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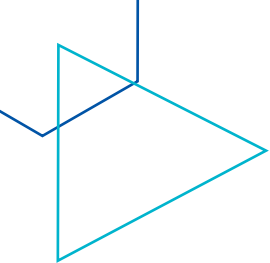
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HIGHLIGHTS: FOURTH WAVE JUNE 2021

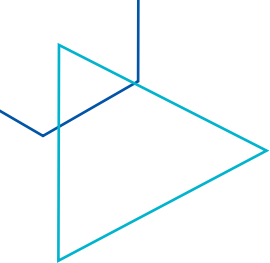
Rapid Labour Force Survey of COVID-19 Impact in Morocco

Published in January 2022



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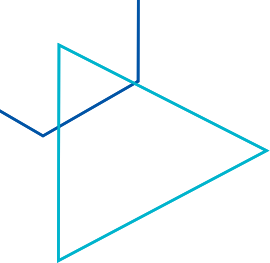
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Introduction¹

This document summarises the key findings of the fourth wave of rapid labour force surveys conducted by ILO and ERF between May 24th and July 21st, 2021, to monitor the impact of COVID-19 on households, household enterprises and farmers in Morocco. This report is part of a series of panel surveys that track the evolution of the pandemic in Morocco's labour market. The survey was conducted by phone, using a Random Digital Dialing (RDD) approach, and targeted mobile owners aged 18 to 64.

A sample of 2,007 interviews was collected in the first wave in November 2020. Ninety-one per cent of these respondents consented to be re-interviewed as part of the second wave; 43 per cent (863 out of 2,007) were reached. An additional refresher sample of 1,139 individuals was added, using Random Digital Dialing (RDD) methods, to reach a total of 2,002 interviews. Around 98 per cent of the respondents in the second wave (1956 out of 2002) agreed to be followed up in the third wave, but only 53 per cent were successfully re-interviewed. A refresher sample of 1,073 individuals was added to reach a total of 2,105².

In the fourth and final wave, a sample of 2,006 interviews was collected, of which 1,741 individuals were previously interviewed in the third wave representing 52.1 per cent of those who gave consent to be contacted in the fourth wave (1,086 of 2,085). A refresher sample of 920 individuals was added to reach a final sample size of 2,006.

The survey produces data over three reference periods. The “baseline” pre-COVID situation is defined in February 2020 and measured retrospectively as part of wave 1 for the panel sample or wave 4 for the refresher sample. Depending on the variable, the “current” situation is defined in either the previous month or the previous week.

The sample is weighted by considering households' demographics, the prevalence of mobile phones in Morocco, and the numbers of mobile phones in each household. For the panel data, the attrition probability is computed and considered in calculating the weights. The survey methodology and phone call outcomes are presented in more detail in the Annex.

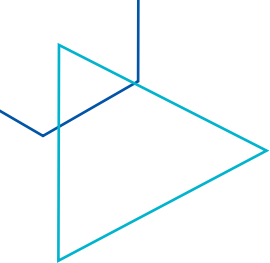
The household questionnaire covers demographic and household characteristics, labour market status, education, food security, incomes, social safety nets, attitudes towards risks and social distancing, coping strategies, and mental health. It includes a core module, an individual module, a worker module, a farmer module, a household enterprise module, a women module, and a tracking module. A more detailed presentation of findings will follow this report.

¹ Data used in this report are the cross-sectional data of the four waves.

² Only individuals of the previous wave with consent were re-contacted in the current wave.

Key Findings

- ▶ Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the unemployment share in the population has increased, reaching 20 per cent in February 2021, followed by a short improvement in April (16 per cent) and before rising again in June, to reach 19 per cent. Unemployment rates among females increased more substantially (+77 per cent) than among men.
- ▶ When comparing employment status pre-pandemic and at the time of the survey, public sector employees have been spared unemployment by and-large. An inversion in prior trends is observed as unemployment among those with basic education has contracted significantly, while unemployment among more educated individuals increased.
- ▶ While 14 per cent (8 per cent) of workers are still facing temporary (permanent) lay-offs, only 2 per cent are still enduring delays in receiving their wages by June 2021.
- ▶ Despite the improvement in the household's monthly income in June 2021 compared to April, there are still no signs of income recovery since the start of the pandemic.
- ▶ In June 2021 only 10 per cent of businesses reported experiencing permanent or temporary shutdowns, 20 per cent reduced working hours; 67 per cent reported the resumption of activity under normal hours (compared to an average of 31 per cent during the previous waves). However, there is no evidence of sales recovery nor better sales' expectations as of June 2021.
- ▶ The use of phone for marketing and business and the use of internet as the main coping strategies for businesses to reduce physical proximity with their customers have sharply risen in June 2021 compared to the previous months.
- ▶ Shifting to remote working arrangements is not an option for 85 per cent of respondents. Among those who have been able to shift, higher educated individuals, females and urban residents were more represented.
- ▶ Drops in household income and increase in food prices are still the most reported reasons of changes in food security by June 2021. Government supported business loans are the most commonly cited form of public support required by entrepreneurs.
- ▶ Only 10 per cent of households reported receiving regular governmental support in June 2021, compared to 21 per cent in February 2021.
- ▶ Resorting to family and friends in Morocco emerged as the main coping strategy in the last two waves, unlike in November 2020 and February 2021, where taking money out of savings was the most common strategy in dealing with income losses.
- ▶ A lower percentage of farmers (23 per cent in June 2021 versus 38 per cent in November 2020) are expecting crops' prices to increase in 2021 compared to 2019.



The COVID-19 pandemic in Morocco

More than a year has already passed since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Countries around the world have been significantly hit, especially at the low socio-economic level. The COVID-19 pandemic has pushed the Moroccan economy into its first recession since 1995. The Moroccan economy faced a sharp contraction in the Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of around 7 per cent in 2020. It is expected to rebound by 4.2 per cent in 2021,³ provided that the vaccination campaign proceeds as planned and that the accommodative monetary policy and the fiscal stimulus are maintained.

After observing a peak in November 2020, the trend of the number of cases has been declining. On January 28th 2021, the Moroccan government started a nationwide COVID-19 vaccination campaign that aims to cover 80 per cent of the Moroccan population over 18 years old. Priority is given to citizens in the frontline of the pandemic, the elderly, and people with underlying health conditions. The first vaccination was administered on January 28th 2021. As of September 22th 2021, over 17 million people were fully vaccinated, representing around 50 per cent of the population⁴; despite that Morocco observed another severe peak by the end of July 2021 that lasted over a month.

The Moroccan government has responded swiftly and proactively in the first months of the pandemic, imposing a state of emergency and a strict lockdown limiting movements to work and essential needs (health services and food). This has allowed limiting the spread of the virus the weeks after registering the 1st COVID-19 case on March 2nd 2020.⁵ The economic and social cost of such a stringent lockdown led the government to ease restrictions by the summer of 2020; international borders were reopened, and most businesses were authorized to resume activity, including cafés and restaurants. The pandemic rapidly progressed, reaching a peak of 6000 cases per day in November 2020. Other containment measures—including a national night curfew—were reimposed on December 23rd 2020, initially for three weeks and later extended till May 20th 2021. The government also extended the state of health emergency until July 10th 2021.⁶

The creation of a USD 1 billion fund dedicated to the management of the pandemic has been amongst the first socio-economic policy responses adopted by the Moroccan government. This fund, financed primarily by the public budget, aimed at upgrading the health system and supporting most affected economic sectors. Social transfers to temporarily unemployed employees were extended, and social contribution payments for some sectors (including tourism) were further deferred until April 2021.

On the monetary side, the Central Bank of Morocco reduced the key interest rate by 75 basis points to 1.5 per cent in March 2020 and introduced a series of monetary measures to bolster credit for businesses and households. Social security contributions were suspended for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and the self-employed and bank loans' interests were frozen until 30th 2020. The Central Bank of Morocco also adopted prudential and regulatory measures to support credit institutions in covering liquidity, equity, and claims provisioning. In April 2021, the government launched three post-crisis facilities to provide financing loans to very small firms, real estate firms, and firms operating in the tourism sector.

