





## OVERVIEW

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Emergency Event Tracking (EET) is deployed by IOM in Afghanistan with the financial support of the European Union and the German Federal Foreign Office to track sudden internal displacement and population movements. Activated on a needs basis, the EET utilises a broad network of community focal points (CFPs) to capture best estimates of the affected population presence and immediate needs and vulnerabilities. One focal point is interviewed in each assessed community. This summary brief focuses on the coping mechanisms used in the assessed communities to address food shortages, as reported by the interviewed CFPs. In particular, the brief compares the rate of use of various types of coping mechanisms as reported by CFPs between Round 1 (1 September - 5 October 2021) and Round 2 (12 October - 15 November 2021) of the EET. The EET reports can be found here ([Round 1](#) and [Round 2](#)).

## KEY FIGURES

<b>ROUND 1</b>	1 September - 5 October 2021		8,376	Community focal points		3,467,014	Households in assessed communities
<b>ROUND 2</b>	12 October - 15 November 2021		9,608	Community focal points		4,182,950	Households in assessed communities

## COPING MECHANISMS TO ADDRESS FOOD SHORTAGES (multiple answers possible)

	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	
Rely on less preferred and less expensive food	91%	94%	↑
Borrow food or rely on help from a friend or relative	80%	79%	↓
Borrow money	75%	70%	↓
Sell land to buy food	35%	32%	↓
Child/female labour	47%	55%	↑
Limit portion size at mealtimes	60%	69%	↑
Restrict consumption by adults in order for small children to eat	49%	52%	↑
Reduce number of meals eaten in a day	51%	57%	↑
Child marriage	9%	11%	↑
Other	6%	7%	↑
Selling body organs	1%	3%	↑

As a result of rapid political changes since August 2021 and the subsequent deterioration of the economic and humanitarian situation in Afghanistan, many Afghan nationals experienced major economic setbacks and had to resort to negative coping mechanisms to access food.

It should be noted that, in addition to problematic coping mechanisms in response to food shortages, according to the EET, assessed communities also experienced vulnerabilities related to drinking water, immediate healthcare and various community shocks.

Most CFPs reported that people within their communities were relying on less preferred and less expensive food in order to cope with food shortages (91% in Round 1 and 94% in Round 2).

CFPs also frequently reported that people within their communities were borrowing food and relying on help from friends and relatives or were borrowing money, albeit the share of reports of these coping mechanisms slightly decreased between the two rounds.

Between Round 1 and Round 2 the share of CFPs who reported child/female labour, child marriage, and selling body organs as coping mechanisms to access food increased from 47 per cent to 55 per cent, from 9 per cent to 11 per cent and from 1 per cent to 3 per cent respectively.