

This snapshot updates #32. These COVID-19 Analytical Snapshots are designed to capture the latest research, information and analysis in a fast-moving environment. Topics will be repeated from time to time as analysis develops. If you have an item to include, please email us at research@iom.int.



New research & analysis on the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19

[Socio-Economic Impact of COVID-19 in Ethiopia](#) by UNCT Ethiopia

[The socio-economic implications of the coronavirus pandemic \(COVID-19\)](#) by Maria Nicola and Ziad Alsafi

[COVID-19 and Africa: Socio-economic implications and policy responses](#) by OECD

[The social and economic concerns of immigrants during the COVID-19 pandemic](#) by S. LaRochelle-Côtei & Sharanjit Uppal

Migration-related socioeconomic impacts on developing countries

In this [IOM Issue Brief](#), the migration-related socioeconomic impacts are explored in detail:

- ⇒ Developing countries are integrated into global goods & labour supply chains and are experiencing effects of declining demand;
- ⇒ travel restrictions are impacting communities reliant on tourism;
- ⇒ many developing countries rely heavily on labour migration, so drops in remittances are being keenly felt.



Policy Brief: COVID-19 & People on the Move

On 3 June, [the UN Secretary-General](#) launched the latest [UN policy brief on the pandemic](#), which reminds countries of their obligation to protect people on the move. Concerning the socio-economic crisis, the report stated that people on the move are among the hardest hit by reduced incomes, increasing [unemployment](#), as well as increasing expenses. Furthermore, the crisis has also exacerbated the already precarious [situation of women and girls on the move](#).

The policy brief offered four basic tenets to guide response plans:

1. Exclusion is costly in the long-run whereas inclusion pays off for everyone
2. The response to COVID-19 and protecting the human rights of people on the move are not mutually exclusive
3. No-one is safe until everyone is safe
4. People on the move are part of the solution



Internally Displaced People (IDPs) at Risk

According to [UNDP](#), 1/3 of the world's IDPs live in 10 countries most at risk to the COVID-19 socio-economic impacts

The socio-economic impacts of Covid-19

As presented in [snapshot #32](#), the pandemic has already revealed and exacerbated pre-existing socio-economic inequalities, including those of migrants, and will affect them as well their country and communities of origin. A recent [Statistics Canada](#) study reveals that immigrants and refugees are more likely than Canadian-born individuals to be worried about the social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, the measures taken to counter the pandemic are likely to leave long-term [lasting scars](#) through multiple channels, especially for migrants:

- ⇒ **Poverty:** Recent [studies](#) have shown that pandemics leave the poor even farther behind. It has been [shown](#) that years after pandemic events, the employment of those with advanced levels of education is scarcely affected, whereas the employment of those with only basic levels of education falls sharply, by more than 5 per cent at the end of five years.
- ⇒ **Unemployment:** Migrant workers tend to be particularly vulnerable, [more than native-born workers](#), to losses of employment and wages during an economic crisis in their host country. In [Eastern Ukraine](#), for instance, forty-nine per cent (49 per cent) of firms owned by internally displaced persons (IDPs) had to cease operations.
- ⇒ **Inclusion and Social Cohesion:** Some [countries](#) have used the pandemic as a pretext to prejudice against migrants and blame them for the spread of the virus. COVID-19 [response measures](#) that are not inclusive of migrant workers in the informal economy further situated workers and families at risk of exploitation.



Remittances in Crisis: How to Keep Them Flowing

The projected a drop of [20 percent](#) in international remittances worldwide amounts to a fall of around US\$110 billion. For this reason, [the United Nations Capital Development Fund \(UNCDF\) and the United Nations Development Programme \(UNDP\)](#) announced their [joint support](#) for a Member State-led initiative to improve migrants' access for sending and receiving remittances, and to reduce transfer costs during the ongoing pandemic of COVID-19 outbreaks.



According to [IOM](#), the suspension of “non-essential activities” to limit the spread of COVID-19 in West and Central Africa has had a heavy socio-economic impact on some 34,000 returning migrants.



This COVID-19 Analytical Snapshot has been produced by [IOM Research](#) (research@iom.int).

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