

Key findings

In April and May, in partnership with the UNOPS Iraq Information Centre (IIC), Ground Truth Solutions (GTS) surveyed 556 IDPs, refugees, and returnees across six governorates in Iraq. We found that:

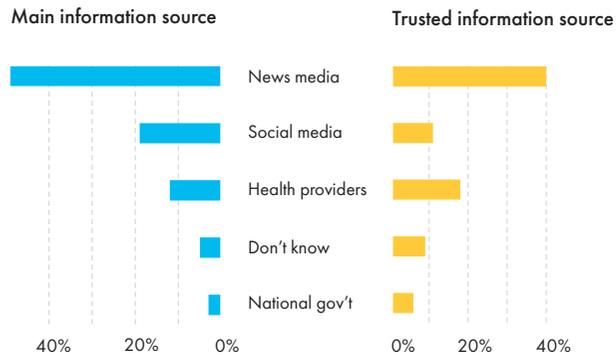
- It has become **harder for people to meet their basic needs**.
- Most people (79% of respondents) feel informed about how to protect themselves and their families from COVID-19, but half of all respondents say they need **more information about the virus, and some feel unable to separate fact from rumour**.
- People find it difficult to **shelter in place, wear facemasks, and practice social distancing**.

Locations of respondents



Information sources

- Around half of the respondents say they need more information, primarily on how to identify symptoms and where current cases are located.
- Understandably, many are concerned about what they do not know. People are getting information from the sources they trust: news media, health professionals, and social media.



Economic impact

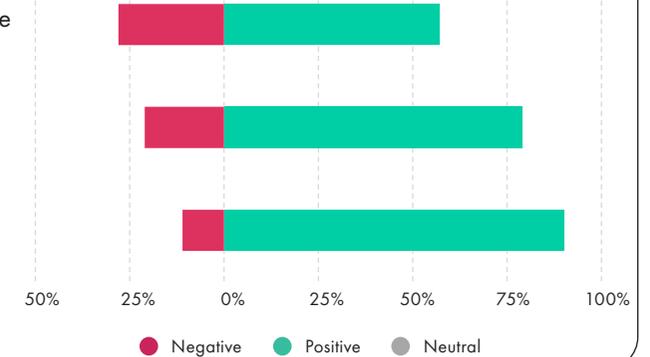
- 74% of respondents feel that their ability to meet basic their needs has worsened since COVID-19 began spreading globally.
- Curfews and lockdown measures have led to price increases and shortages in local markets, and have also inhibited access to livelihood opportunities.

Awareness & trust

Are you able to separate rumours from facts around the Coronavirus?

Do you have enough information to protect yourself from the virus?

Overall, do you believe the measures introduced in your area will reduce the spread of the virus?



Behaviour

- More than half of those surveyed find it difficult to adhere to prevention measures. Many feel that by doing so, they risk losing access to aid, support or livelihoods. Others simply point to a lack of enforcement.
- The majority say they would either go to a health professional (57%) or phone a health provider (26%) if they experience symptoms, contravening health advice to self-isolate and call the government hotline prior to seeking in-person support.

Methodology

The sample consisted only of people who recently contacted the IIC and is therefore not representative of the Iraqi population in need in the selected governorates. Values were weighted based on available demographic data. The margin of error for the binary questions ranges between 3.8 and 5.9%, and smaller than 8.5% for multiple choice.