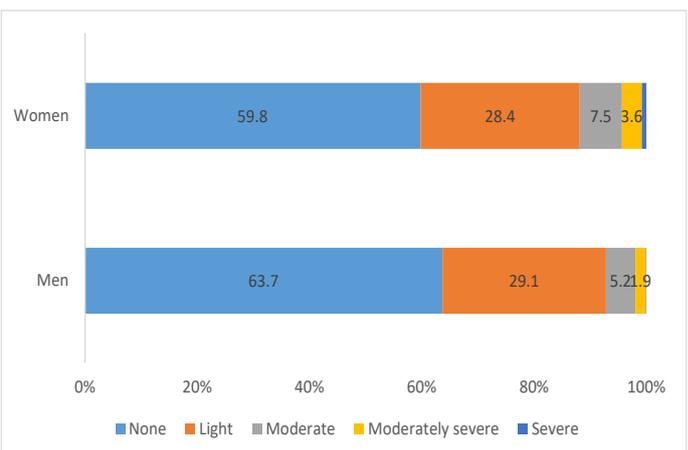
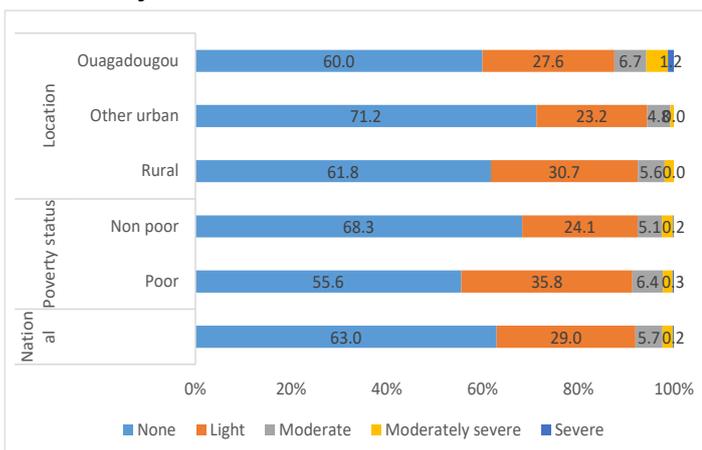


MENTAL HEALTH

A dedicated module asked questions on mental health in times of Covid-19. This module covers various topics such as feeling sad, lack of appetite, lack of sleep, fatigue, loss of self-confidence, etc. On the basis of these questions, it is possible to classify the respondents on a scale of "demotivation" (or discouragement). It appears that two out of five respondents are demotivated, although for most, the demotivation is light (Figure 1). The proportion of those who are demotivated is higher in Ouagadougou (40%) and in rural areas (38%). There is also a strong correlation between poverty status and demotivation. Indeed, the survey results suggest that 44.4 percent of the poor are demotivated, compared to only 31.7 percent of the non-poor. This result is not surprising, and reflects the difficulties that the poor face on a day-to-day basis in meeting their basic needs.

