

Protection Monitoring in Kenya: Garissa & Turkana Counties (Dadaab, Kakuma & Kalobeyei)

PROTECTION MONITORING REPORT *February 2024*

About PMRT:

The Protection Monitoring Risks and Trends (PMRT) by DRC Kenya gathers primary and secondary data from an indicative sample of at-risk communities in Kenya to provide a community-centric understanding of local protection dynamics, and an analysis of protection incidents and trends. The focus is on areas in northwest and northeast Kenya (Dadaab, Kakuma & Kalobeyei) where rights violations and protection information gaps remain prevalent.

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PMRT
Kenya

Protection
Monitoring
Risks and
Trends

 DANISH
REFUGEE
COUNCIL

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List of Acronyms

CCPT	Community Protection and Peace building teams
CPIMS+)	Child Protection Information Management System
	Primero
DRC	Danish Refugee Council
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GVBIMS	Gender-Based Violence Incident Monitoring System
POCs	Persons of Concern
PWD	People with Disability
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Key Needs:

The following needs have been identified in Dadaab, Kakuma, and Kalobeyei refugee camps.

- Strengthen community-based feedback and communication mechanisms to support effective utilization of reporting mechanisms in high-risk areas prone to insecurity.
- Targeted support to ensure safety and dignity of forcibly displaced and stateless persons remains critical.
- Expand service provision to address gaps in access to economic opportunities for refugees.

Key Findings:

Protection, Safety and Security

Some of the contributing factors to insecurity include discrimination and stigmatization, intimidation, harassment, destruction of property, family separation with a reported case of twin's disappearance, and increased gang activity. Reported attacks are in the bushes as perpetrators target firewood collectors to demand cash, resulting in beatings and sexual assault if payment is not met. The perpetrators also target donkeys used for transportation to snatch them from their owners or kill them. People with disabilities, people living with chronic and mental illness, LGBTQI+ persons, and marginalized groups are at heightened risk of protection risk.

Liberty and freedom of movement

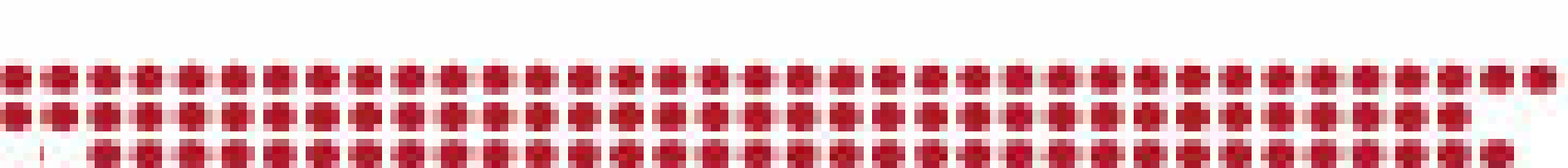
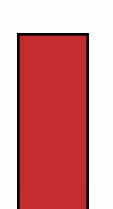
Access to resources, income, earnings, social connections, and decent work are crucial needs for refugees. However, mobility challenges and restrictions on movement outside the camp often impact these needs. Refugees move within the camp for better opportunities, safety, and specialized services.

Civil status documentation

Corruption, arbitrary costs, lack of trust, and systemic biases hinder access to justice. The most common approach to resolving disputes is seeking assistance from legal service providers. However, discrimination, denial of access to justice, and mobility challenges/ restrictions are significant hurdles the community faces.

Basic Economic and Social Needs

The lack of access to markets and healthcare facilities negatively impacts individual productivity and increases vulnerability to diseases and illnesses. Inadequate WASH facilities, particularly latrines, force families to share limited resources, raising concerns about potential disease outbreaks. The primary needs of refugees include access to quality health services, safe drinking water, and education for their children. Unfortunately, denial or unequal access to these services, arbitrary costs, and concerns about obstructing humanitarian aid can hinder the provision of necessary services.



