



The situation in Lebanon has remained difficult for the past 6 months, due to the multifaceted economic problems and the consequences of the COVID19 pandemic. During the first quarter of 2021, Lebanon has faced the worst COVID19 pandemic situation, where the number of cases reached a peak of 5,800 cases per day in January. As a result, the country went into three weeks of a strict lockdown (1).

Additionally, with the delay in government formation, Lebanon's economic has faced a dramatic contraction including drops in private consumption, exacerbation of the economy, exchange rate, and debt crises. The Lebanese pound continues to devaluate, where it has lost 85% of its value since the inflation of 2019. The inflation rates flew intensely from 11.4% in February 2020 to dramatically reach 155.40% in February 2021, which increased the price of the goods and services in the country (2). The decrease of the US dollar reserve in the central bank (Banque du Liban-BDL) directly affected the subsidization of the imported goods including wheat, fuel, and medicine. As a consequence, Lebanon faced a shortage in fuel, affecting the functioning of the country's main power plants, causing a major shortage in electricity coverage (3).

Since the beginning of the year 2021, the child protection (CP) actors have responded to the deteriorating crises to meet the needs of children and their caregivers. With the sharp decrease in COVID19 cases starting March 2021, the CP actors went back to the blended approach while increasing the face-to-face activities. On the other hand, as a response to the shortage of fuel that created a transportation challenge for the beneficiaries, stressing the online modality became the main solution. Despite all these challenges, CP actors reached out to more than 6,545 children through case management services, with a 58% increase comparing to the first half of 2020. The real time monitoring data shows that the majority of the cases were of emotional abuse, the worst form of child labor and neglect. The Hotline tracker shows an increase in the requests for child protection services, where 25% of the total calls are CP-related. The number of referrals to child protection services has increased by 203%, comparing with the same period of 2020, which also reflects the increased needs for children. As for the accessibility of child protection services, data has shown an increase in accessibility with time, especially after the end of the lockdown in February 2021.

(1) <https://reliefweb.int/report/lebanon/record-updates-covid-19-situation-lebanon-21-january-2021>

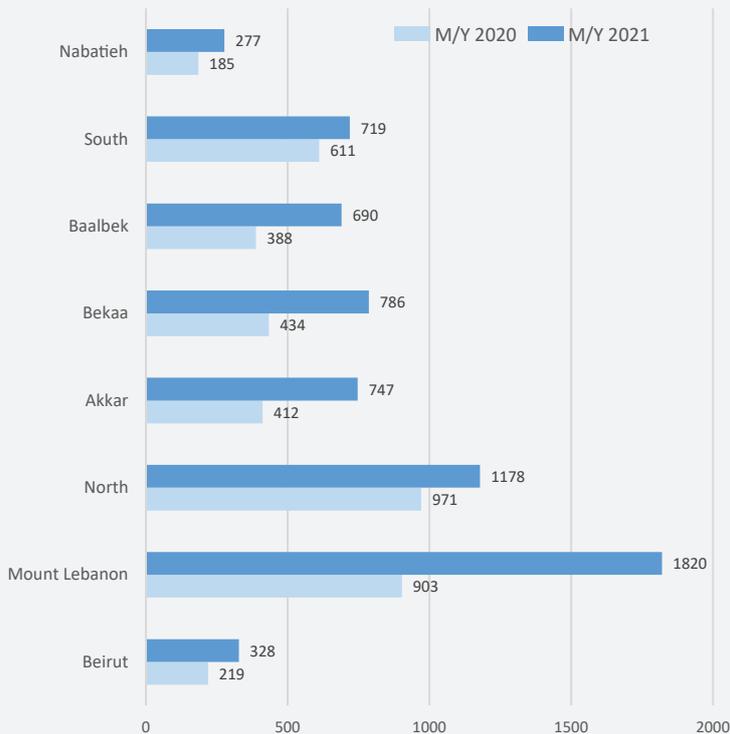
(2) <https://blog.blominvestbank.com/40159/blom-lebanon-pmi-april-2021-softest-deterioration-in-lebanese-business-conditions-for-18-months/>

(3) <https://www.devex.com/news/inflation-exchange-rates-undermine-value-of-aid-in-lebanon-99779>

Case Management



Case management services received by children: comparison between January and June of 2020 and 2021.