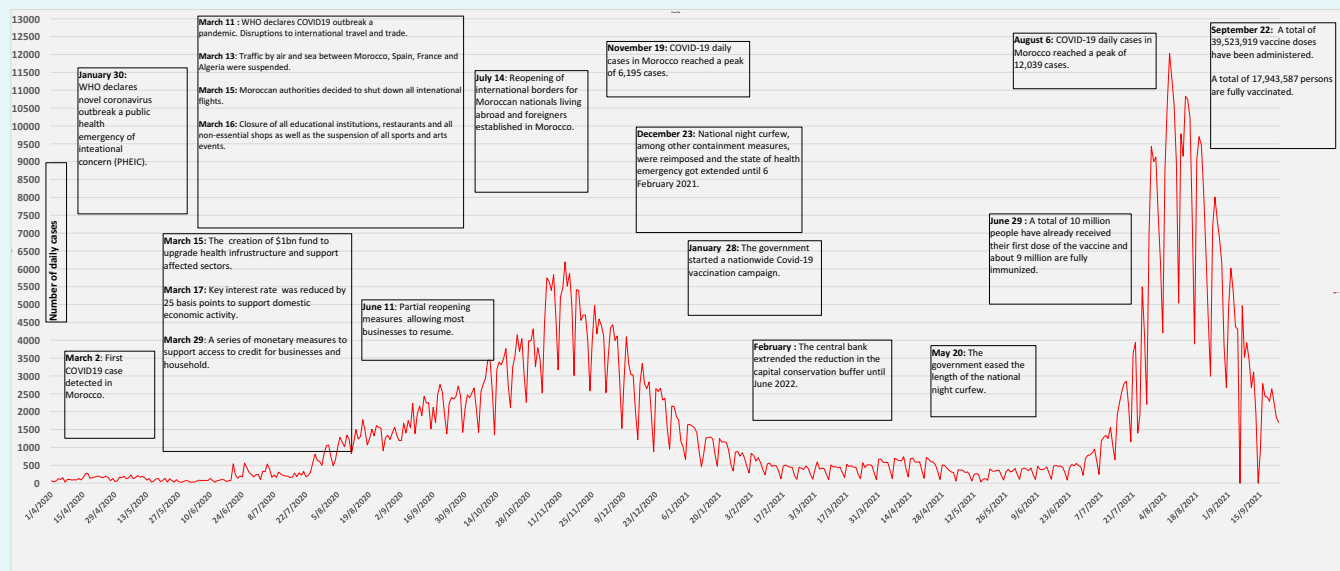
³ World Bank 2021. "Morocco's Economic Update April 2021". <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/morocco/publication/economic-update-april-2021>

⁴ WHO. 2021. "COVID-19, Vaccinations' Database." September.

⁵ EMNES. 2020. "Covid-19 in the Mediterranean and Africa - Diagnosis, Policy Responses, Preliminary Assessment and Way Forward." April.

⁶ IMF. 2021. "Policy Responses to COVID-19, Policy Tracker Database." September.

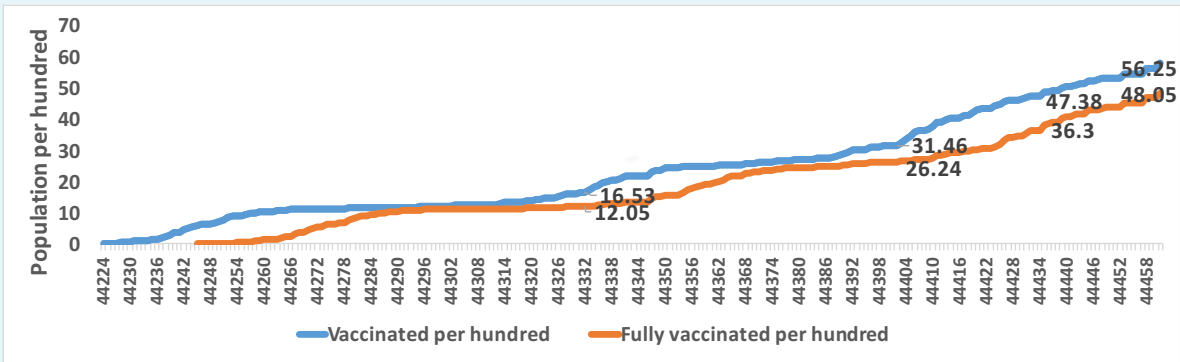
► **Figure 1:** COVID-19 case trends in Morocco and government response



Source: Constructed by authors using the WHO COVID-19 Database

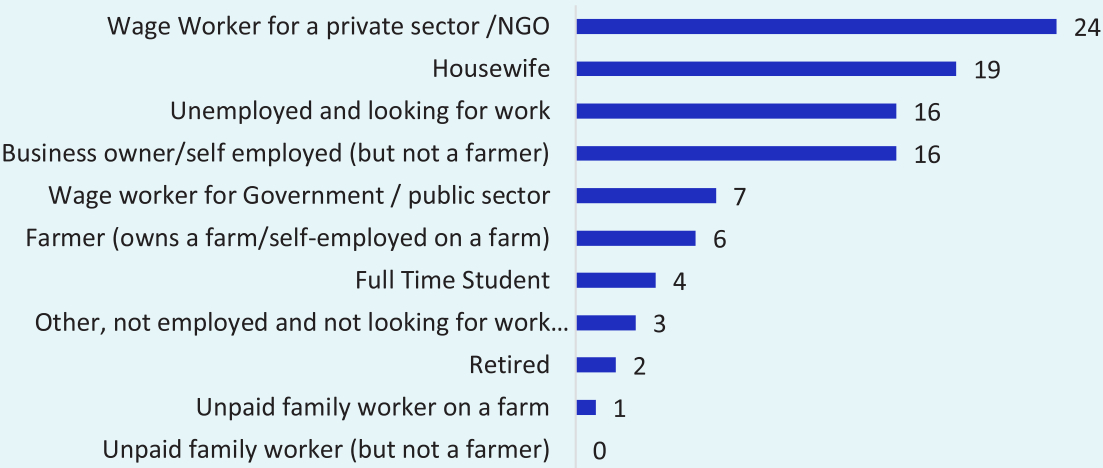
► **Figure 2:** Percentage distribution of respondents, by main job/activity, as of February 2020

COVID-19 vaccination doses per 100 person in Morocco



The distribution of Moroccan participants in the fourth wave in June 2021 is illustrated in Figure 3 below, with respect to their job activity in February 2020.

► **Figure 3:** : Percentage distribution of respondents in June 2021, by main job/activity, as of February 2020



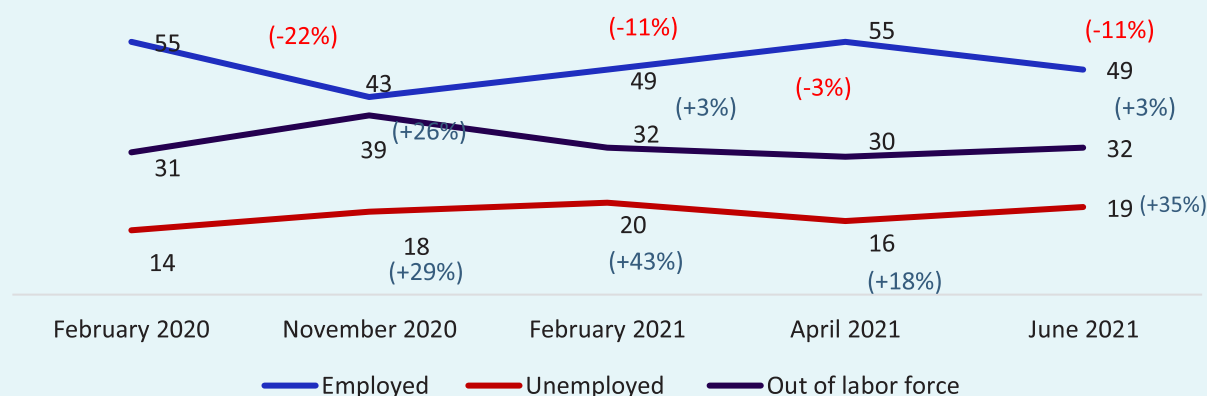
Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor.



► Employment and unemployment

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, unemployment has increased from 14 per cent in February 2020 to 20 per cent in February 2021, followed by a short period of recovery till April 2021, only to increase again to 19 per cent by June 2021. After a substantial decrease from 55 per cent in February 2020 to 43 per cent in February 2021, the employment share has recovered its pre COVID-19 levels by April 2021, only to decrease again to 49 per cent by June 2021 (Figure 4).

► **Figure 4:** Percentage change in labour force distribution, February 2020– June 2021⁷(%)

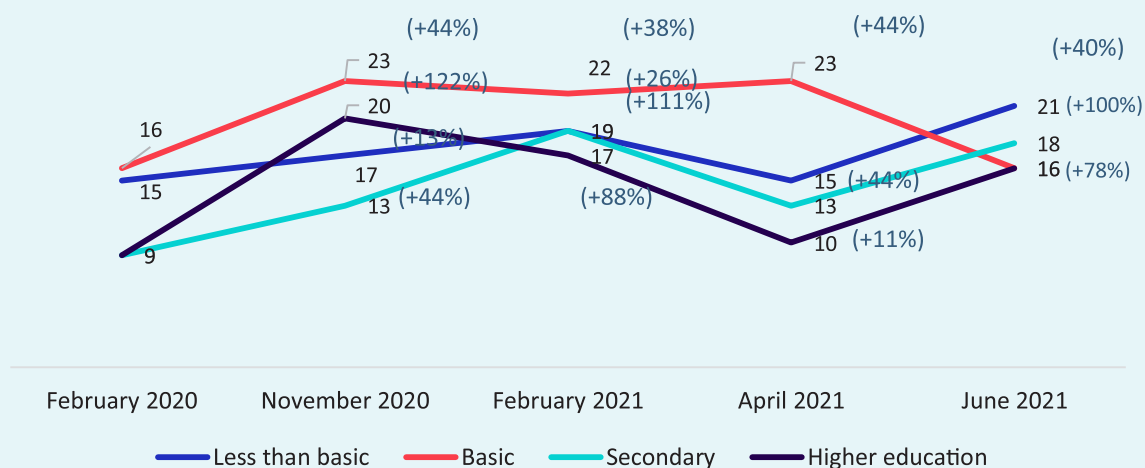


Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

By June 2021, individuals with secondary educational attainment had been the most affected group by the unemployment rise, from 9 per cent in February 2020 to 18 per cent in June 2021, recording a 100 per cent increase to pre-COVID levels. Individuals with higher levels of education had been the second most affected group, enduring a 122 per cent increase in unemployment from 9 per cent in February 2020 to 20 per cent in November 2020. Following a short period of recovery in April 2021 to pre-Covid levels, this trend was reversed by the onset of the fourth wave, resulting in an increase in unemployment share to 16 per cent in June 2021 (+78 per cent). The unemployment share for individuals with basic education levels has fully recovered by June 2021 (Figure 5).

