

Forced Displacement Survey 2025

UN Refugee Agency

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Identification

SURVEY ID NUMBER

ZMB_2025_FDS_v01_M

TITLE

Forced Displacement Survey 2025

ABBREVIATION OR ACRONYM

FDS 2025

COUNTRY

Name	Country code
Zambia	ZMB

STUDY TYPE

Other Household Survey [hh/oth]

ABSTRACT

The Forced Displacement Survey (FDS) is UNHCR's new flagship household survey programme designed to standardize, streamline, and build on the existing UNHCR survey landscape to produce high-quality and timely data on people forced to flee. The FDS is comparable across countries over time and aligned with international statistical standards. It has the purpose of providing actionable evidence to inform the government's operational and policy-related data needs, as well as its humanitarian and development partners. As a multi-topic survey, the FDS collected household and individual level data on the socioeconomic characteristics and living conditions of targeted populations. Data was collected through face-to-face household interviews, where up to four household members aged 15 and above were interviewed: (1) the head of the household or a household member who was knowledgeable about the household; (2) a randomly selected household member who provided information about individual life experiences; (3) the caregiver of a randomly selected child under five years of age; and (4) a randomly selected woman who gave birth in the last two years.

KIND OF DATA

Sample survey data [ssd]

UNIT OF ANALYSIS

Household and individual

Version

VERSION DESCRIPTION

Version 2.1: Edited, cleaned and anonymized data.

Please note that, due to the anonymization process, the dataset may differ slightly from figures reported in official sources.

Scope

NOTES

The scope includes:

- demographics
- displacement information
- assets
- livelihood
- health
- wellbeing

TOPICS

Topic

Health
Livelihood and Social cohesion
Health and Nutrition
Food security
Water Sanitation Hygiene
Protection
Income Generation
Basic Needs
Emergency Shelter and NFI
Community Services
Education
Transportation
Reproductive Health
Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
Information Management

KEYWORDS

Keyword
FDS

Producers and sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATORS

Name	Affiliation
UN Refugee Agency	UN

Sampling

SAMPLING PROCEDURE

All households were selected randomly by either selection of the case (if sampled from registration frame) or selection of the building. In instances, in which a sampled building contains more than one household, one randomly selected household within the building is interviewed. All individuals within the household are further selected randomly and therefore represent respective underlying populations. 4,050 households, of which 2,300 were refugee households, 650 former refugees, and 1,200 households from the host community, were targeted based on expected credibility of results. A strict replacement and sample protocol were used to address the non-response or ineligibility of sampled households. The replacement sample was usually drawn together with the main sample, and selection into a replacement sample was randomized and strictly controlled. Replacements were made in cases of ineligibility, i.e., refugee households in host community sample as well as in cases of non-response. The final realised sample of the FDS in Zambia was 4,310 households. Among the sample, 2,373 are refugee households, 722 former refugee households, and 1,215 are host community households. The higher sample realization compared to the target is a result of the addition of additional out of settlement households interviewed in Lusaka but registered in Mayukwayukwa.

WEIGHTING

Results are estimated using adjusted sample weights to correctly represent the underlying population. Composite analytical weights were estimated, adjusting for unequal probability of selection of sampled units as well as structurally adjusting the geographic distribution of the sample to resemble the population. A nonresponse component was added to the composite weight estimation using the predicted likelihood of response for out of settlement refugees using data from the sampling

frame for all sampled households, particularly to adjust for possibly non-random missingness due to low levels of contact among certain profiles of refugees due to the use of phone numbers and community outreach as the primary means of contact. Weights are calculated for two purposes: (1) calculation of nationally representative statistics by population group, refugees, former refugees, and hosts, and (2) calculation of statistics by sampling strata. Weights are calculated for two purposes: (1) calculation of nationally representative statistics by population group, refugees, former refugees, and hosts, and (2) calculation of statistics by sampling strata.

Data collection

DATES OF DATA COLLECTION

Start	End
2025-04-06	2025-08-31

DATA COLLECTION MODE

Computer Assisted Personal Interview [capi]

DATA COLLECTORS

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation
UN Refugee Agency	UNHCR	UN
Multicultural Insights		

Access policy

CONTACTS

Name	Affiliation	Email
Curation team	UNHCR	microdata@unhcr.org

CITATION REQUIREMENTS

UNHCR (2025). Zambia: Forced Displacement Survey, 2025. Accessed from: <https://microdata.unhcr.org>

Metadata production

DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI_ZMB_2025_FDS_v01_M

PRODUCERS

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
UN Refugee Agency	UNHCR	UN	Metadata producer
Development Data Group	DECDG	World Bank Group	Metadata adapted for World Bank Microdata Library

DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION

2025-11-13

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

Identical to a metadata (UNHCR_ZMB_2025_FDS_v2.1) published on UNHCR catalog (<https://microdata.unhcr.org/index.php/home>). Some of the metadata fields have been edited.

data_dictionary

Data file	Cases	variables
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study_resources