Source: LCRP Activity Info CP reporting

6,545

is the total number of boys and girls, who have received case management services in the first half of 2021.

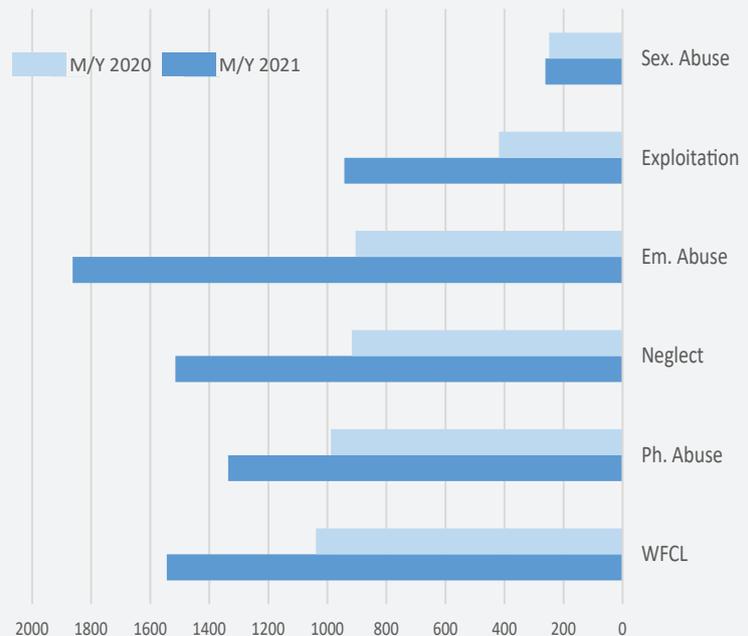
This represents

58%

increase compared to the same period of 2020.

The highest increase in services was registered in **Mount Lebanon** followed by **Akkar, Bekka and Baalbek-EI Hermel.**

Managed cases per Risk Criteria*



* 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.

The Top 3 criteria for providing case management services to children were

Emotional abuse, Worst forms of child labor, and Neglect.

Noting that Exploitation, as a risk criteria for case management, has registered the highest increase (+125%), compared to 2020, followed by Emotional abuse (+106%) and Neglect (+65%).

Same as in 2020, the majority of case management services were provided to boys.



Source: LCRP Activity Info CP reporting



CP Hotline tracking



HOTLINE

In the first half of 2021, there were on average **796 calls per month**, received on the Hotlines operated by two CPWG Partners across the country*, with on average **194 CP-related calls**.

25%

of all calls received by Hotline operators are related to **Child Protection**.



72%

of calls received are related to children between the **ages of 6 and 14**.



82%

of calls received are related to **Syrian children**.

The average number of children referred to **Case Management Services** through the Hotlines is **153 children per month**.

Source: Himaya and TdH-Italia Hotlines.
* Note: Himaya operates Hotlines across the country, whereas TdH-Italia covers only Mount Lebanon and Baalbek.

Child Protection Referrals



1,499

is the total number of CP referrals in the 1st half of 2021.

78%

are referred to CP Case Management services.



203%

increase compared to the same period last year (495 referrals).

