

Malawi - High Frequency Phone Survey 2020-2021

Malawi National Statistical Office (NSO)

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Overview

Identification

ID NUMBER

MWI_2020_HFPS_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS

Overview

ABSTRACT

Malawi High-Frequency Phone Survey COVID-19 (HFPS COVID-19) is implemented by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on a monthly basis during the period of May 2020 and June 2021. The survey is part of a World Bank-supported global effort to support countries in their data collection efforts to monitor the impacts of COVID-19. The financing for data collection and technical assistance in support of the Malawi HFPS COVID-19 is provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the World Bank.

The households were drawn from the sample of households interviewed in 2019 as part of the Integrated Household Panel Survey (IHPS 2019). The 2019 IHPS data are representative at the national and urban/rural-levels and phone survey weights were calculated (i) to counteract selection bias associated with not being able to call IHPS households without phone numbers, and (ii) to mitigate against non-response bias associated with not being able to interview all target IHPS households with phone numbers.

The objective of HFPS COVID-19 is to monitor the socio-economic effects of this evolving COVID-19 pandemic in real time. These data contribute to filling critical gaps in information that could be used by the Malawian government and stakeholders to help design policies to mitigate the negative impacts on its population. The HFPS COVID-19 in Malawi is designed to accommodate the evolving nature of the crises, including revision of the questionnaire on a monthly basis.

KIND OF DATA

Sample survey data [ssd]

UNITS OF ANALYSIS

Households

Scope

NOTES

The Malawi-HFPS-COVID-19 covered the following topics:

- Household Roster (Rounds 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11)
- Knowledge about government guidelines against COVID-19 and misconceptions about COVID-19 (Rounds 1, 2, 3, 7)
- Behaviour and Social Distancing (Rounds 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11)
- Access to Basic Services (Rounds 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11)
- Mental Health (Rounds 6, 9)
- Early Child Development (Round 6)
- Youth Aspirations and Employment (Round 10)
- Employment (Rounds 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11)
- Non-Farm Enterprises (Rounds 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11)

- Other Income/Income Losses (Rounds 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11)
- Credit (Rounds, 3, 4, 7, 8)
- Crops Production and Sales (Rounds 4, 5, 6, 7, 11)
- Livestock (Rounds 4, 5)
- Food Security (Rounds 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11)
- Concerns (Rounds 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11)
- Shocks and Coping Strategies (Rounds 2, 3, 7)
- Aid and Support/ Social Safety Nets (Rounds 1, 2, 3, 5, 8)

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National coverage

UNIVERSE

Members of the following households are not eligible for inclusion in the survey:

- All residents of dwellings other than private dwellings, such as prisons, hospitals and army barracks.
- Members of the Malawian armed forces who reside within a military base. (If such individuals reside in private dwellings off the base, however, they should be included among the households eligible for random selection for the survey.)
- Non-Malawian diplomats, diplomatic staff, and members of their households. (However, note that non-Malawian residents who are not diplomats or diplomatic staff and are resident in private dwellings are eligible for inclusion in the survey. The survey is not restricted to Malawian citizens alone.)
- Non-Malawian tourists and others on vacation in Malawi.

Producers and Sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
Malawi National Statistical Office (NSO)	Government of Malawi

OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
The World Bank		Technical Assistance

FUNDING

Name	Abbreviation	Role
United States Agency for International Development	USAID	Financial support
The World Bank	WBG	Financial support

Metadata Production

METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Development Economics Data Group	DECDG	The World Bank	Metadata producer
Office of Chief Statistician	OCS	Food and Agriculture Organization	Metadata adapted for FAM