⁷ Labour force status in February 2020 is constructed for the respondents of the four waves. The report uses the period for its retrospective measure (i.e. for February 2020) and a one-week reference period for the current status in all the waves.

► **Figure 5:** Percentage change in population unemployment share, by educational attainment, by wave (%)

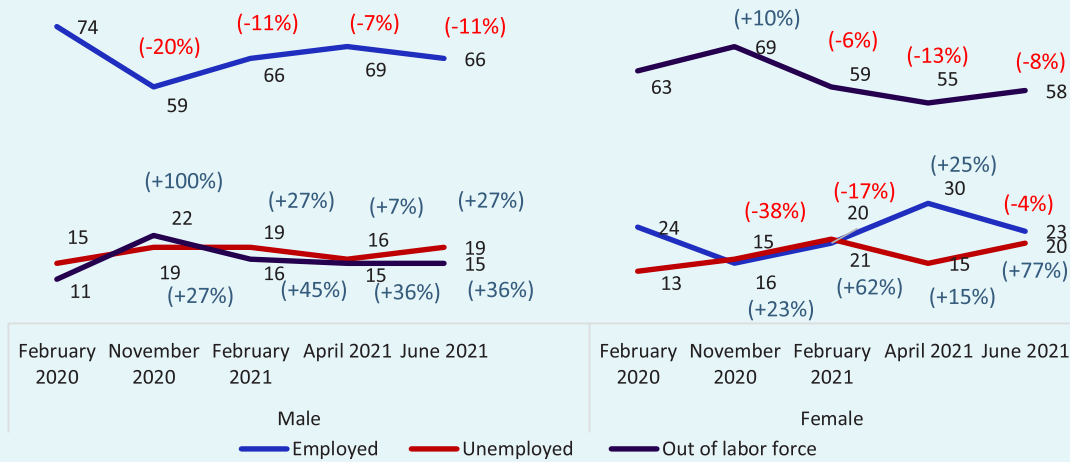


Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, vital differences in labour market participation between both genders have been observed. After an initial substantial increase in males' inactivity between February 2020 and November 2020, from 11 to 22 per cent, it stabilized at 15 per cent in April and June 2021. On the other hand, females' inactivity, which also witnessed an initial increase in November 2020 of 10 per cent, recorded a low of 55 per cent in April 2021, only to rise again to 58 per cent by June 2021. It is also important to note that the increase in female unemployment between February 2020 and June 2021 was mainly led by the increase in labour force participation (Figure 6).



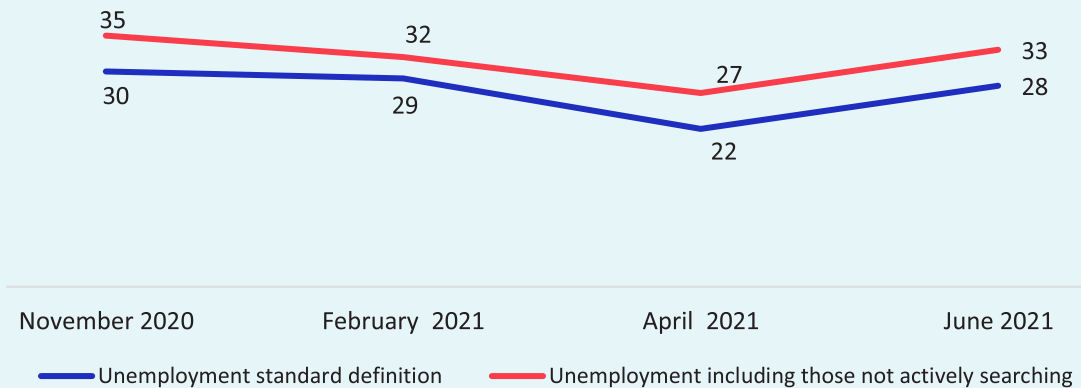
► **Figure 6:** Percentage change in labour market status, by wave and sex (%)



Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Two measures of the unemployment rate using the week prior to the survey as a reference are presented in Figure 7. While the first measure is based on the standard definition of unemployment, the other relies on the broad definition, which includes those who did not actively seek employment in the reference period. When dropping the job-search condition, the broad unemployment rate is observed to be 3 to 5 percentage points higher than the standard definition throughout the surveyed period. The trend, however, moved in the same direction from November 2020 to June 2021, with a decline of 2 percentage points using either definition (Figure 7).

► **Figure 7:** Unemployment rates in November 2020-June 2021, standard definition and including those not actively searching, by wave (%)



Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

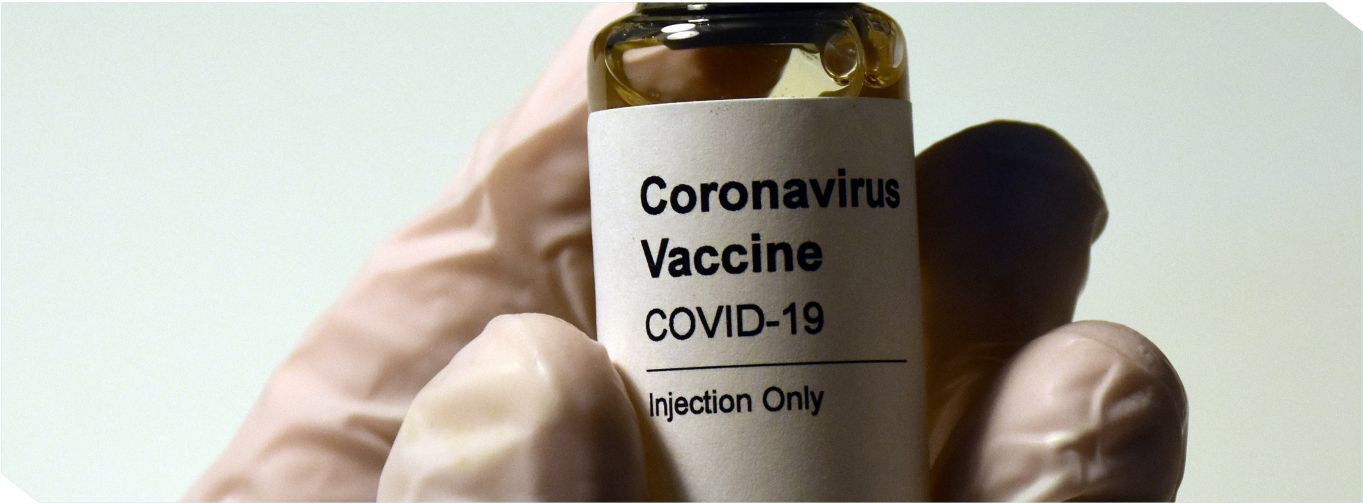
The trend also progressed in the same direction for both males and females. By February 2021, the decline was more pronounced for males than for females under both definitions of unemployment. However, by April 2021, females witnessed a sharp decrease in the unemployment (-37 per cent) rate even when dropping the job search condition by 30 per cent. While the gap between both definitions is narrower among males than females, it has been stable for both. Moreover, it is worth mentioning that the increase in the unemployment rates, especially for females, is simultaneously observed with the peak of daily cases (Figure 8).