Education and Livelihoods

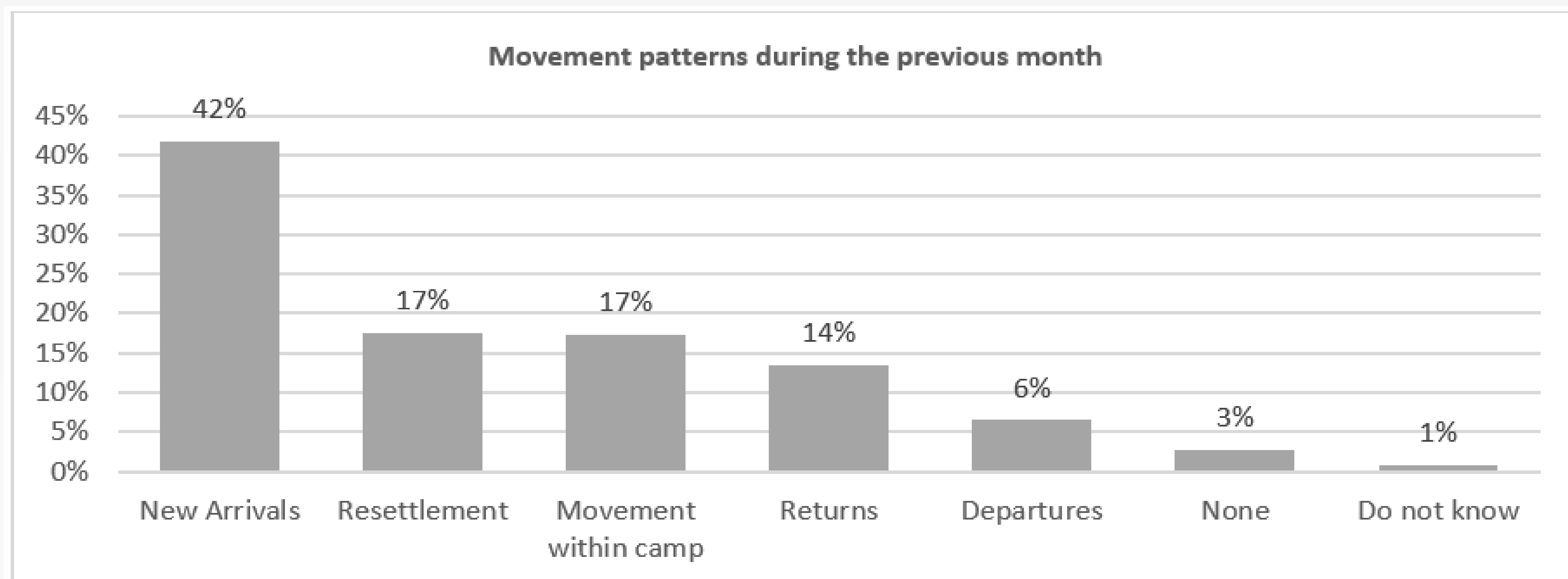
Lack of quality education, including education facilities, pupil-teacher ratio limits, and insecurity, affects school attendance and enrolment. Child marriage prevents young women and adolescent girls from attending school. Children identifying as LGBTQI+ persons or children of LGBTQI+ parents face discrimination at school. School-going children lack scholastic materials and school uniforms. There are few education agencies providing education services. Further limited livelihood options affect the food security and nutrition of vulnerable households.

Land and Property

Land-related matters trigger conflicts, including demolitions of houses and attacks in the bushes. Ongoing land disputes have led to house destruction, heightening vulnerability to nighttime attacks. Lack of adequate shelter is the main driver of increased protection needs. Information about housing, basic services, and land are crucial informational needs among refugees and asylum seekers.

Dadaab Refugee Camp

Population Movements:



The findings indicate that 42% of the new arrivals in the camp were displaced from their home country. Refugees' movement within the camp is driven by various factors, such as search for casual jobs, internal relocation, and humanitarian assistance. Departures from the camp were caused by voluntary returns, resettlements, and involuntary returns. Departures from the camp were caused by voluntary returns to their home or asylum countries, migration to other countries, resettlements, and involuntary returns to their countries of asylum.

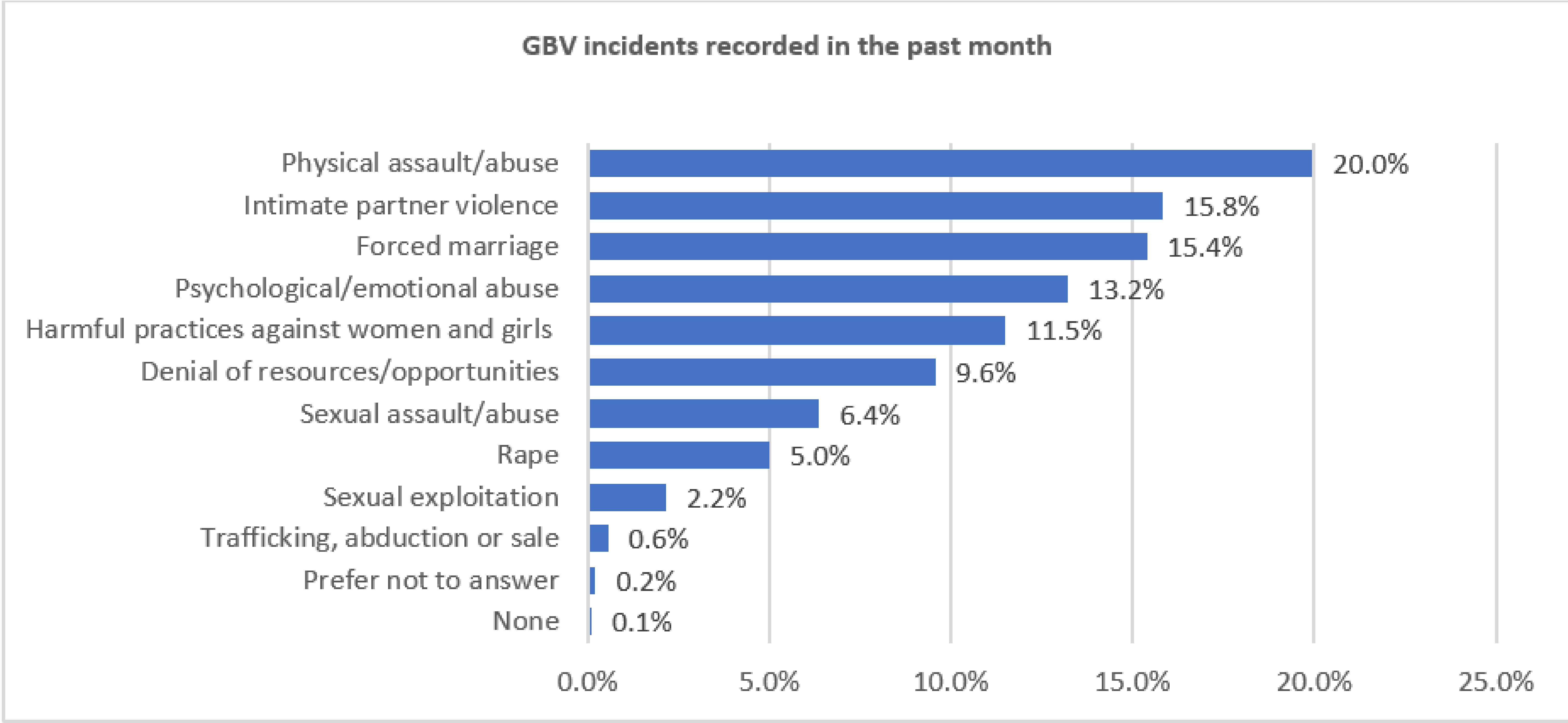
Protection risks, safety & security:

Approximately 37% of respondents reported feeling very unsafe, with women and girls being the most vulnerable. LGBTQI+ persons, persons with disabilities, older persons and marginalized groups are at risk of protection, safety and security incidents. Young women (18-25), adolescent girls (12-17yrs) and adult women (26-59) are the most affected. Ongoing land disputes have led to house destruction, heightening vulnerability to nighttime attacks. Inadequate WASH facilities, particularly latrines, have forced families to share limited resources, raising fears of potential disease outbreaks. Reported attacks in the bushes target firewood collectors to demand cash, resulting in beatings and sexual assault if payment is not met.

The perpetrators also target donkeys used for transportation to snatch them from their owners or kill them. Most incidents occur outside the camp during firewood collection, block areas, market areas, and distribution sites. Protection assistance is sought from community/block leaders, police/local authorities, community structures, and NGO and UN staff.

Gender Based Violence:

Intimate partner violence 20%, psychological/emotional abuse 15.8%, and forced marriage 15.4% are the common forms of GBV reported. FGM has significantly increased to 11.5% from 8.7%. The practice is more prevalent among new arrivals who are not aware of the effects of FGM. Other common forms of GBV include psychological/emotional abuse, denial of resources or opportunities, sexual assault/abuse, and rape. Systemic barriers exacerbate vulnerabilities among refugee communities. Adolescent girls (12-17) and young women (18-25) emerge as the most at-risk. GBV incidents are reported to community-based protection structures, camp management structures, and national and UN agency staff.



Child Protection:

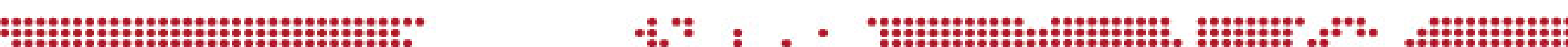
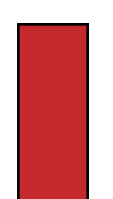
Child labor/exploitation 13.7%, child marriage 13.7%, and adolescent/child pregnancy 12% are the most common forms of child protection concerns. Other reported child protection concerns include violence, neglect, abuse, child labor, and substance abuse. Adolescent girls and boys (12-17) are most at risk. Other groups include children with disabilities, unaccompanied and separated children, girls/adolescent mothers, child returnees, and children with mental health illnesses. Most child protection concerns are reported to NGOs (especially Terres des Hommes) for child protection case management.

Persons with particular requirements:

People with disabilities, chronic or serious illnesses, are elderly, identify as LGBTQIA+, or belong to minority or marginalized groups often experience discrimination while seeking services and assistance. They are subjected to verbal insults and emotional abuse. In addition, people with disabilities and the elderly often face mobility challenges because WASH facilities are not designed to be disability-friendly.

Access to rights and services:

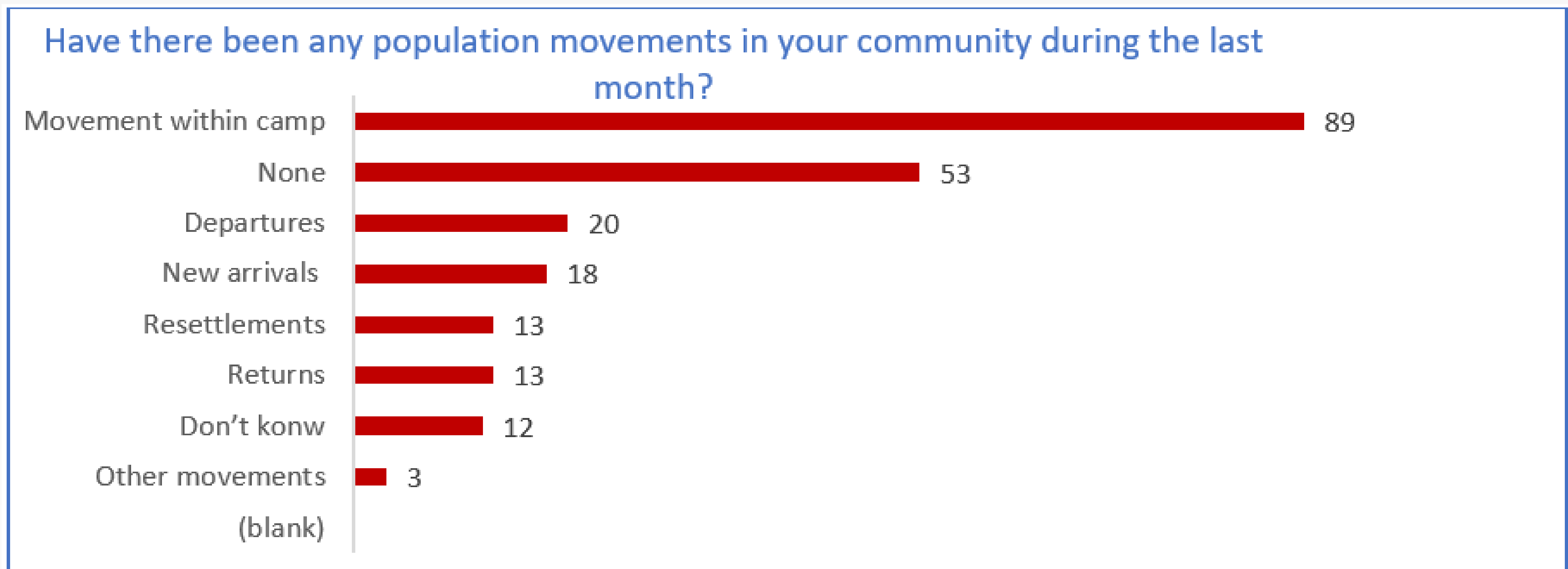
Lack of adequate health service provision and food and nutrition assistance pose challenges to refugees related to malnutrition, infectious diseases, and mental health issues. Lack of education facilities prevents children from achieving their educational outcomes.



Kakuma Refugee Camp

Population Movements:

In the current month, (20%) and new arrivals (18%) were reported. The refugees relocated from one block to another within the same area and from Kalobeyei to Kakuma camp due to safety concerns related to kidnapping incidents, water scarcity, insecurity, inter- and intra-community conflict, resettlement opportunities (on movers), and the lack of housing. New Arrivals in the camp are a result of refugee displacement from their country of origin due to conflict and also asylum seekers.

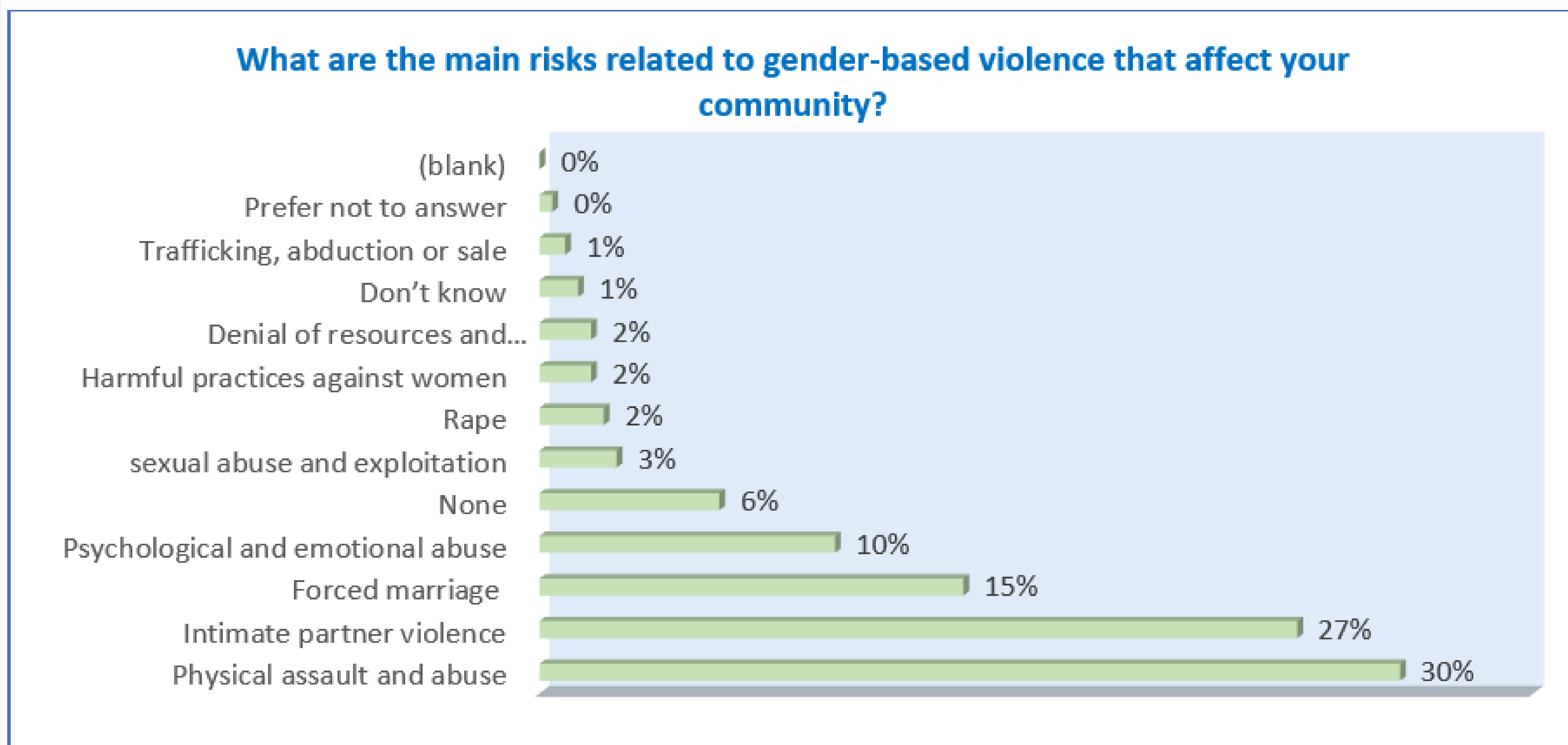


Protection risks, safety and security:

According to the findings, women 29.4% and girls 17.65% report feeling very unsafe and 35% of men and 31% of boys consider the camp safe. Older persons, persons with disabilities, persons living with chronic, LGBTQI+ persons, and marginalized communities (from Burundi and Congo) report feeling less safe in the camp. Some of the contributing factors to insecurity include discrimination and stigmatization, intimidation, harassment, destruction of property, family separation (disappearance of twins), and increased gang activity, among others. Most security and protection incidents are reported within the camp blocks, community centres, water points, and firewood collection points. Incidents are reported to the community leaders, police/local authorities, NGOs toll-free lines, and community-based protection structures

