

RESULTS MONITORING SURVEY 2023



Data Collection Report
Tajikistan



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

1. BACKGROUND

UNHCR continues its efforts to respond to the needs of the most affected refugees, asylum-seekers, stateless, and other persons we work with and for across Tajikistan. In 2023, UNHCR conducted a Results Monitoring Survey (RMS) to gather vital data, enabling effective support and resource allocation.

The RMS aims to collect comprehensive data on the conditions and needs of people under UNHCR's protection in Tajikistan. This data-driven approach helps tailor interventions to improve the well-being and safety of forcibly displaced and stateless people, ensuring that assistance is both effective and timely. The survey measures the potential impact of these interventions and serves as a baseline. This report provides a summary of the methodology, key findings, challenges, and strategic recommendations derived from the survey data.

2. METHODOLOGY

The survey was conducted through telephone interviews with 370 households across Tajikistan. UNHCR designed the survey form and facilitated comprehensive training sessions for the enumerators to ensure a high standard of data collection. The final phase of the project involved cleaning and analyzing the collected data to ensure accurate and meaningful insights could be drawn.

2.1. Questionnaire Design and Data Collection Process

The UNHCR-designed questionnaire consisted of 139 questions divided into eight main sections:

- Household roster and mobility history
- Access to documentation
- Vaccines, disability, and health service access
- Family separation and legal support
- Housing
- Social protection, assistance and childcare
- Employment
- Perceptions of gender-based violence

Data was collected from adults aged 18 and above. Prior to each interview, the enumerators were required to provide sufficient information on the subject matter of the survey and obtain verbal consent before proceeding.

Data collection took place between 2 November and 1 December 2023, ensuring a structured and time-bound approach to gathering information.

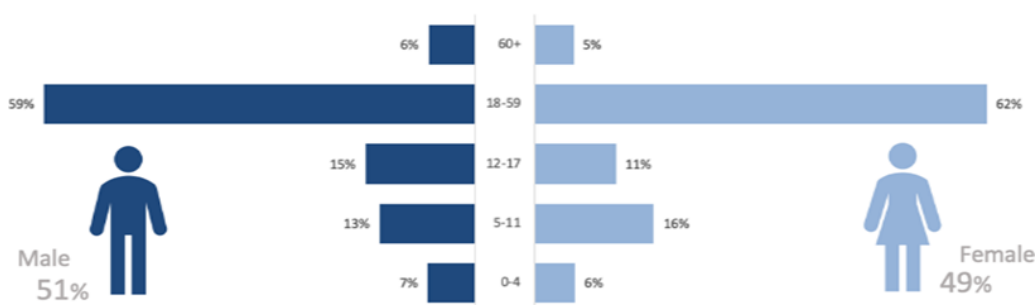
3. CHALLENGES

The survey, conducted through telephone interviews, faced hurdles such as language barriers. Moreover, questions did not effectively capture information from all household members. Remote coordination challenges also affected the ability to closely monitor the quality of data collection.

4. KEY FINDINGS

The survey covered 335 households representing 1,755 household members. The demographic breakdown of individuals showed a slight over-representation of males (51 per cent) and an average household size of five members. Out of the 335 heads of households interviewed, 224 (67 per cent) were male and 111 (33 per cent) were female.

Among the 1,755 members of the surveyed households, 6 per cent were under 5 years old, 34 per cent were 17 years old and below, 60 per cent were 18 to 59 years old, and 6 per cent were 60 and above.



4.1. Education

11 per cent of respondents had no formal education or only informal schooling, with less than primary education. 20 per cent attained primary school level education, 8 per cent reached lower secondary school level, 18 per cent achieved upper secondary school level, 9 per cent attained post-secondary education, 29 per cent completed a bachelor's degree, and 5 per cent completed a master's degree or higher.

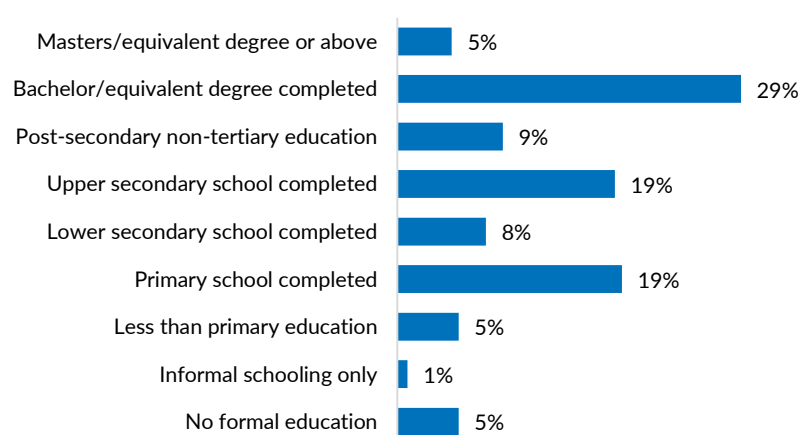


Figure 2: Highest level of completed education - one adult respondent per household