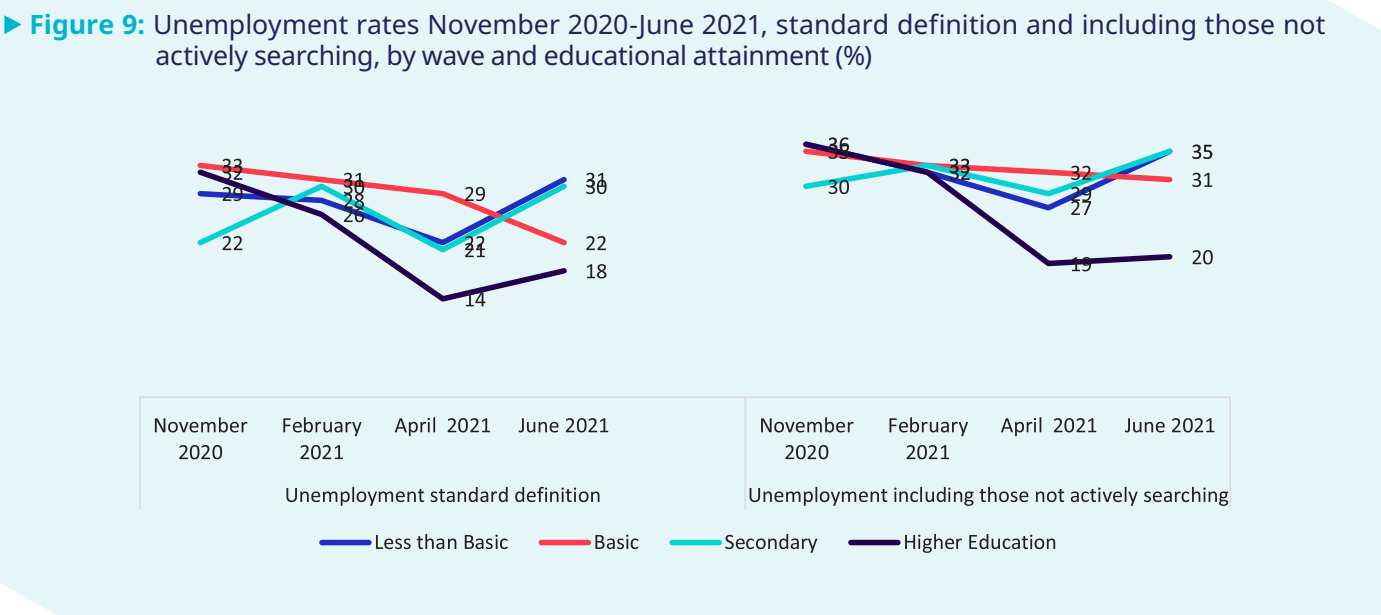
► **Figure 8:** Unemployment rates November 2020-June 2021, standard definition and including those not actively searching, by wave and sex (%)



Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

After a stable gap between the two definitions throughout the different educational levels, the gap between the two definitions substantially increased in June 2021 among less than basic educated individuals, reaching a difference of 9 percentage points. This indicates that distress employment, as households need additional members to work to meet income shortages, is more observed among females and low educated individuals, especially with the increase of the daily cases (Figure 9)





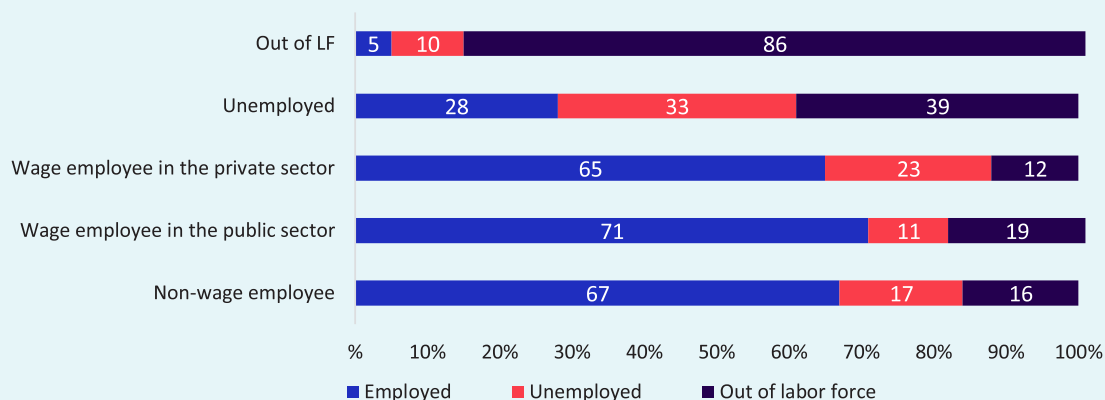
Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Figure 10 and Figure 11 show the transitions in the labour market status between the pre-pandemic status, 9 and 16 months after. Respectively, comparing the changes in the two durations reveals a recovery in employment and labour force participation. The recovery was more expeditious for the wage employees in the public sector than their counterparts in the private sector. In June 2021, individuals who used to work in the public sector were either employed or out of labour market, whereas only 73 per cent of wage employees in the private sector managed to find a job, 16 per cent failed to find one, and 11 per cent went out of the labour market.

By November 2020, 39 per cent of respondents, who were unemployed in February 2020, went out of the labour force, and 28 per cent found a job (Figure 10). By June 2021, however, around 31 per cent have dropped out of the labour force, and 25 per cent found a job (Figure 11). Entry to the labour market also increased, especially among the inactive, from 15 per cent in November 2020 to 27 per cent as of June 2021.

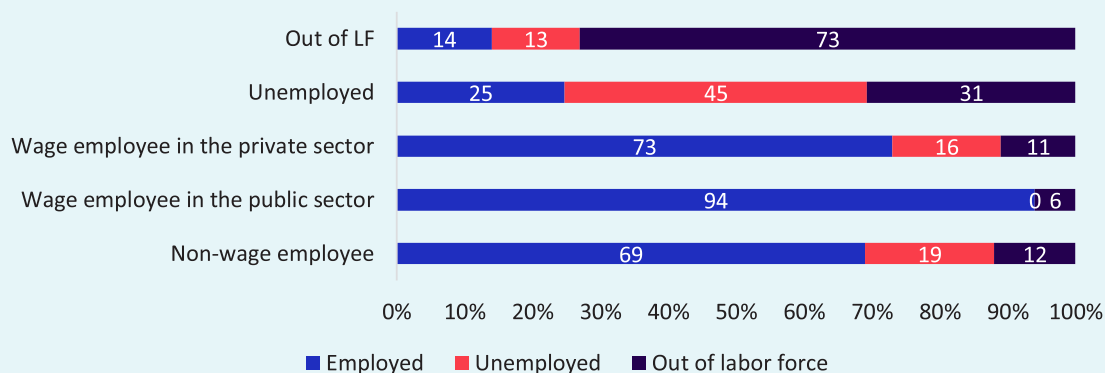


► **Figure 10:** Labour market transitions, February 2020–November 2020 (Situation of working-age individuals in June as per their situation in February)



Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

► **Figure 11:** Labour market transitions, February 2020–June 2021 (Situation of working-age individuals in June as per their situation in February)

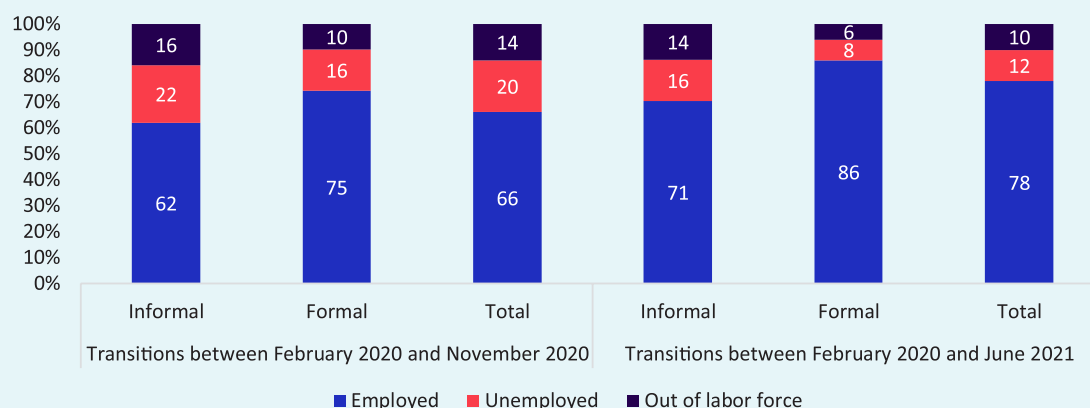


Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Note: Non-wage employees includes self-employed, employers, and unpaid family workers

Wage employees with no social insurance before the pandemic were more affected, where 22 per cent became unemployed within nine months, compared to 16 per cent of the formal waged employees. Sixteen months later, despite their recovery, they were more affected where 16 per cent of them were unable to find a job and 14 per cent left the labour market (Figure 12).

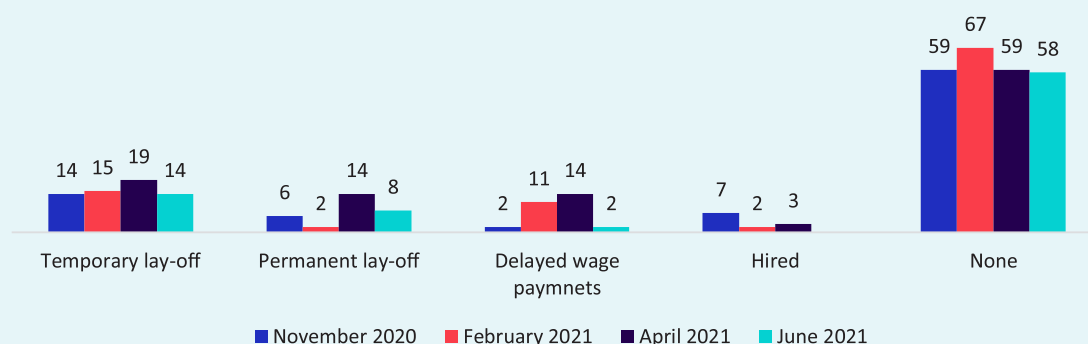
► **Figure 12:** Labour market transitions, of formal and informal wage employees , February 2020– November 2020 and February 2020- June 2021 (Situation of working-age individuals in November 2020 and June 2021 as per their situation in February)



Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Throughout the pandemic, around 60 per cent of the surveyed population have reported not experiencing any temporary or permanent lay-offs, delayed wage payments or job recruitments. Delayed wage payments, temporary and permanent layoffs were more pronounced in April 2021 compared to the other waves (Figure 13).

► **Figure 13:** In the last 60 days, have you experienced any of the following because of COVID-19 or related restrictions? by wave (%)



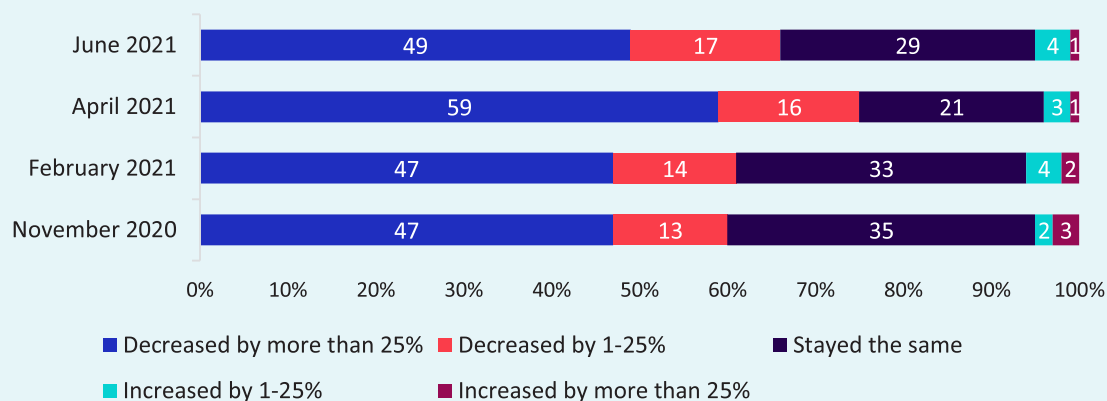
Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Note: Multiple answers are allowed

► Wages and income⁹

Although in June 2021 less percentage of the surveyed population reported a decrease in their household's monthly income than in April 2021 (66 per cent and 75 per cent), overall, there is no evidence of income recovery since the start of the pandemic (Figure 14).

► **Figure 14:** Households' total monthly income change by wave, compared to February 2020



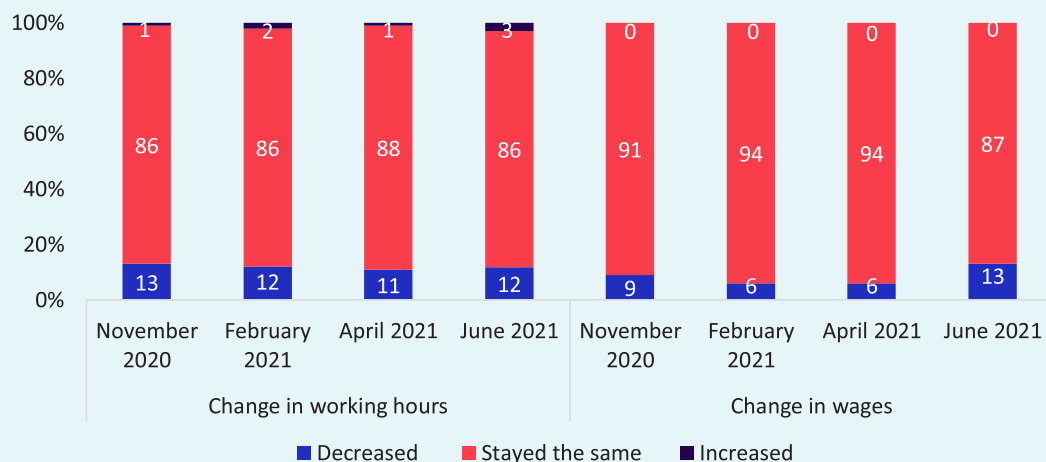
Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Throughout the pandemic, around 12 per cent of the wage employees have experienced a decrease in their working hours. On the other hand, the number of wage employees who experienced a decline in wages has varied throughout the waves, starting at 9 per cent in November before stabilizing at 5 per cent in February and April 2021, only to rise again to 13 per cent in June 2021 (Figure 15).



⁹ The analysis is based on those who were wage employees in February 2020.

► **Figure 15:** Changes in working hours and wages, by wave (%)

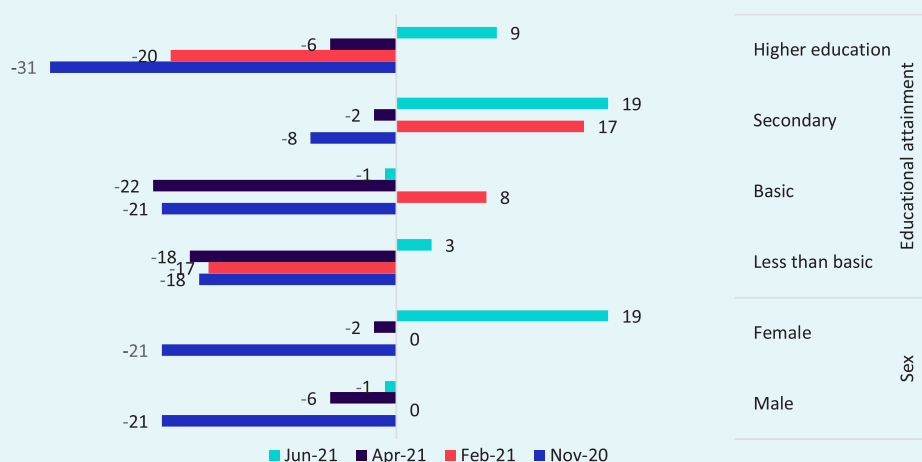


Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Additionally, we observed the percentage change in the median of the real wages compared to the median wage pre-COVID in order to assess the pandemic's impact on the actual purchasing power of the surveyed wage employees (Figure 16, Figure 17). The median of real wages for the female wage employees in June 2021 increased by 19 per cent compared to February 2020, whereas males started to regain their pre-COVID levels. Wage employees with higher education (+19 per cent) and secondary education (9 per cent) were the top two groups in recovery by June 2021. While for the government officials, the median of the real wages increased by 58 per cent in June 2021, the purchasing power of private-sector workers started to restore pre-COVID levels by June 2021. Unexpectedly, formal and informal workers recovered in the same pattern, where the median of the real wages increased by 8 per cent compared to February 2020.



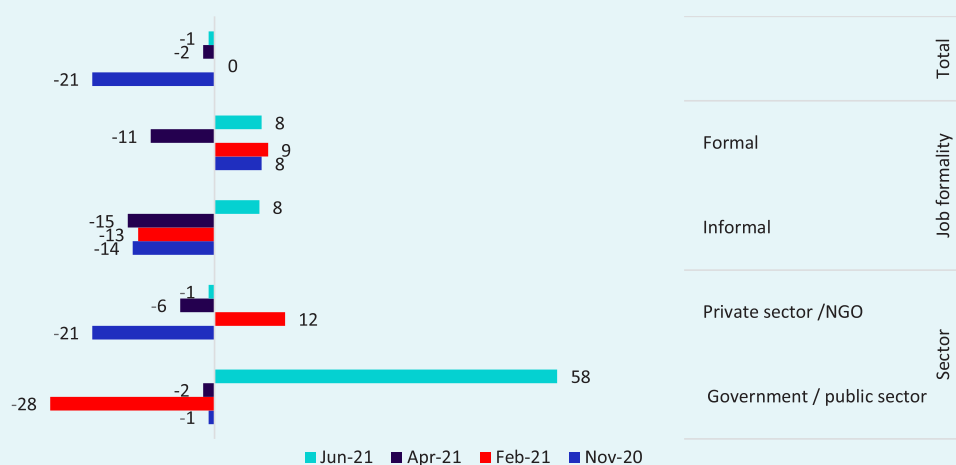
► **Figure 16:** Percentage change in the median of real wages compared to pre-COVID, by wave, sex, and educational attainment (%)¹⁰



Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Note: around 25 per cent of the wage employees in February 2020 did not report their pre-COVID wages, and between 19-31 per cent of the wage employees did not report their last month wages in the consecutive waves or might have changed their status.

► **Figure 17:** Percentage change in the median of real wage compared to pre-COVID, by wave, sector, and formality (%)



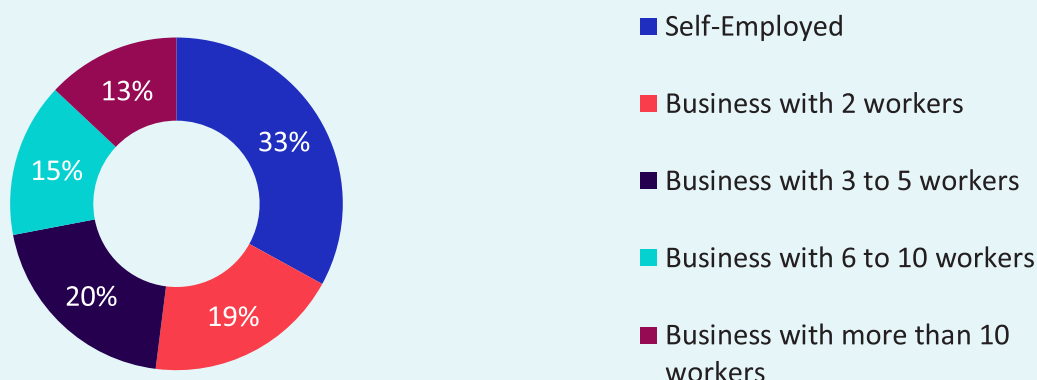
Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

¹⁰ The figure reflects the percentage change in the median of the real wages in each wave compared to the median of the real wage in February 2020 (pre-COVID) for those who were wage employees in 2020.

► Entrepreneurs and small businesses¹¹

The surveyed population of business owners is presented in the figure below (Figure 16). The self-employed account for 33 per cent and about 39 per cent are micro-enterprises employing 2 to 5 employees.

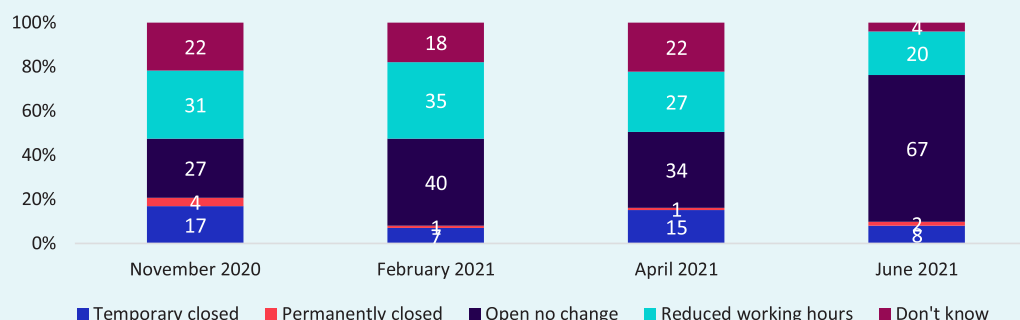
► **Figure 18:** Percentage distribution of enterprises, by number of workers in February 2020



Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Figure 19 shows that in June 2021, the business owners experienced a considerable recovery. The percentage of enterprises that were open with no change in June 2021 almost doubled compared to previous months, and only 20 per cent of business owners reported having to reduce working hours compared to an average of 31 per cent during the previous months since the onset of the pandemic.

► **Figure 19:** Percentage distribution of enterprises' current status, by wave

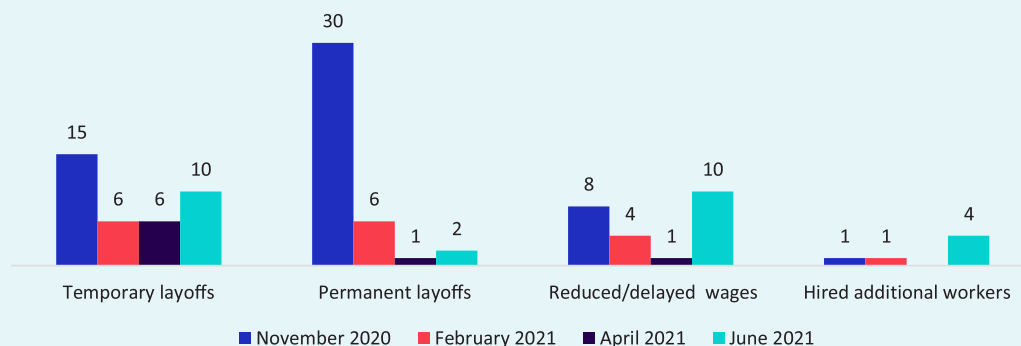


Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

¹¹ The analysis is based on those who were business owners in February 2020.

Temporary or permanent layoffs and reduced or delayed wages reported by employers have declined in the period between November 2020 and April 2021. However, they rose again in June 2021 (Figure 20).

► **Figure 20:** Reported changes by employers, due to COVID-19 outbreak and related restrictions in the last 60 days, by wave (%)

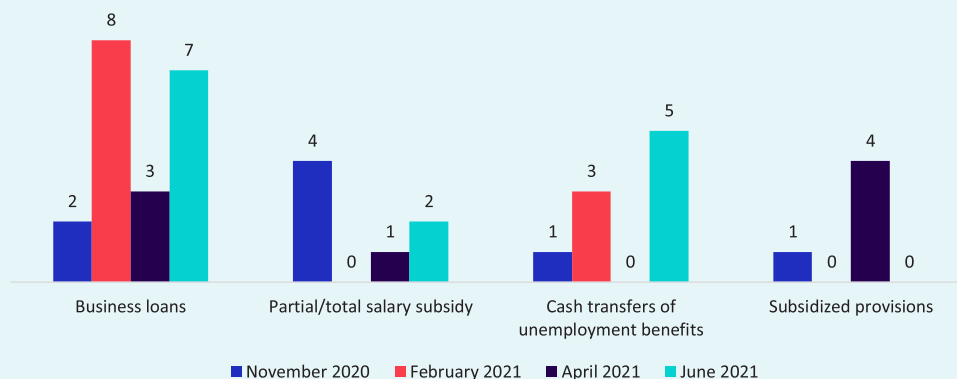


Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Note: Multiple answers are allowed

Among all surveyed respondents that indicated owning a business, only around 8 to 14¹² per cent reported applying for or currently receiving government support (Figure 21). The most requested government support remained the business loans in all the waves (Figure 22). In June 2021 higher percentage (11 per cent) requested the subsidized provision of specific products, inputs or services.

► **Figure 21:** Percentage of employers or business-owners who applied for or currently receive any government support, by wave (%)

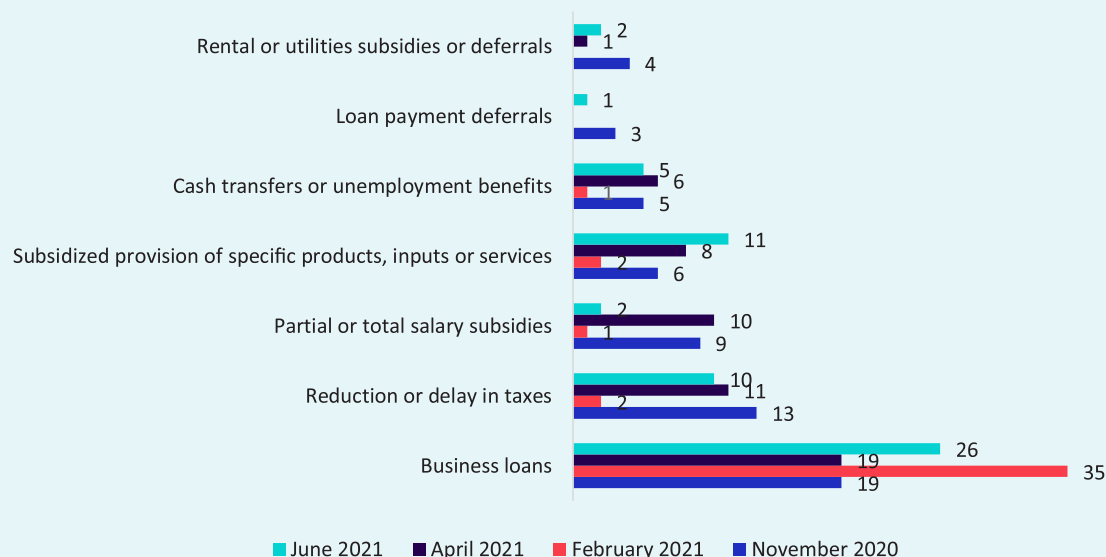


Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Note: Multiple answers are allowed

¹² In November 2020, the percentage was 8 per cent, 11 per cent in February 2021, 10 per cent in April 2021, and 14 per cent in June 2021.

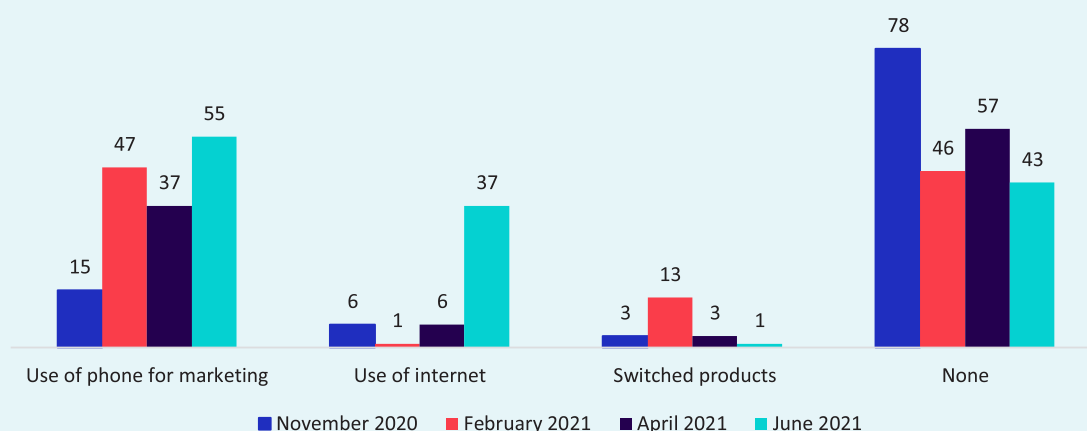
► **Figure 22:** Employers' or business-owners' most-requested policy support for COVID-19, by wave (%)



Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Coupled with the COVID-19 daily cases peak, more than half of the enterprises tried to adjust their business to reduce physical proximity in June 2021. By June 2021, more than half of the surveyed business owners used the phone, and the internet users jumped to 37 per cent (Figure 23). The use of the phone for marketing and business remained the most frequent strategy to reduce physical proximity with customers in all waves.

► **Figure 23:** Businesses' strategies to reduce physical proximity with customers, by wave (%)

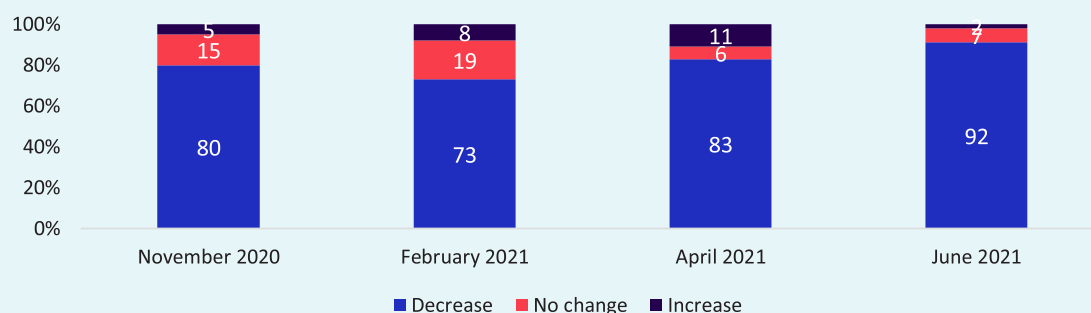


Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Note: Multiple answers are allowed

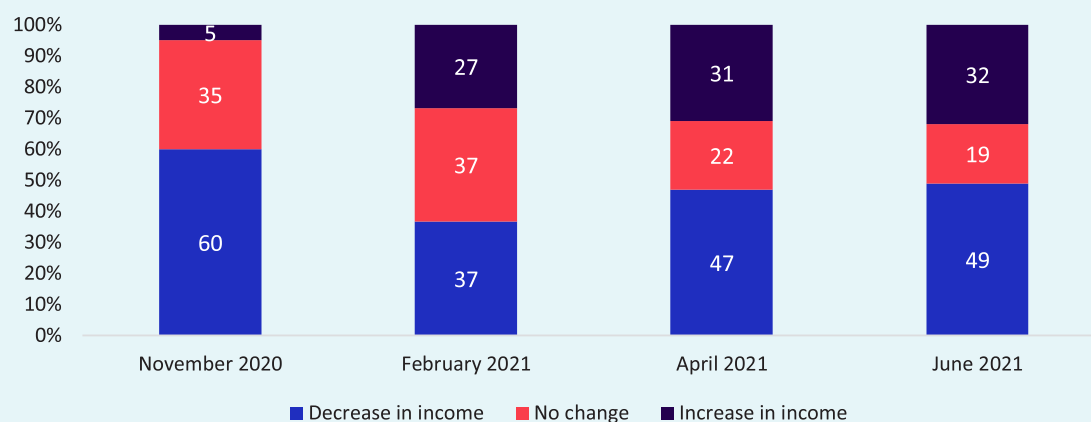
Although more enterprises reported being open with no changes in their working hours in June 2021, neither did the sales in the 60 days preceding the last survey recover (Figure 19), nor did the sales' expectations (Figure 25). The percentage of individuals reporting a drop in sales/revenues reached 92 per cent in June 2021, with almost half of the enterprises expecting a decline in the sales in 2021 compared to 2019. (Figure 24, Figure 25). However, around one-third of the enterprises were looking for a rise in the sales in 2021 (32 per cent).

► **Figure 24:** Change in sales/revenues in the last 60 days compared to sales/revenues in the same period last year, by wave



Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

► **Figure 25:** Sales expectations for 2021 compared to 2019, by wave

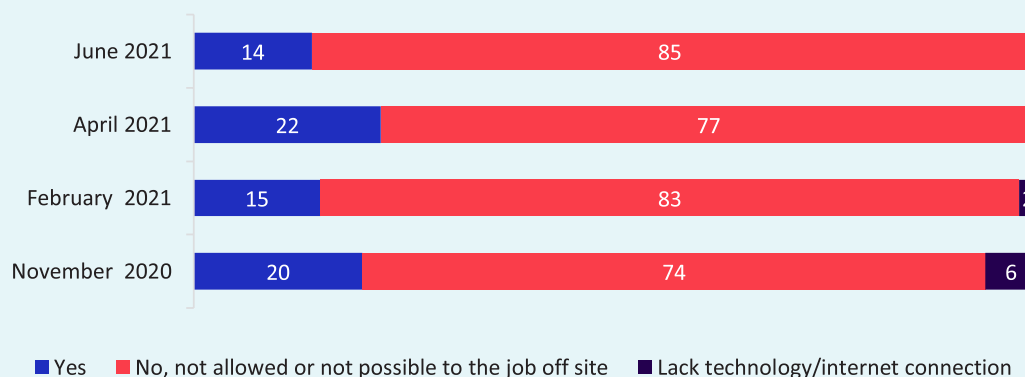


Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

► Shift to online and home-based work

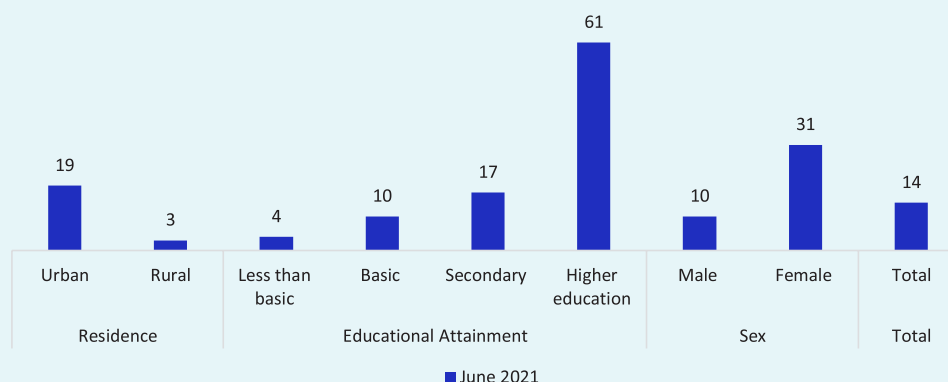
Throughout the four waves, there has been no stable trend in the ability to work from home. On average, around 80 per cent were not able to work from home, either because the nature of the job does not allow, or because they lack the technology (Figure 26). However, higher educated individuals (61 per cent), females (31 per cent), and urban residents (19 per cent) were the most capable groups to work from home by June 2021 (Figure 27).

► **Figure 26:** Ability to work from home, by wave



Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

► **Figure 27:** Ability to work from home, by residence, sex, educational attainment (%)

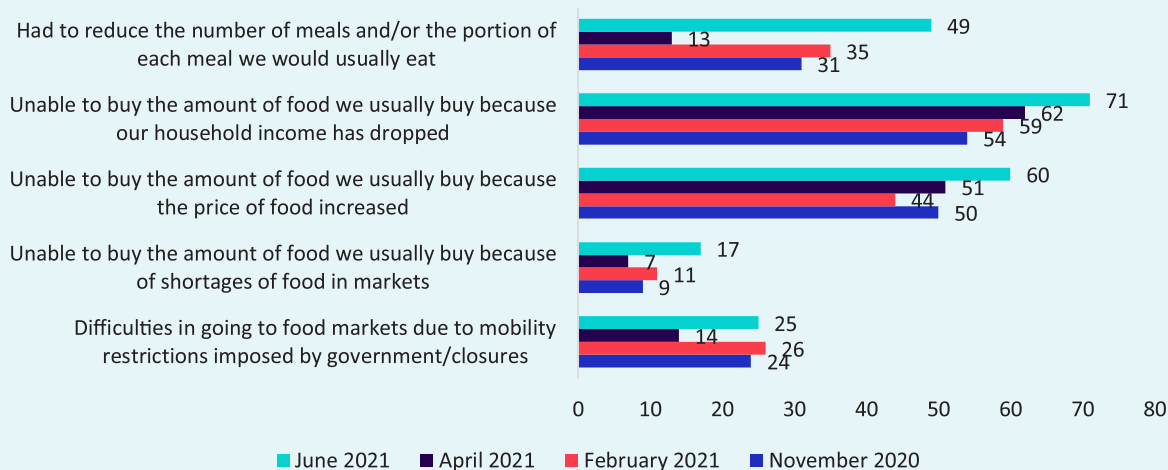


Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

► Have you had to...? Household coping strategies

While a decline in food access problems is observed among the surveyed households in April 2021, the difficulties in buying the usual amount of food highly increased in June 2021. The drop in the household's income, beside the increase in food prices remained the main obstacles in buying the usual amount of food in June 2021, reaching 71 per cent and 60 per cent of the surveyed households, respectively. While only 13 per cent of the households had to reduce the number of meals/portions in April 2021, by June 2021, almost half of the households had to minimize their food consumption. Albeit the mobility restrictions and food availability were not the main barriers in Morocco, complaints in relation to both difficulties increased in June 2021, reaching 25 and 17 per cent, respectively (Figure 28).

