

# Locked down and left out?

Why access to basic services for migrants is critical to our COVID-19 response and recovery.



## Key findings

Impacts on migrants

## Migrant experiences

Research survey snapshot

**Barriers to basic services:**

- exclusion based on legal or visa status
- inaccessible information
- insufficient or unavailable services
- financial costs
- inconsistent application of relevant laws and policy
- fear of arrest, detention or deportation
- lack of relevant documentation
- digital exclusion.

- Disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 prevention and control measures
- Excluded from socio-economic support policies
- Over-represented in employment sectors hard-hit by the pandemic
- Risk of being left out of COVID-19 vaccines
- Stigma and discrimination

**Egypt**

- 95%** faced housing insecurity
- 80%** jobs badly affected (70-100% income loss)

**Ethiopia**

- 46.7%** experienced mental distress

**Sweden**

- >50%** accessing food relief had no stable housing

**Australia**

- 74%** no access to sustainable financial support

**Philippines**

- 50%** stranded internally were unable to put enough food on the table.

**Sudan**

- 92%** income was negatively affected
- 84%** experienced decline in mental health

**Colombia**

- 18%** cited food insecurity as biggest risk for children

## Recommendations

### Ensure all migrants, irrespective of legal status:

- 1

Are included in local and national COVID-19 responses that guarantee access to basic services.
- 2

Have effective access to timely, accurate and reliable information on COVID-19 in a language they understand and through accessible dissemination channels.
- 3

Are included in COVID-19 testing, treatment and vaccination policies and roll-out strategies and have equal access to testing, treatment and vaccines.
- 4

Are included in pandemic-related socio-economic support (now and in the future) if they have lost their livelihoods and are unable to meet their basic needs.
- 5

Have safe access to humanitarian assistance without fear of arrest, detention or deportation by removing formal and informal barriers.



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