ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION SURVEY FOR RENTAL SUBSIDY EXTENSION 2020-21

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

INTRODUCTION

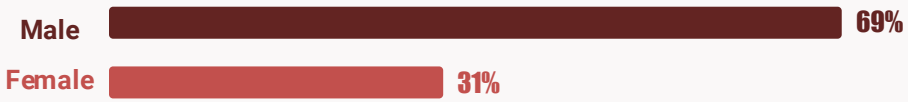
UNHCR Yemen first introduced the Rental Subsidy (RS) support, as part of its growing Cash-Based Intervention (CBI) program, to respond to the growing number of displaced families who were forced to flee their homes and communities in search of a securer location. So often, a securer location meant having to pay rent. Considering that many of these families had previously owned their homes, this new monthly obligation of having to pay rent triggered further financial stress—not to mention, competed with food expenses.

During assessments, families who are verified living in rental situations, struggling to keep up, even facing the threat of eviction, are prioritized to receive the RS cash-assistance. The amount, in consultation with the Shelter Cluster, was calculated to cover the average cost of rent over six months. The support is divided into two disbursements and is distributed by one of UNHCR's financial service providers (FSPs) across 19 governates, North and South.

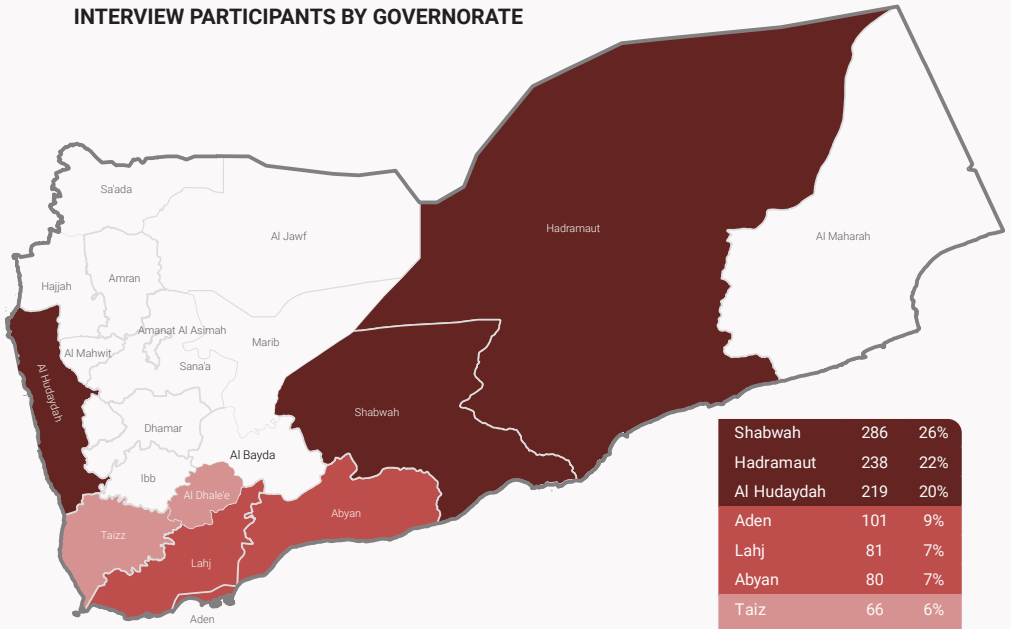
In the first half of 2020, UNHCR provided approximately 25,000 IDP families with 6-month RS support. Following this period, UNHCR, aiming to extend its coverage an additional six months, launched a remote-verification survey in order to determine how many of these families, of the 25,000, were still in rental arrangements and were having trouble paying rent. Furthermore, UNHCR added a few extra questions to the survey to better understand the assistance's impact the first 6 months and gain insights on factors that contributed to displacement in the first place.

In November, 2020, UNHCR, through its third party monitoring partner, Grant Thorton Yemen, conducted **1,094** interviews out of **2,518** calls attempted. The key findings and graphs below refer to the information provided during these interviews. Please note, due to the operational constraints, only households in Southern governates were contacted for this exercise

INTERVIEW PARTICIPANTS BY GENDER



INTERVIEW PARTICIPANTS BY GOVERNORATE



Shabwah	286	26%
Hadramaut	238	22%
Al Hudaydah	219	20%
Aden	101	9%
Lahj	81	7%
Abyan	80	7%
Taiz	66	6%
Al Dhale'e	23	2%

