



COVID-19 IN LAC

DOMINICA

2021 LAC HIGH FREQUENCY PHONE SURVEYS: Results Phase II, Wave 2



January 2023

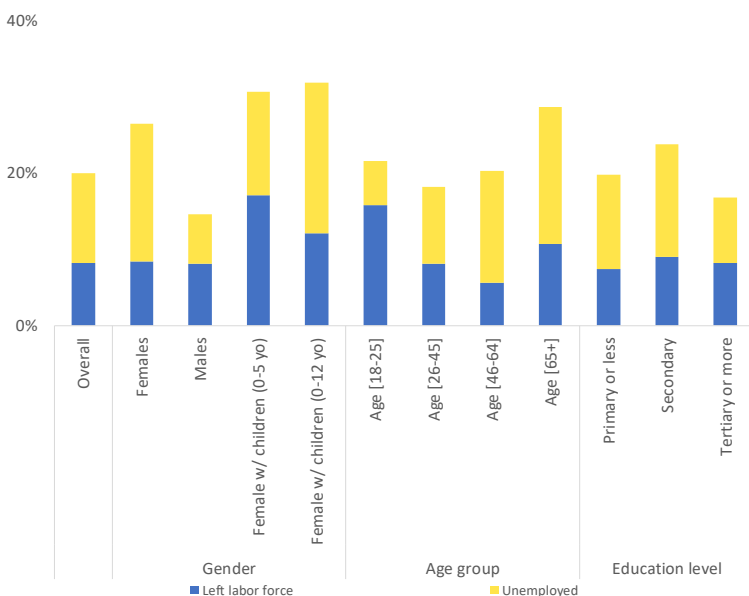
In 2021, Dominica's economy continued to rebound following the sudden stop in tourism in 2020 and Covid-19 containment measures. Nonetheless, by the end of 2021, the labor market had not yet recovered fully from the shock and the negative impact of the pandemic on households' incomes remained widespread.

Although Dominica performed better than the average Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) country in terms of job losses, about one fifth of those who were employed before the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic still did not have a job by the end of 2021, and over half of them had left the labor force altogether. The probability of job loss was higher among the most vulnerable population groups, particularly for women with children aged 0-12 years old (31.8 percent), the elderly (28.6 percent), and people with secondary education (23.7 percent). The data suggests that job quality deteriorated compared to before the pandemic. Labor informality reached 34.6 percent by the end of 2021, increasing by 8.2 percentage points compared to its pre-pandemic level; though it was considerably below the regional average of 62.2 percent.

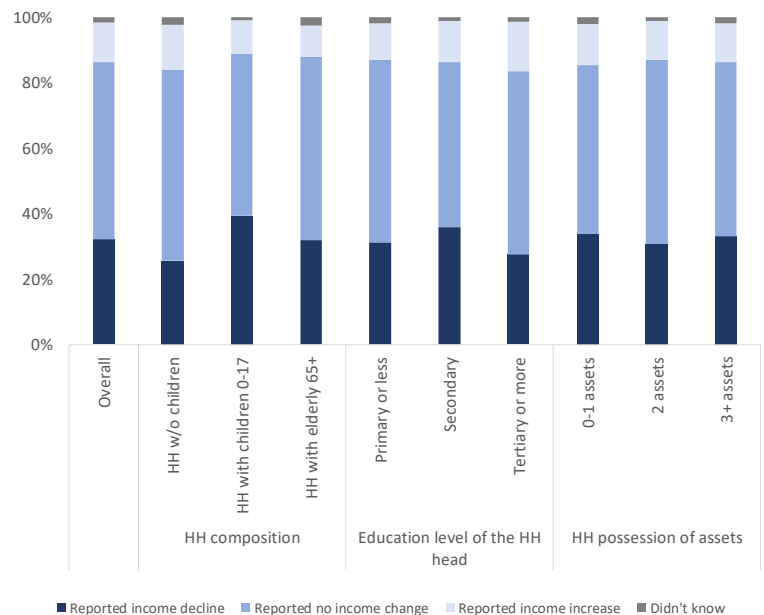
About 1 in 3 households reported a decline in total household income between mid-2021 and the end of the year. Although the government introduced several income support measures (unemployment grant, self-employed grant and top-ups to the Public Assistance Program), they proved insufficient to fully offset the impacts of the pandemic on households' income. By end-2021, 57.0 percent of households reported not having enough resources to cover basic needs and 74.4 percent of households had resorted to at least one coping mechanism. As a result, food insecurity increased substantially, with 43.6 percent of households running out of food in the 30 days preceding the survey, more than double its pre-pandemic level and substantially above the LAC average of 23.9 percent. The prevalence of food insecurity was higher among households with children aged 0-17 years old (54.0 percent), poor households (52.7 percent), and households with less educated heads (47.3 and 52.4 percent for those with primary and secondary education, respectively). In addition, almost half of the population reported mental health problems by the end of 2021, with youth (59.5 percent) and women (53.3 percent) being particularly affected.

Children's educational engagement in Dominica was one of the highest in the region, with 95.4 percent of school aged children attending school by end-2021, either in person or virtually, and 90.0 percent of them interacting with a teacher in person. Still, more than half of the population reported an increase in time spent accompanying children's education since the start of the pandemic. Women disproportionately reported an increase in time spent supporting children's education (59.5 percent) compared to men (49.8 percent).

JOB LOSS (% OF PRE-PANDEMIC WORKERS)



CHANGES IN TOTAL INCOME (%HH) SINCE MID-2021



Source: World Bank and UNDP LAC High Frequency Phone Surveys, Phase II, Wave 2.

KEY INDICATORS: INDIVIDUALS (18+ years old)

Distribution among groups	Labor				Childcare responsibilities	Health
	% of employed population (pre-pandemic) who lost their pre-pandemic job	% of inactive population (pre-pandemic) who became active (employed or unemployed)	% of employed population who is in informal employment		% of population who spent more time accompanying children's education than pre-pandemic	% of population who reported mental health problems
			Pre-pandemic	End-2021		
Overall	20.0%	42.7%	26.4%	34.6%	55.4%	46.0%
Females	26.4%	40.0%	20.1%	28.1%	59.5%	53.3%
Males	14.6%	47.0%	31.6%	39.6%	49.8%	38.7%
18 to 25 years old	21.6%	63.4%	33.2%	37.9%	52.5%	59.5%
26 to 45 years old	18.2%	81.5%	17.2%	19.2%	59.1%	48.3%
46 to 64 years old	20.3%	37.9%	30.4%	43.1%	55.7%	43.8%
65 and older	28.7%	14.3%	60.5%	88.9%	27.5%	27.6%
Education: Primary or less	19.7%	17.8%	36.2%	49.0%	46.9%	39.9%
Education: Secondary	23.7%	53.9%	26.4%	37.8%	59.4%	47.8%
Education: Tertiary or more	16.8%	55.5%	18.0%	20.5%	57.7%	49.6%

Source: World Bank and UNDP LAC High Frequency Phone Surveys, Phase II, Wave 2.

Note: National level results are compared against the regional LAC average: **Green** indicates that the country performs better than the LAC average in terms of preferred outcome, e.g. less informality, while **red** indicates that the country performs worse than the LAC average.

KEY INDICATORS: HOUSEHOLDS AND CHILDREN

Distribution among groups	Income & Coping		Food Insecurity		Education (6-17 yo)		
	% HH without enough resources to cover basic needs (self-reported)	% HH that resorted to at least one coping mechanism	% HHs that ran out of food		% of children in school age who attended school (in person or virtually)		% of children in school age who interacted with teacher in person (incl. hybrid teaching modes)
			Pre-pandemic	End-2021 (Last 30 days)	Pre-pandemic	End-2021	
Overall	57.0%	74.4%	20.0%	43.6%	98.4%	95.4%	90.0%
HH w/o children (0-17)	52.1%	67.2%	18.8%	34.2%	-	-	-
HH with children (0-17)	62.6%	82.3%	21.4%	54.0%	98.4%	95.4%	90.0%
HH with elderly (65+)	51.3%	72.1%	21.3%	41.6%	100.0%	97.8%	95.0%
0-1 assets	65.5%	75.8%	24.8%	52.7%	94.5%	93.1%	85.8%
2 assets	50.6%	73.1%	16.4%	36.7%	99.8%	96.1%	91.2%
3+ assets	40.4%	75.8%	11.1%	25.6%	100.0%	97.7%	97.7%
HH Head Education: Primary or less	61.8%	77.4%	23.5%	47.3%	97.2%	93.6%	90.8%
HH Head Education: Secondary	63.5%	74.7%	20.8%	52.4%	98.2%	95.5%	86.2%
HH Head Education: Tertiary or more	41.0%	69.6%	14.6%	25.0%	100.0%	97.9%	95.5%

Source: World Bank and UNDP LAC High Frequency Phone Surveys, Phase II, Wave 2.

Note: National level results are compared against the regional LAC average: **Green** indicates that the country performs better than the LAC average in terms of preferred outcome, e.g. fewer households running out of food, while **red** indicates that the country performs worse than the LAC average.

HIGH FREQUENCY PHONE SURVEY

The World Bank and UNDP conducted a multi-wave High-Frequency Phone Survey (HFPS) in 2021 to assess the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the welfare of Latin American and Caribbean households. The first wave was collected between May and July 2021, and the data is nationally representative for 24 countries: Antigua & Barbuda, Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia and Uruguay. The data for Brazil was collected between July 26 and October 1. Data for the second wave was collected between October 2021 and January 2022 and included all countries except for Antigua & Barbuda and Brazil. The HFPS provides information on the welfare impacts that households experienced with respect to food insecurity, changes in employment, income changes, access to health and education services, and coping mechanisms. Key indicators on socioeconomic effects are available at the [COVID-19 monitoring global dashboard](#), which provides harmonized indicators across all world regions. Further information on the LAC HFPS II can be found [here](#).