

Devastating Impacts and Risks of COVID-19 for Children

World Vision

GROWING HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Additional life-saving assistance is required from the UN and the international community in places where COVID-19's impact has compounded existing humanitarian crises.



100 MILLION children and families prior to the pandemic



250 MILLION children and families during the pandemic

Sources: (UN) Launch of Global Humanitarian Response Plan for COVID-19; (IASC) Global Humanitarian Response Plan July Update

HEALTH & NUTRITION

Disruptions to health systems could result in anywhere from **215,000 to 1.15 MILLION additional child deaths** in 118 low- and middle-income countries over the next six months.



Global immunisation coverage rates for DTP3 and measles are expected to drop from 85% pre-COVID-19 to less than 20%. Where they continue, some are impacted by movement restrictions as well as families' economic hardships and fear of COVID-19 infection.



Without timely action, **the number of children under five with severe acute malnutrition could rise by ~15% globally** over the first 12 months of the crisis, with an increase of 20-25% in parts of Africa.



Sources: (The Lancet) Early estimates of the indirect effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on maternal and child mortality in low- and middle-income countries: a modelling study; (WHO) WHO and UNICEF warn of a decline in vaccinations during COVID-19; (UN) Policy Brief: The Impact of COVID-19 on Food Security & Nutrition; (IASC) Global Humanitarian Response Plan July Update

CHALLENGES FACED BY THE DISPLACED

A record **79.5 MILLION PEOPLE** were displaced in 2019.



30-34 MILLION WERE CHILDREN

More than **80%** are in countries or territories affected by acute food insecurity and malnutrition, and are ill-equipped to respond to COVID-19.

Sources: (UNHCR) Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2019; (IASC) Global Humanitarian Response Plan July Update

EDUCATION



School closures disrupted the education of nearly **1.6 BILLION LEARNERS**. 23 countries maintain country-wide closures, affecting more than **224 MILLION LEARNERS** or 12.8% of the world's student population.



24 MILLION CHILDREN, including more than 11 million girls, may drop out of school.



260 MILLION CHILDREN are missing out on vital school meals programmes due to school closures.

Sources: (UNESCO) Dashboard: COVID-19 Impact on Education; (WFP) Global Monitoring of School Meals During COVID-19 School Closures; (ACAPS) COVID-19: Global Impact on Education; (UNESCO) Keeping Girls in the Picture

POVERTY, FOOD INSECURITY & SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT

Globally, **1 in 6 children – 365 MILLION** – lived in extreme poverty before the pandemic. COVID-19 could push an additional **42-66 MILLION CHILDREN** into extreme poverty.



More than half of the global population (**4 BILLION PEOPLE, including 1.3 BILLION CHILDREN**) do not have the coverage of a critical social safety net/ social protection.

COVID-19 may add between **83 and 132 MILLION PEOPLE** to the number of undernourished in 2020. Based on a recent assessment in nine Asian countries, World Vision estimates:

85 MILLION HOUSEHOLDS may have no or limited food stocks;
110 MILLION CHILDREN may be going hungry; and
8 MILLION CHILDREN may be forced into child labour or begging in the region.

Sources: (World Bank) 365 million children live in extreme poverty; (UN) Policy Brief: The Impact of COVID-19 on Children; (FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP & WHO) The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2020. Transforming food systems for affordable healthy diets; (World Vision) COVID-19 Aftershocks: Out of Time – As families' incomes plummet, millions more children go hungry and are forced to work and beg; (ILO and UNICEF) Towards Universal Social Protection for Children: Achieving SDG 1.3

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN



UP TO 85 MILLION CHILDREN may have been exposed to physical, sexual and/or emotional violence due to COVID-19.



13 MILLION ADDITIONAL CHILD MARRIAGES are predicted in the 10 years following the crisis, with at least 4 million girls married in the next two years alone.



Child protection services disrupted in 104 countries, seriously limiting access to prevention and response services for **1.8 BILLION CHILDREN**.



Online child sexual exploitation and violence are on the rise with estimates of **risks doubling**.

Sources: (World Vision) COVID-19 Aftershocks: A Perfect Storm – Millions More Children at Risk of Violence during Lockdown and Into the New Normal; (UNFPA) Millions more cases of violence, child marriage, female genital mutilation, unintended pregnancy expected due to the COVID-19 pandemic; (UNICEF) COVID-19 causes disruptions to child protection services in more than 100 countries; UNICEF survey finds; (WePROTECT Global Alliance) Intelligence Brief: Impact of COVID-19 on Online Child Sexual Exploitation