22%

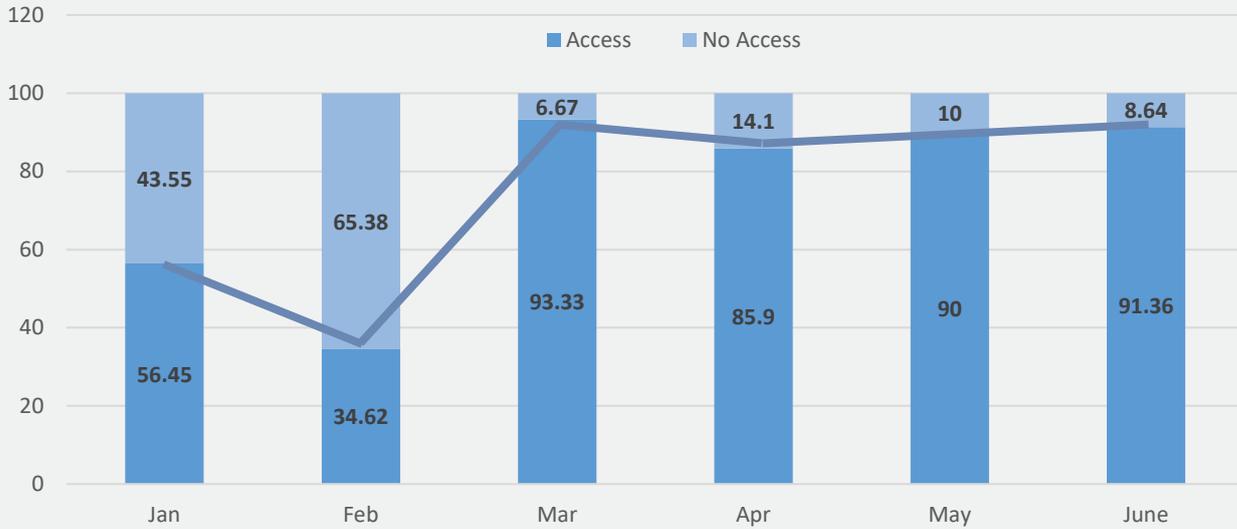
are referred to CP prevention and/or to psycho-social service providers.

54% of total referrals during this period have been Intra-Sectoral, i.e. within the **CP Sector**, which is comparable to last year. Whereas referrals from the **Education Sector** were much more significant this year with **22%**, compared to only 2% last year.

Protection and **GBV** Sectors account respectively for **13%** and **6%** of referrals to the CP Sector.



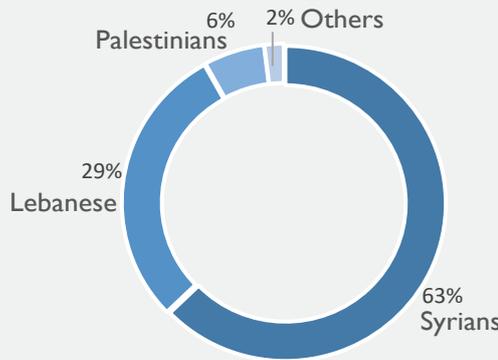
Accessibility to Child Protection Services as monthly observed by CPWG Partners (in % of responses)



Most of inaccessibility reasons are related to restrictions due to **COVID-19**.

277

new requests for assistance were received, on average, per Organization per month, in the 1st half 2021.



**Health services,
Food/NFI &
Cash Assistance**

are the main 3 assistance requests asked for by households.

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

Prevalence of CP concerns/negative trends

as observed by NGO's between Jan. and June 2021

Most respondents have reported a major increase in **Child Labour** (25.2% of respondents) and **Violent Discipline** (24.8%), followed by trends of **Street and Working Children** (19.6%).

Substance
Violence
UASC
Child Labour
SaWC GBV
Child Marriage

Abbreviations used in the document:

- CBPSS**: Community-based psychosocial support
- CL** : Child Labour
- CM** : Child Marriage
- CPWG**: Child Protection Working Group
- 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
- SAWC**: Street and Working Children
- SUBT** : Use of Substances
- UASC** : Unaccompanied and Separated Children
- VD** : Violent Discipline

* Source: CP RTM

We thank the following I/NGO's for their participation to the CP Real-time Monitoring surveys: Abaad, ACTED, AFEL, AND, Al Najdeh, Al-Midan, Al-Mobader, Amel Association, AeC, ARCPA, Borderless NGO, Caritas Lebanon, ConcernWVW, Dorcas/Tabitha, DRC, Expertise France, Fraternity, Himaya, Himaya Daeem Ataa, Human Development Center, IHS, Intersos, IRC, KAFA, LebRelief, LOST, LU, Makhzoumi Foundation, MoSA SDC, Mouvement Social, Naba'a, NISCVT-Beit Atafi Al Somoud, NRDC, Orphan Welfare Society, Rahma for Special needs, Right to Play, RMF, Save the Children (SCI), Sawa Group, Shahd, SIF, SWSL, Tahaddi, TdH-Italy, TdH-L, URDA, WCH, WVW, YNCA.

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