Source: Tajikistan Results Monitoring Survey 2023
© UNHCR, The UN Refugee Agency

For interviewed households, a person aged 5-24 was chosen at random to respond to questions about the current education enrollment. In 282 households, at least one member belonged to this age category. Of these respondents, 32 per cent said they had never attended school. A

further 39 per cent said they were not currently enrolled. Most were above the age of 17 and were not questioned further on why they were out of school. Around 48 per cent of current students were at the secondary level, 46 per cent at the primary level, 3 per cent in early childhood education or pre- primary and 3 per cent were pursuing Secondary Technical and Vocational Education and Training.

4.2. Livelihood

Survey respondents were asked about their income generating activities. 45 per cent had worked for pay in the past seven days: 77 per cent were male, 23 per cent female, and 94 per cent aged between 18 and 59. Among them, only 2 per cent worked in their own businesses although none were self-sustenance industries such as farming or fishing. A further 1 per cent reported they work although not for pay but for sustenance or as helpers in family businesses. Of the unemployed respondents, about one-third (34 per cent) said they had tried to find a job or start a business within the past 30 days. 37 per cent said they could start a job within the next two weeks if given the opportunity. Of those who would not be able to start a job within the next two weeks 61 per cent said this was due to 'other reasons', 24 per cent cited caregiving duties as the reason, 13 per cent cited physical disabilities and 3 per cent mental health reasons. Among unemployed respondents, 58 per cent were male and 42 per cent were female. Due to the underrepresentation of female refugees in the sample, this means female respondents were more likely to be unemployed. 93 per cent of unemployed respondents were aged between 18 and 59.

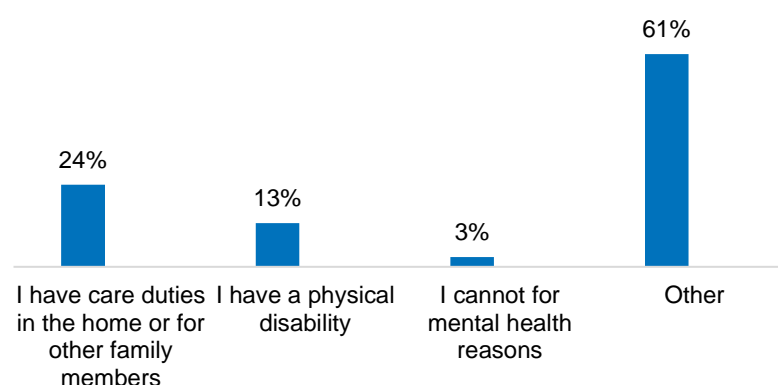


Figure 3: Reasons for not being available to start a job within two weeks

Source: Tajikistan Results Monitoring Survey 2023
© UNHCR, The UN Refugee Agency

Respondents reported a decrease in income (45 per cent) or no change (42 per cent) compared to the previous year. Slightly over half of the respondents (54 per cent) stated they could afford fewer items compared to the same period last year. Meanwhile, 39 per cent said their purchasing power remained the same, while 4 per cent reported they could afford more.

4.3. Ownership of Bank Account

A significant majority of respondents (85 per cent) do not have an account at a bank or financial institution. Among the 15 per cent of those interviewed who do possess *Korti Milli* (local cards, with limited functions), one-third are still unaware that their refugee cards allow them to access banking services.

Over the past 12 months, 43 per cent of refugees used mobile phones for transactions such as making payments, purchasing goods, or sending and receiving money (for example, via Dushanbe City or Alif Mobile).

4.4. Safety and Security

65 per cent of respondents stated that they felt very safe walking alone in their neighborhood after dark, 30 per cent felt fairly safe and 4 per cent felt unsafe. Women make up a slightly lower share of those who feel very safe (1 in 5) compared to those who feel safe or unsafe (1 in 4 for both).

79 per cent of respondents demonstrated knowledge of how to refer someone in their community who has experienced gender-based violence to health services, psycho-social services, case management services, safety and security services, or legal assistance.