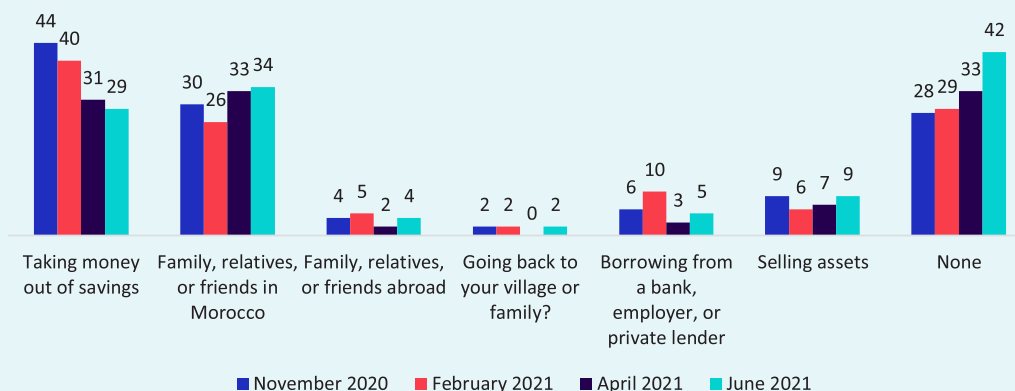
► **Figure 28:** In the past week, have you or any household member experienced any of the following? by wave (%)



Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Despite the continuity of the decline in the household's income, resorting to strategies to overcome this decrease over time (Figure 14, Figure 29), might indicate the drain of the available options that households have. Even though withdrawing from savings and turning to friends/relatives are the most utilized coping strategies since the start of the pandemic, there seems to be a shifting trend between both mechanisms. While a higher percentage of respondents resorted to using their savings in November 2020 and February 2021, the percentage of individuals who resorted to their family, relatives, or friends in Morocco was higher in April and June 2021 (Figure 29).

► **Figure 29:** Did you need to resort to any of these coping strategies since the last month? by wave (%)¹³

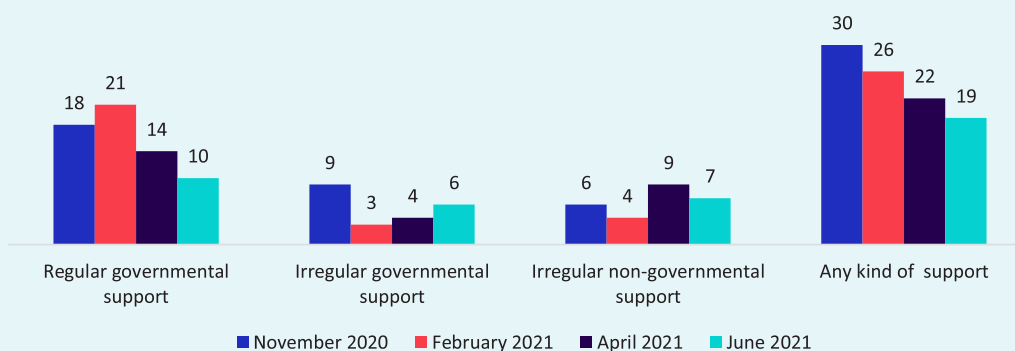


Source: Constructed by authors using the ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Note: Multiple answers are allowed

The percentage of households that reported receiving regular governmental support has declined from 21 per cent in February 2021 to 10 per cent in June 2021. During the same period, the percentage of both irregular governmental and non-governmental support has slightly increased (Figure 30).

► **Figure 30:** Which kind of support did you receive in the past month? by wave (%)



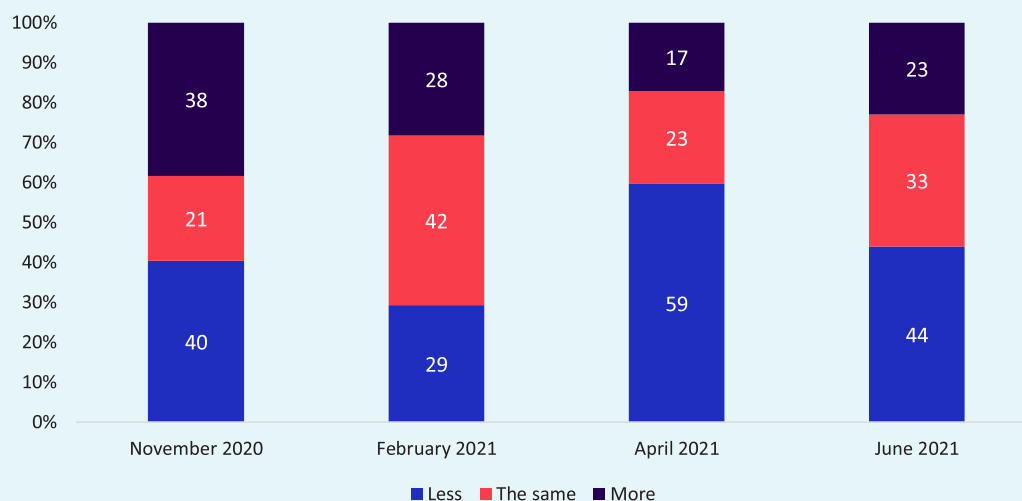
Source: Constructed by authors using ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

¹³ The reference time in the first wave in November 2020 was since February 2020. Only panel observations were included in the remaining waves in this figure.

► Farmers

The proportion of farmers who reported an expected increase in crop/product prices has continually decreased from 38 per cent in November 2020 to 17 per cent in April 2021. By June 2021, however, it had increased to 23 per cent (Figure 31).

► **Figure 31:** Relative to the same season in 2019, how do you expect prices to change for this crop/ product? by wave



Source: Constructed by authors using ILO/ ERF COVID-19 Monitor

Appendix

The COVID-19 pandemic poses a particular challenge for low- and middle-income countries, as well as vulnerable groups, such as informal and casual workers; and those engaged in survival self-employment. Assessing the impact of COVID-19 on the livelihoods of residents of countries in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region is critically essential to designing and assessing policy responses to the crisis and formulating plans for an equitable and sustained recovery. This survey, and the subsequent series of short panel phone surveys, are planned to monitor the effects of the crisis on households in Morocco.

The sample for the household survey were mobile phone users aged 18–64. Random Digit Dialling, within the range of valid numbers, was used, with up to three attempts if a phone number was not picked up/answered, was disconnected or busy, or picked up, but the respondent could not complete the interview at that time. Samples were stratified by country-specific market shares of mobile operators.

For follow-up waves, previous wave respondents were re-contacted if they consented to follow-up in the previous wave. On the third call, up to three attempts were used, including contacting second and family/friend numbers, if provided in wave one. If the individual could not be reached or refused, a refresher individual was added to the sample in their place, randomly selected as with base wave respondents.

Inverse probability weighting was undertaken to reduce bias along with several observable dimensions. Weights were created on three levels: Individual, household, and household member. Weights had the following inputs:

- Telephone operators and their market shares, provided by the data-collection firm
- Number of phones by the operator for individuals (individual weight) and household members (household weight and household member weight)
- Representative data with comparable demographic and household characteristics to weigh for non-responses

The panel attrition models use a few base wave variables in addition to those used for initial weighting. A specific additional variable is:

- Telephone operator
- Household income (categorically) in February 2020
- Base wave labour market status (employed, unemployed (search required), out of labour force)
- Interactions with sex for categorical income and base wave labour market status

The refresher weights are created in an identical fashion to the base wave, initial weights, but for the refresher samples within the subsequent waves of the panel.

For subsequent waves (waves after the base wave), cross-sectional weights combine the panel and refresher data. Weights are normalized to one within each panel and refresher samples and then combined into a single, representative cross-sectional weight.

All respondents who consented (2,085 of 2,105) to follow up in the prior wave were contacted in an attempt to include them in the subsequent wave. Varying degrees of follow-up occurred; 52.1 per cent (1,086 of 2,085) April 2021 respondents in Morocco were successfully tracked to June 2021.

► **Table 1:** Phone calls outcomes for Morocco panel sample

Result of call first try	n	col%
Phone disconnected/ busy Try for up to 3 times	121	5.8
Not in service	12	0.6
Did not answer try for up to 3 times	270	13.0
Picked up and refused	460	22.1
Incomplete, and refused	135	6.5
Incomplete, and call returned try for up to 3 times	1	0.1
Complete	1086	52.1
Total	2085	100.0

For the refresher sample, around 10,600 random numbers were generated as refresher individuals, of which one-third was not in service. The total sample size of those who completed the survey was 920.

After excluding phones that were not in service, disconnected/busy (after multiple calls), and individuals who were not eligible from the response rate calculations, the response rates in the panel and refreshers samples are 56 per cent and 16 per cent, respectively.

► **Table 2:** Phone calls outcomes for Morocco refresher sample

Result of call first try	n	col%
Phone disconnected/ busy Try for up to 3 times	1088	10.3
Not in service	3564	33.6
Did not answer try for up to 3 times	469	4.4
Picked up and refused	4166	39.3
Incomplete, and refused	347	3.3
Incomplete, and call returned try for up to 3 times	1	0.0
Complete	920	8.7
Not Eligible	45	0.4
Total	10600	100.0

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