

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID-19 AND ACCESS TO
SERVICES FOR INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS IN SOUTH
CAUCASUS**

REGIONAL REPORT

Extract – Country Specific Highlights - Armenia

20 September 2022



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1.5 COUNTRY-SPECIFIC HIGHLIGHTS

Armenia

- The top countries of surveyed migrants' origin are India (46%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (21%), Sri Lanka (7%), and Thailand (6%). The share of female respondents is 42 per cent. Nearly all respondents reside in Yerevan.
- Study and work are the main reasons to move to Armenia, as reported by over half of the respondents. Every fifth surveyed migrant is employed in hospitality and has an equal share in healthcare.
- Support from family living elsewhere has been received by 86 per cent of the respondents. Migrants maintain contacts with the university, embassy, and community groups. However, only 7 per cent of the respondents received assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic, mostly information, cash, food, and hygiene packages.
- Relatively few respondents (2%) but significantly more family members (6%) have a serious health condition, with diabetes, blood, or heart conditions reported most common. None of those with a serious health condition have health insurance, and only slightly more than half of all respondents do.
- About 80 per cent can receive current information on the measures in force, mainly relying on the internet or social media. Still, most respondents are not informed about the vaccination process and over two-thirds do not know or are not sure about free health assistance in case of COVID-19 infection.
- A vast majority of the respondents (91%) and nearly as many family members (86%) have been vaccinated. Almost all said that they would contact a doctor and be able to self-quarantine in case of developing COVID-19 symptoms.
- The majority of those surveyed are not concerned about the COVID-19 pandemic. The most common concern is that migrants and their family members will get sick. At the same time, around one-third report at least one type of psychosocial issue.
- COVID-19 has affected the employment and housing conditions of one out of ten respondents while 2 per cent had difficulty accessing education.
- Doctors continue to be the most in-demand professionals among surveyed migrants, followed by psychologists and counsellors.
- Instances of discrimination or hostile behaviour are rarer than in 2020 (19% compared to 33%). Only 4 per cent of those surveyed would like to leave Armenia.