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

MWI_2020_HFPS_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS

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Sampling

Sampling Procedure

The Malawi Integrated Household Panel Survey (IHPS) conducted in 2019 served as the frame for the HFPS-COVID-19. This sample of households is representative nationally as well as by the urban/rural divide. In every visit of the IHPS, phone numbers are collected from interviewed households for all household members and 3 reference persons who are in close contact with the household in order to assist in locating and interviewing households who may have moved in subsequent waves of the survey. This comprehensive set of phone numbers as well as the already well-established relationship between NSO and the IHPS households made this an ideal frame from which to conduct the COVID-19 monitoring survey in Malawi. Among the 3,181 households interviewed during the IHPS in 2019, 2,337 (73%) provided at least one phone number. Around 85 percent of these households provided a phone number for at least one household member while the remaining 15 percent only provided a phone number for a reference person. Households with only the phone number of a reference person were expected to be more difficult to reach but were nonetheless included in the frame and deemed eligible for selection for the HFPS COVID-19. To obtain a nationally representative sample for the HFPS-COVID-19, the survey aimed to recontact the entire sample of households that had been interviewed during the Integrated Household Panel Survey (IHPS) 2019 round and that had phone numbers for at least one household member or a reference individual. Interviewers attempted to contact all 2,337 households that had either a contact for a household member or reference person in the baseline round of the phone survey.

Response Rate

BASELINE (ROUND 1): All 2,337 households were attempted. Of those contacted, 74 percent or 1,729 households were fully interviewed. These 1,729 households constitute the final successful sample and will be contacted in subsequent rounds of the survey.

ROUND 2: Of the 1729 households that were successfully interviewed during Round 1, 1646 or 95 percent were successfully interviewed during Round 2.

ROUND 3: 1624 households or 94 percent were successfully interviewed during Round 3.

ROUND 4: 1616 households or 94 percent were successfully interviewed during Round 4.

ROUND 5: 1589 households or 94 percent were successfully interviewed during Round 5.

ROUND 6: 1592 households or 93 percent were successfully interviewed during Round 6.

ROUND 7: 1560 households or 92 percent were successfully interviewed during Round 7.

ROUND 8: 1551 households or 91 percent were successfully interviewed during Round 8.

ROUND 9: 1545 households or 91 percent were successfully interviewed during Round 9.

ROUND 10: 919 households (that had an eligible youth) or 81 percent were successfully interviewed during Round 10.

ROUND 11: 1541 households or 91 percent were successfully interviewed during Round 11.

Weighting

To obtain unbiased estimates from the sample, the information reported by households needs to be adjusted by a sampling weight (or raising factor) w_h .

To construct the sampling weights, we follow the steps outlined in Himelein, K. (2014), which outlines eight steps, of which we follow six, to construct the sampling weights for the HFPS-HH:

1. Begin with base weights from the Malawi Integrated Household Panel Survey (IHPS) 2019 for each household
 2. Incorporate probability of sub-selection of round 1 unit for each of the phone survey households.
 3. Pool the weights in Steps 1 and 2.
 4. Derive attrition-adjusted weights for all individuals by running a logistic response propensity model based on characteristics of the household head (i.e. gender, primary language spoken, education, labor force status) and characteristics of the household (household size, food consumption score, assets, financial characteristics).
 5. Trim weights by replacing the top three percent of observations with the 98th percentile cut-off point; and
 6. Post-stratify weights to known population totals to correct for the imbalances across our sample.
- In doing so, we ensure that the distribution in the survey matches the distribution in the IHPS.

* Additional technical details and explanations on each of the steps briefly outlined above can be found in Himelein, K. (2014).

BASELINE (ROUND 1): The weights can be found in the household-level data file `secta_Cover_Page_r1`. The variable name is `wt_baseline`. ROUND 2: The round 2 weights can be found in the household-level data file `secta_Cover_Page_r2`. The variable name is `wt_round2`.

ROUND 3: The round 3 weights can be found in the household-level data file `secta_Cover_Page_r3`. The variable name is `wt_round3`.

ROUND 4: The round 4 weights can be found in the household-level data file `secta_Cover_Page_r4`. The variable name is `wt_round4`.

ROUND 5: The round 5 weights can be found in the household-level data file `secta_Cover_Page_r5`. The variable name is `wt_round5`.

ROUND 6: The round 6 weights can be found in the household-level data file `secta_Cover_Page_r6`. The variable name is `wt_round6`.

ROUND 7: The round 7 weights can be found in the household-level data file `secta_Cover_Page_r7`. The variable name is `wt_round7`.

ROUND 8: The round 8 weights can be found in the household-level data file `secta_Cover_Page_r8`. The variable name is `wt_round8`.

ROUND 9: The round 9 weights can be found in the household-level data file `secta_Cover_Page_r9`. The variable name is `wt_round9`.

ROUND 10: The round 10 weights can be found in the household-level data file `secta_Cover_Page_r10`. The variable name is `wt_round10`.

ROUND 11: The round 11 weights can be found in the household-level data file `secta_Cover_Page_r11`. The variable name is `wt_round11`.

Questionnaires

Overview

The Malawi HFPS-COVID-19 households questionnaire consists of the following sections:

ROUND 1

- Household Roster
- Knowledge Regarding the Spread of COVID-19
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Access to Basic Services
- Employment
- Income Loss
- Food Security
- Concerns
- Social Safety Nets
- Agriculture

ROUND 2

- Household Roster
- Knowledge about government guidelines against COVID-19 and misconceptions about COVID-19
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Access to Basic Services
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Other Income
- Income Loss
- Food Security
- Concerns
- Shocks and Coping Strategies
- Social Safety Nets

ROUND 3

- Household Roster
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Access to Basic Services
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Other Income
- Credit
- Income Loss
- Food Security
- Concerns
- Shocks and Coping Strategies
- Social Safety Nets

ROUND 4

- Household Roster
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Access to Basic Services
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Other Income
- Credit
- Agriculture
- Income Loss
- Concerns
- Interview Results

ROUND 5

- Household Roster
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Access to Basic Services
- Education
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Other Income
- Agriculture
- Food Security
- Concerns
- Safety Nets

ROUND 6

- Household Roster
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Mental Health
- Access to Basic Services
- Early Child Development
- Employment
- Other Income
- Agriculture
- Food Security
- Concerns

ROUND 7

- Household Roster
- Knowledge
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Access to Basic Services
- Education
- Early Child Development
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Agriculture
- Food Security
- Credit
- Income Losses
- Shocks and Coping Strategies

ROUND 8

- Household Roster
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Access to Basic Services
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Food Security
- Credit
- Concerns
- Safety Nets

ROUND 9

- Household Roster
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Mental Health
- Access to Basic Services
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Income Loss
- Food Security
- Concerns

ROUND 10

- Household Roster

- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Youth Education, Employment and Aspirations

ROUND 11

- Household Roster
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Access to Basic Services
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Agriculture
- Income Changes
- Food Security

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2020-05-26	2020-06-14	N/A
2020-07-02	2020-07-20	N/A
2020-08-12	2020-08-27	N/A
2020-09-12	2020-10-01	N/A
2020-10-29	2020-11-16	N/A
2020-12-10	2020-12-29	N/A
2021-01-20	2021-02-06	N/A
2021-02-23	2021-03-15	N/A
2021-04-07	2021-04-23	N/A
2021-04-29	2021-05-14	N/A
2021-05-26	2021-06-09	N/A

Data Collection Mode

Computer Assisted Telephone Interview [cati]

Data Collection Notes

Organization of Fieldwork

The HFPS COVID-19 Baseline was administered between May 26 and June 14, 2020. Data were collected by trained NSO interviewers who individually made phone calls from the call centre at the NSO. Since the country was not fully on lockdown during the preparation and data collection exercise, interviewers were allowed to be in the office after seeking permission from the local authorities and also taking measures to protect themselves like ensuring 2 meters space between individuals. Most interviews were conducted from the call center, some interviews that required call backs conducted from the enumerators' homes.

Gift to Households

As a show of appreciation for the households' participation, all households that gave consent to be interviewed, were transferred 1000 Malawi Kwacha credit to their phones (even if their interviews are only partially completed).

Pre-loaded Information

Basic information on every household was pre-loaded in the CATI assignments for each interviewer. The information was pre-loaded to (1) assist interviewers in calling and identifying the household and (2) ensure that each pre-loaded person is properly addressed and easily matched to the most recent face-to-face visits. Basic household information (location, household head name, phone numbers of adult members and reference persons, etc.) was pre-loaded. The list of individuals from IHPS 2019 and their basic characteristics were uploaded.

Respondents

The HFPS COVID-19 had ONE RESPONDENT per household. The respondent was the household knowledgeable adult household member or head of the household. The respondent must be a member of the household. Unlike many other household surveys, interviewers were not expected to seek out other household members to provide their own information. The respondent may still consult with other household members as needed to respond to the questions, including to provide all the necessary information on each household member.

Questionnaires

The Malawi HFPS-COVID-19 households questionnaire consists of the following sections:

ROUND 1

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- Employment
- Income Loss
- Food Security
- Concerns
- Social Safety Nets
- Agriculture

ROUND 2

- Household Roster
- Knowledge about government guidelines against COVID-19 and misconceptions about COVID-19
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Access to Basic Services
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Other Income
- Income Loss
- Food Security
- Concerns
- Shocks and Coping Strategies
- Social Safety Nets

ROUND 3

- Household Roster
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Access to Basic Services
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Other Income
- Credit
- Income Loss
- Food Security
- Concerns
- Shocks and Coping Strategies
- Social Safety Nets

ROUND 4

- Household Roster
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Access to Basic Services
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Other Income
- Credit
- Agriculture
- Income Loss
- Concerns
- Interview Results

ROUND 5

- Household Roster
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Access to Basic Services
- Education
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Other Income
- Agriculture
- Food Security
- Concerns

- Safety Nets

ROUND 6

- Household Roster
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Mental Health
- Access to Basic Services
- Early Child Development
- Employment
- Other Income
- Agriculture
- Food Security
- Concerns

ROUND 7

- Household Roster
- Knowledge
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Access to Basic Services
- Education
- Early Child Development
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Agriculture
- Food Security
- Credit
- Income Losses
- Shocks and Coping Strategies

ROUND 8

- Household Roster
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Access to Basic Services
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Food Security
- Credit
- Concerns
- Safety Nets

ROUND 9

- Household Roster
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Mental Health
- Access to Basic Services
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Income Loss
- Food Security
- Concerns

ROUND 10

- Household Roster
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Youth Education, Employment and Aspirations

ROUND 11

- Household Roster
- Behaviour and Social Distancing
- Access to Basic Services
- Employment
- Non-Farm Enterprises
- Agriculture

- Income Changes
- Food Security

Data Processing

Data Editing

DATA ENTRY PLATFORM

The HFPS COVID-19 Baseline exercise was conducted using Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI) techniques. The household questionnaire was implemented using the CATI software, Survey Solutions. The Survey Solutions software was developed and maintained by the Data Analytics and Tools Unit within the Development Economics Data Group (DECDG) at the World Bank. Each interviewer was given one tablet, which they used to conduct the interviews. Overall, implementation of survey using Survey Solutions CATI was highly successful, as it allowed for timely availability of the data from completed interviews.

DATA MANAGEMENT

The data communication system used in the HFPS COVID-19 Baseline was highly automated. Since enumerators were working from the call center, the NSO provided routers for them to connect to whenever they wanted to sync data. This ensured access to the data in real-time.

DATA CLEANING

The data cleaning process was done in two main stages. The first stage was to ensure proper quality control during the fieldwork. This was achieved in part by incorporating validation and consistency checks into the Survey Solutions application used for the data collection and designed to highlight many of the errors that occurred during the fieldwork.

The second stage of cleaning involved a comprehensive review of the final raw data following the first stage of cleaning. Every variable was examined individually for (1) consistency with other sections and variables, (2) out of range responses, and (3) formatting.

Data Appraisal

No content available