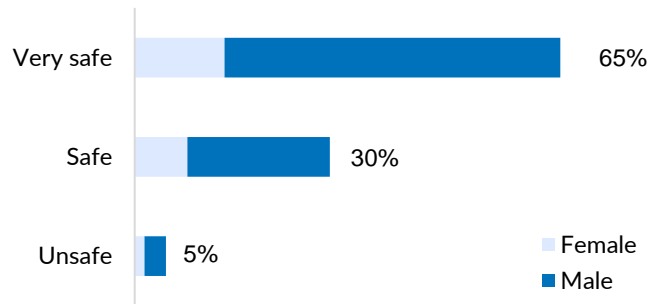


Figure 4: Feeling of safety at night by gender

Source: Tajikistan Results Monitoring Survey 2023
© UNHCR, The UN Refugee Agency

4.5. Shelter Quality

A large majority of respondents live in rented apartments or houses, with only a few residing in houses or a collective center. While 46 per cent of renters manage their payments without significant financial stress, 25 per cent always face financial challenges paying rent, and 23 per cent often find it difficult. 3 per cent never experienced financial stress, and a minimal fraction did not provide an answer regarding their financial ease or strain concerning rent.

Almost all respondents have a good quality of shelter: 99 per cent indicated that their doors are lockable, 98 per cent can lock windows, 94 per cent said the roof is not damaged and 90 per cent said there is no leakage/rottenness in the walls and floors. Notably, 66 per cent of households with 3–10 members indicated they can only afford to rent a 1–2-bedroom apartment.

4.6. Health Care Access

While all refugees and asylum-seekers residing in the country have access to full medical facilities, many of these services are not affordable for refugees due to high costs including unofficial fees, creating a financial barrier that can compromise their health and well-being.

Approximately, 43 per cent of respondents required the services of health care professionals in the past three months, underscoring the ongoing health needs within the community. Of these, 93 per cent received necessary medical care when needed. However, 7 per cent were unable to access medical services, primarily due to unaffordable medical facilities.

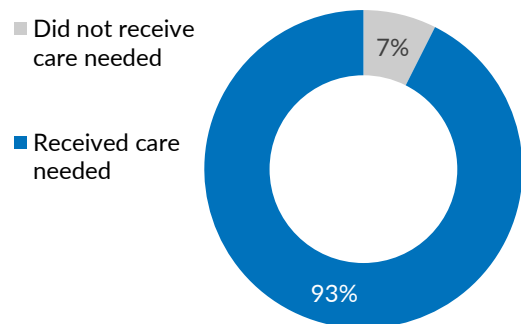


Figure 5: Access to healthcare amongst respondents with healthcare needs

Source: Tajikistan Results Monitoring Survey 2023
© UNHCR, The UN Refugee Agency

In the last two years, no child was born at home. Almost all deliveries (98 per cent) occurred in

public health facilities, and the rest (2 per cent) were in private health facilities. Additionally, 95 per cent of refugee children aged between 10 months and 5 years possess immunization cards, with 83 per cent having received the crucial measles vaccine.

5. CONCLUSION

This exercise enabled UNHCR Tajikistan to demonstrate the current status of its results against its core impact and outcome indicators. The data findings highlighted the key areas where additional programming is needed to achieve improved results. In the conducted survey, which covered 335 households, demographic insights revealed that the heads of households responding to the survey were predominantly male. Key highlights from the survey are as follows:

- The average household size is 5 individuals.
- 95 per cent of refugee children aged between 10 months and 5 years old possess immunization cards and other records of vaccinations. 83 per cent of children received the crucial measles vaccine.
- 43 per cent of respondents needed the services of healthcare professionals in the past three months.
- A notable 55 per cent of respondents reported unemployment and no income in the past 7 days. Additionally, 45 per cent reported a decrease in income, and slightly over half noted a reduction in their ability to afford items compared to the same period last year.
- Education levels among respondents vary and includes who completed primary and upper secondary school education as well as those who have higher education degrees.
- Financial inclusion remains a concern, with 85 per cent of respondents not possessing an account at a bank or financial institution.
- 65 per cent of all respondents expressed feeling very safe while walking alone in their neighborhood after dark.
- Over 94 per cent indicated that they sought refuge due to armed conflict, generalized violence, human rights violations, and fear of crime, aligning with the grounds on which they were granted asylum.

The information from the RMS can be used by the Operation in various strategic and operational ways to enhance the effectiveness of its programs and services. These could include:

- Advocacy for improved healthcare services within refugee community;
- Work with local governments on support for job creation and economic opportunities for refugees;
- Addressing gaps in school attendance and ensuring that refugee children have access to education;
- Continue monitoring the impact of implemented programs, adjusting as needed to improve outcomes.

Cover photo:

UNHCR staff in action, Vahdat, Tajikistan @UNHCR/Nodira Akbaralieva

unhcr.org/centralasia/



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency