1. HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Sources of income

**Women** 41%  
respondents earn their livelihoods from family farming/livestock/fishing.

**Men** 46%

The lowest proportion of respondents:

- 4% Rely on unemployment benefits.
- 3% Rely on remittances from abroad.
- 2% Rely on pension.

- 23% of the annual gross domestic product (GDP) was contributed by agriculture, making it a core sector of the economy.

- 69% of Uganda population 1 are employed in the agricultural sector.

- More than 4 out of 10 respondents cited agriculture as the main source of household income.

- 41% Women  
Women were found to be less likely than men to practice agricultural activities.

- 46% Men

More than 6 out of 10  
(women 65%, men 63%) feel that the pandemic poses a **substantial threat** to their household finances.

Nearly 1 out of 4  
(24% each for women and men) consider the pandemic to be a **moderate threat** to their household finances.

Approx. 7 out of 10  
consider the pandemic to be a substantial threat to household incomes comprising **women aged 31 years and above (71%)** and **women in the Northern region (67%)**.

- 63% Women  
Income from non-farm business/including family business was among the hardest hit for both women and men during the pandemic.

- 69% Men

- 70% Women  
Assistance from family within the country decreased.

- 65% Men

- 64% Women  
experienced decreases in income from properties/investments or savings during the pandemic.

- 66% Men

**75% Women & Men** equally affected by reduced incomes from farming during the pandemic.

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## Working for a living

44% respondents (more than 2 out of 5) stopped working during the pandemic due to business/office closure arising from pandemic-related restrictions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>47%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Women generally experienced this more than men, particularly in Central Region (women 58%, men 39%) and Northern Region (women 58%, men 51%).

### This was observed even in age groups disaggregated by sex:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>51%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGE: 31 years and above</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>women did not work during the pandemic due to business closures compared with men in the same age bracket.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGE: 18 years and above</td>
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<tr>
<td>women did not work during the pandemic compared with men in the same age bracket.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The decrease in working for a living was more significant for women than for men</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>47%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The decrease was largely the result of businesses or Government departments/units closing due to COVID-19 restrictions (44% of respondents). This was more significant for women than men</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

15% Women and Men

An equal proportion of women and men stopped working during the pandemic because they were “laid-off although the business continued”. Some slight discrepancies were observed in regions such as Central (women 17%, men 14%) and Northern (women 13%, men 16%).

### Effect of pandemic on income sources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>74%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of respondents reported that non-farm family business¹ as an income source was most affected by both reduction and total loss combined.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>67%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reported a reduction in ‘assistance from family within the country’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>66%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>who earned an income from pension income indicated that it remained the same.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reported a reduction in properties/investment/savings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>62%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reported a reduction in assistance from other non-family individuals’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹Non-farm family business includes businesses such as agriculture, handicrafts, and small-scale enterprises.
## 2. Security Threats

Women and men in Uganda have experienced greater security risks and vulnerability to crime and violence since the onset of the pandemic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic</th>
<th>Security Risks and Vulnerability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Police brutality in enforcing COVID-19 lockdown measures and the unrest that preceded the presidential elections may be partly responsible for this.

In April 2020, several deaths were attributed to security officers who were enforcing measures to restrict the spread of the illness.

- **Nearly 6 out of 10** respondents across all demographics have experienced greater security risks and vulnerability to crime and violence during the pandemic.
- **3 out of 5** have experienced greater security risks and vulnerability to crime and violence during the pandemic.
- **2 out of 5** in Northern Region have experienced greater security risks and vulnerability to crime and violence during the pandemic - the highest proportion for this observation.

- **23%** Women
- **28%** Men
- **24%** Men (Aged 31 years and above)

Women & Girls:  
- **1 in 3** Women
- **1 in 3** Girls (32%) of girls also do not feel safe in the community.

Women in Eastern Region:  
- **40%**

3. ACCESS TO SERVICES

Difficulty in access to services during the pandemic
Financial services were the most difficult to access followed by health care, food, and water during the pandemic.

- **65%** Financial services were the most difficult to access.
- **57%** Health care
- **49%** Food
- **36%** Water

1 in 2 respondents had instances when they experienced challenges in accessing food due to COVID-19 restrictions or fear of contracting the disease.

3 in 5 respondents (63%) did not experience lack of access to water during the pandemic.

64% Women 66% Men
Most women and men lacked access to financial services due to the pandemic.

Discrepancies in access to services by sex:

**Health Services**
- **64%** Women
- **57%** Men

**Eastern Region**
lacked access to health services.

**Western Region**
lacked access to health services.

**Financial Services**
- **71%** Women
- **64%** Men

**Eastern Region**
lacked access to financial services.

**Western Region**
lacked access to financial services.
Uganda has been a net recipient of migrants and refugees for some time. These groups have also suffered the negative health and socio-economic effects of the pandemic.

More than 1 in 3 (37%) refugee children did not have learning materials or stopped learning altogether during the pandemic.

The competing demands of household chores affected learning for:

- More than 1 in 4 girls (27%)
- More than 1 in 10 boys (13%)

Women and girls’ unpaid care work among refugees has increased significantly.

- 50% Girls & Women
  AGE: 18–24 years reported increase in unpaid care work.

- 4 in 5 respondents indicated that COVID-19 was negatively impacting the mental health of refugees.

Lack of access to food due to COVID-19 was relatively even between the sexes.

Lack of access to water was significantly more pronounced for women in Central and notably less of an issue for women in Northern region.

Central Region
- 40% Women
- 37% Men

Northern Region
- 31% Women
- 36% Men

Women

- Food: Lack of access to food due to COVID-19
- Water: Lack of access to water

Girls & Women

- More than 1 in 10 (81%) indicated that COVID-19 was negatively impacting the mental health of refugees.
Most women and men have received information on **sexual reproductive health and rights** since the start of the pandemic although a significant number have not had access to SRH services during this time.

### 4. Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Radio, TV, and community activists/volunteers</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>64%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

More than **6 in 10 women and men** have received information on **sexual reproductive health and rights** since the start of the pandemic.

Nearly **2 in 5 women and men** indicated that a member of their household needed SRH services during the pandemic.

**4 in 5** of those in need of SRH services managed to access them:

- **86%** in a health facility
- **16%** in a VHT
- **9%** in an NGO/CSO

**1 in 5** respondents who needed, but could not access SRH services during the pandemic.

**Reasons given by about 1 in 3** of those who needed but could not access SRH services during this time, with women significantly more affected:

- **36%** Women **30%** Men: Lack of money for transport.
- **34%** Women **26%** Men: Lack of transport.
- **33%** Women **24%** Men: Long distances to the nearest support center.
- **20%** Women **20%** Men: Could not pay for SRH services during the pandemic.
- **19%** Women **19%** Men: Did not have information on where to access services.
5. GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)

76%
More than 3 in 4 women and men in Uganda have received information on gender-based violence (GBV) since the start of the pandemic.

53%
45%
Radio, and TV, and ‘word-of-mouth’ (neighbor 27%, friend 16%, community activist/volunteer 16%) were the main sources of information on GBV for both women and men during the pandemic.

46% Women
49% Men
1 in 2
Women knew of a GBV victim/survivor

54%
Proportions were higher in Northern Region where more than half of respondents knew of GBV victims.

Forms of GBV
Most prevalent form of GBV during the pandemic

50% Respondents
cited physical violence.

1 in 3 Respondents
cited denial of resources.

1 in 3 Respondents
cited psychological torture.

1 in 3 Respondents
cited sexual violence.

Less common forms of GBV during the pandemic

2% Respondents
cited female genital mutilation.

7% Respondents
cited online bullying.

3 Rape/defilement
Who is responsible for GBV?

33% Respondents identified household members predominantly spouses as the perpetrators of GBV.

15% Respondents identified neighbors as the perpetrators of GBV.

11% Respondents identified strangers as the perpetrators of GBV.

Seeking help following GBV incidents

67% 2 in 3 survivors sought help for GBV incidences.

32% Survivors of GBV sought help from the police.

23% Survivors of GBV looked for help from a community leader.

The lowest proportions of respondents sought help following GBV incidences from:

1% Helplines
0% Shelters
0% Employers/work colleagues
0% Teachers

A small proportion of respondents sought help following GBV incidences from:

7% Own families
6% A neighbor
6% Doctor/medical facility
6% Friend

Main barriers for GBV survivors who did not seek help:

37% Lack of information/knowledge on where to access services
37% Fear of leaving home
18% Lack of money for transport
14% Long distances to the nearest support center
The lowest proportion of respondents who indicated that they sought help for GBV:

59%
Men from Central Region.

66%
Men aged 31 years and above.

74%
Women from Northern Region.

73%
Women aged 31 years and above.

Highest proportion of respondents who sought help following incidences of GBV:

Perceptions on the prevalence of GBV

Women
73%
Most women and men felt that GBV is a problem in Uganda.

Men
65%

Women
78%
Northern Region
More women than men likely to feel that GBV is a problem particularly in Northern Region and Central Region.

Men
66%

Women
79%
Central Region

Men
64%

Men aged 31 years and above.

Women aged 31 years and above.

Indicated that they believe that GBV happens very often.

Women
65%

Men
59%

Women
70%
Northern Region
More women than men likely to feel that GBV happens very often especially those in Northern Region and Central Region.

Men
58%

Women
71%
Central Region

Men
59%

Most women and men felt that GBV is a problem in Uganda.

Women
4 in 5
Western Region
indicated that GBV in Uganda has increased since the onset of COVID-19.

Women
78%
Northern Region
felt that GBV in Uganda has increased since the onset of COVID-19.

Men
77%

Women
78%
Central Region

Men
78%

Perception on preventing GBV
Measures that should be prioritized to effectively prevent GBV:

Financial support
40%  
Someone to talk to
37%  
Information about security/crime prevention
35%  
Police support
31%  
Psychosocial support
30%

Women were more likely than men to indicate the need for multiple support mechanisms in preventing GBV.