None

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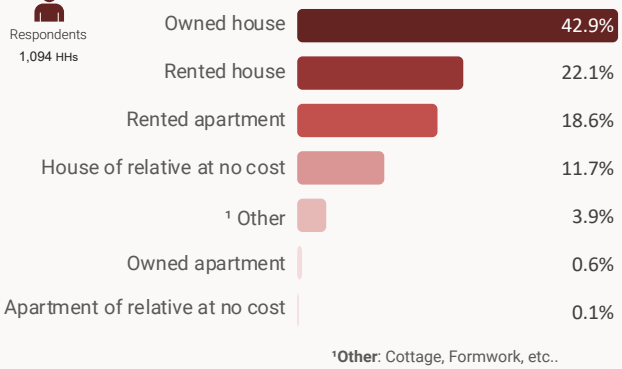
PROFILE OF RESPONDENT

92% HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD

8% SPOUSE

BEFORE HAVING TO FLEE, RESPONDENTS REPORTED LIVING IN

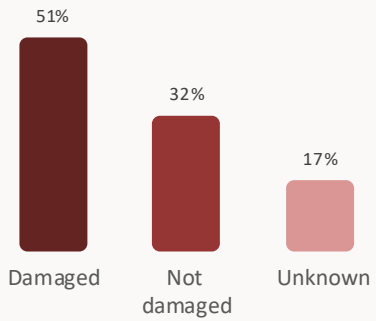
Respondents 1,094 HHs



[1]**Other**: Cottage, Formwork, etc..

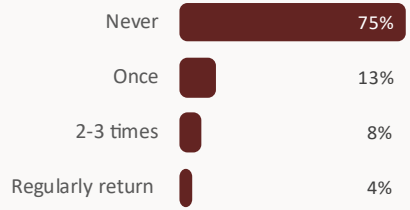
PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS REPORTING THEIR FORMER HOME HAD BEEN DAMAGED BY THE CONFLICT

Respondents 1,094 HHs



SINCE FLEEING, HAVE YOU RETURNED TO YOUR PLACE OF ORIGIN?

Respondents 1,094 HHs

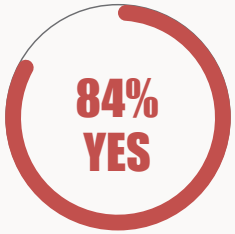


PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS CURRENTLY STILL LIVING IN A RENTAL ARRANGEMENT.

Respondents 1,094 HHs

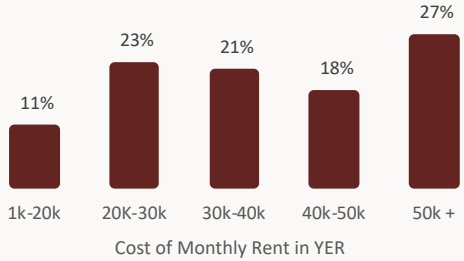
ARE YOU STILL HAVING TROUBLE PAYING RENT?

Respondents 999 HHs



RESPONDENTS REPORTED PAYING THE FOLLOWING MONTHLY RENTS.

Respondents 1,094 HHs



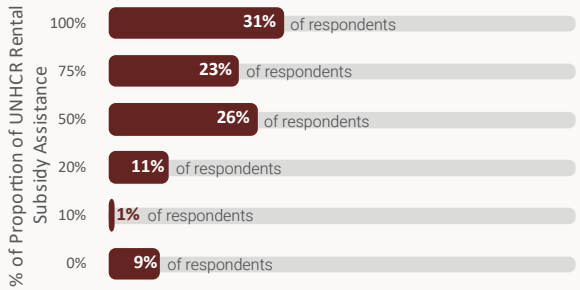
SIX REASONS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO HH DECISION TO REMAIN IN THE CURRENT LOCATION

Respondents 1,094 HHs

Reason	Male	Female	Total
Insecurity in my place of origin	61%	28%	89%
My original home is damaged	26%	14%	39%
I found a job/income here	26%	7%	33%
I have access to market and general services	23%	10%	33%
I have access to humanitarian assistance here	19%	10%	28%
I have relative/friends here	11%	6%	17%

WHAT PROPORTION OF UNHCR RENTAL SUBSIDY ASSISTANCE DID YOU ACTUALLY PAY ON RENT?

Respondents 1,094 HHs



NUMBER OF MONTHS RESPONDENTS REPORTED BEING LATE ON THEIR RATE

Respondents 840 HHs

Late on Paying Rent	Male	Female	Total
1 month	9%	4%	13%
2-4 months	47%	21%	68%
4-6 months	9%	4%	13%
6-12 months	3%	1%	5%
1 year +	0%	0%	1%

Sources : PDM & Verification Survey for RS Extension

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