Figure 1: Severity of Demotivation by Place of Residence and Poverty Status

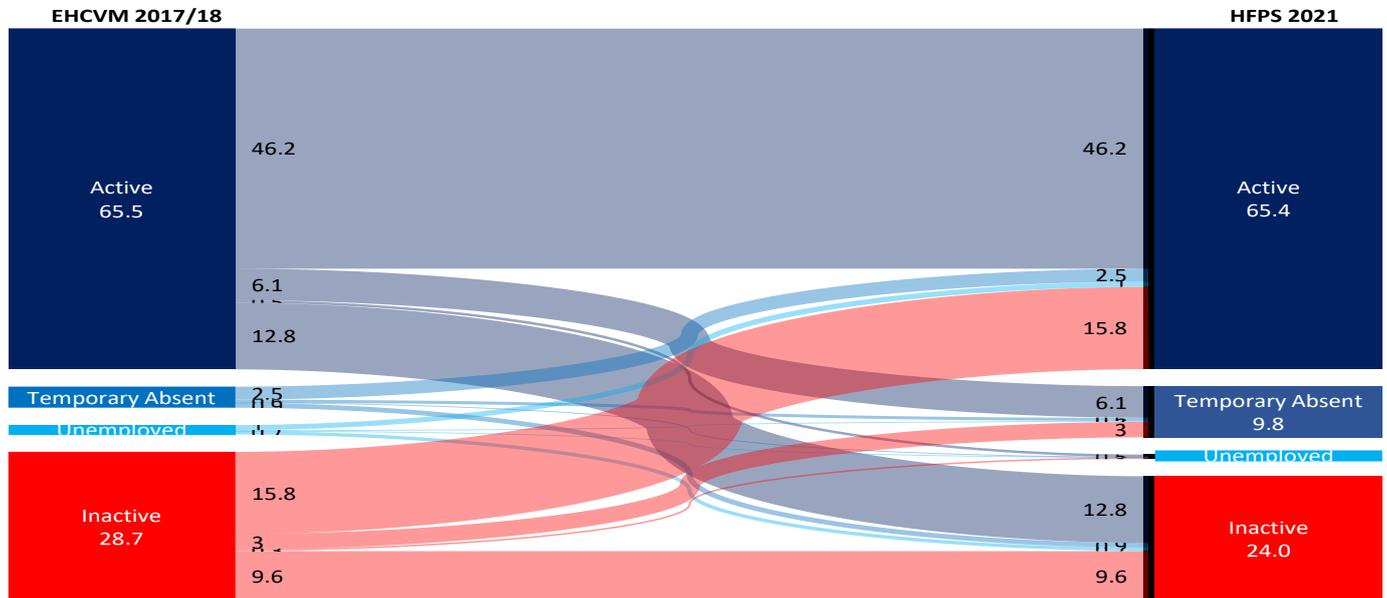
Figure 2: Severity of Demotivation by Gender



EMPLOYMENT DYNAMICS

On the basis of the employment module, it was possible to constitute a transition matrix which shows the employment situation of individuals of working age. Overall, the proportion of individuals who are active, i.e. have a job, remained stable between the 2017/18 EHCVM and the seventh pass of the HFPS. Indeed, over the two periods, 65 percent of people of working age have a job (Figure 3). On the other hand, there is a remarkable increase, of 5.8 percentage points, in the proportion of those who are temporarily absent from work. The proportion of those who are unemployed has remained relatively low. During the same period, the proportion inactive declined slightly, from 28.7 percent to 24 percent. However, as shown in Figure 3, this aggregate information masks a very large dynamic at the individual level. For example, 12.8 percent were active during EHCVM and inactive during the seventh pass in 2021. In contrast, 15.8 percent were inactive during EHCVM and active during the seventh pass in 2021.

Figure 3: Transition matrix of the employment situation between the EHCVM and the seventh pass of the HFPS.



SOCIAL PROTECTION

Compared to the third round which took place in September 2020, there is a marked reduction in the proportion of households that received assistance (Figure 4). This decrease is observed for all types of assistance: free food, direct cash transfer, and other transfers in kind (excluding food). Transfer of food remains the main mode, most used by donors. The sphere of social protection remains far dominated by local NGOs (52.8%), international NGOs (25.0%), the government (13.9%), and religious organizations (7.8%). Local and international NGOs concentrate the majority of contributions to the poor (Figure 5).

Figure 4: Assistance from an institution

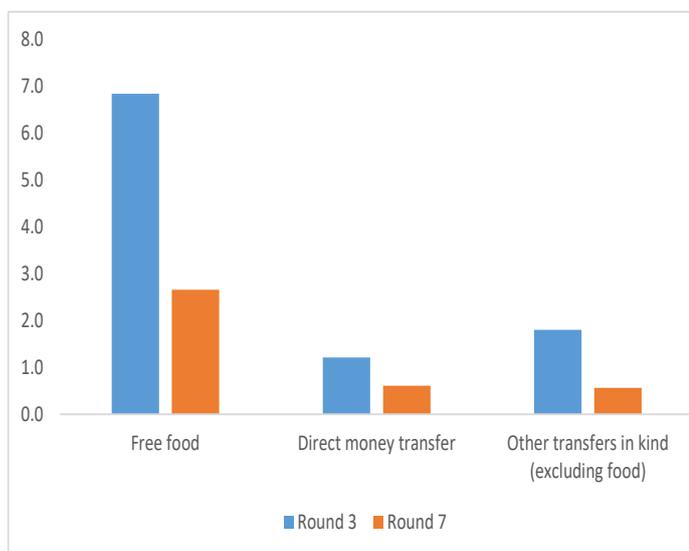


Figure 5: Main source of assistance