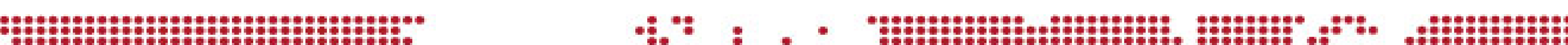
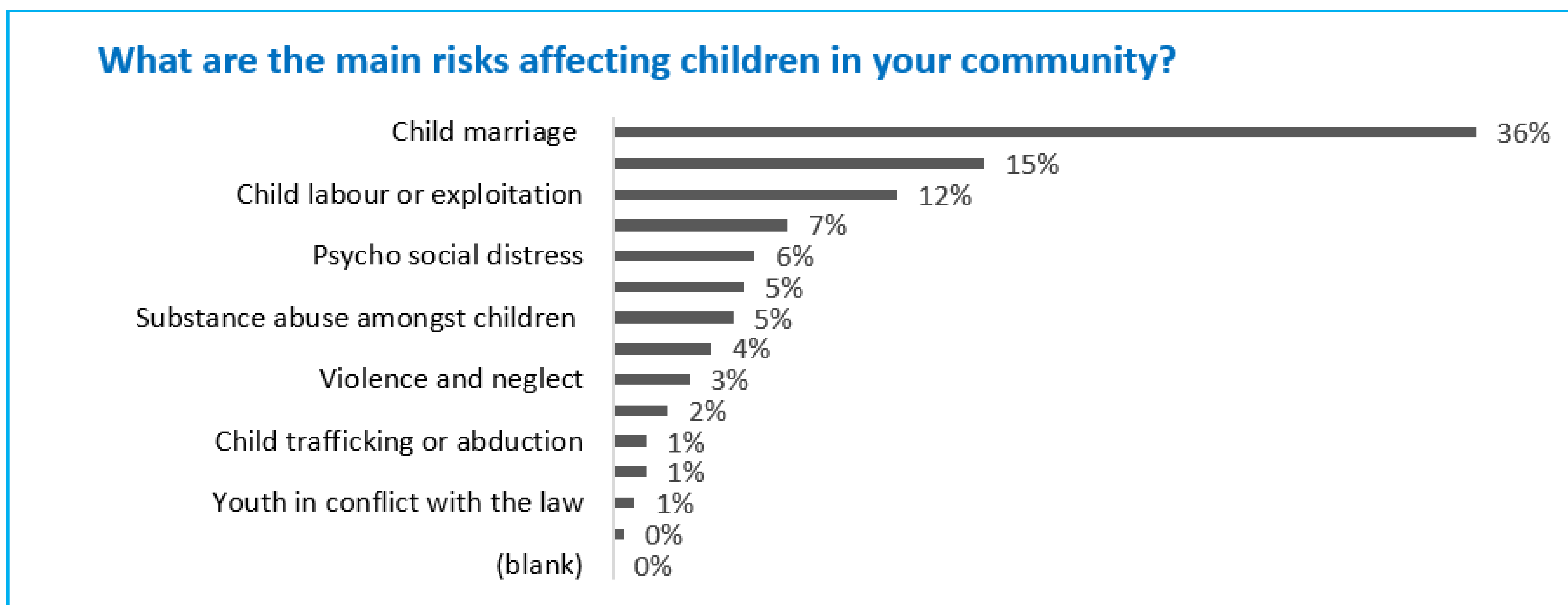
Gender based violence:

A relatively high proportion of respondents reported physical assault 30%, Intimate Partner Violence 27%, and forced marriage are the common forms of GBV reported. Young women (aged 18-25), Adult women (aged 26-59), and women (aged 60+) are at heightened risk of GBV. People with disabilities, persons living with mental illness, persons living in alternative care arrangements (from different religious and ethnic groups), LGBTQI+ persons, and asylum seekers are also at risk of GBV.



Child Protection:

Child marriage 36%, child labor/exploitation 15%, and psychosocial distress 7% were the most reported child protection concerns. Adolescent girls and boys (aged 12-17) are most at risk. Girl/adolescent mothers, children with disabilities, children living with mental health issues, orphaned children, and unaccompanied/separated children are the groups most affected.



Persons with particular needs:

People with disabilities, chronic or serious illnesses, elderly, identify as LGBTQIA+, or belong to minority or marginalized groups often experience discrimination while seeking services and assistance. Pregnant women lack transportation and or ambulance services to the hospital.

Access to rights and services:

The primary needs of refugees include financial resources/cash assistance, healthcare services, education for children, medical care, accommodation/shelter support, sustainable source of income, information on existing services, Non-food items (NFI), and legal assistance.

Kalobeyei Refugee Camp

Population Movements:

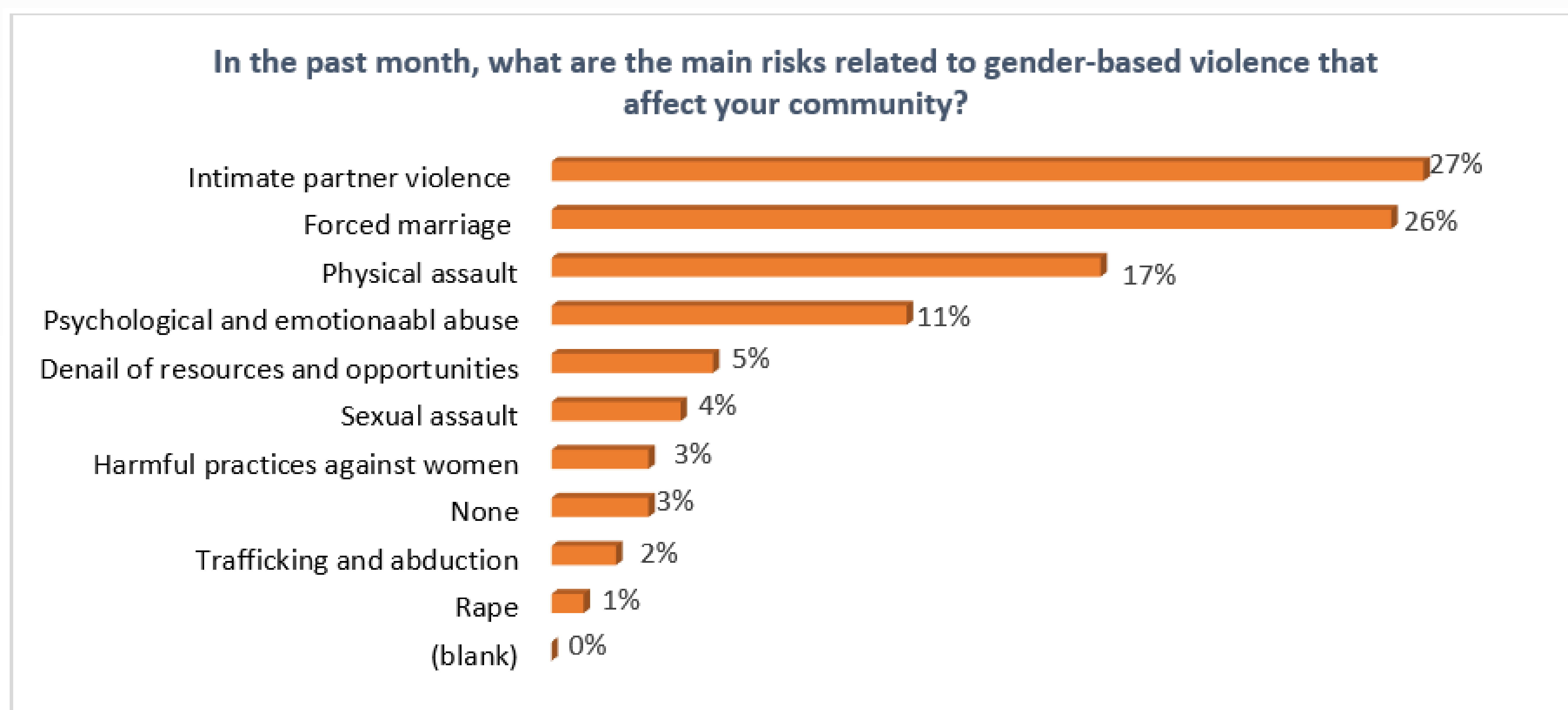
Approximately 34% of the refugee camps are new arrivals, whereas 21% are departures, and about 19% are moving within the camp. The new arrivals have fled their home country due to conflict or crises. Departures and movement within the camp are due to various reasons, such as chronic health issues, conflicts between different refugee groups, criminal activity, security concerns, and scarcity of resources, including water and sanitation facilities.

Protection risks, safety and security:

According to the findings, 61% of girls and 63% of women report feeling safe, with 58% of boys and 58% of men. Marginalized groups from Rwanda and Uganda, including older persons, people living with disabilities, people with chronic illnesses, and LGBTQ+ persons, report feeling unsafe. Coercion/extortion, destruction of property, forced/family separation, and discrimination and stigmatization are the standard protection, safety and security risks reported. Groups affected include adult women (aged 26-59), young women (aged 18-25), adult men (aged 26-59), and young men (aged 18-25). People with disabilities, people living with chronic and mental illness, LGBTQI+ persons, and marginalized groups are at heightened risk. Protection and security incidents occur mainly in water points, tap stands, reception/transit centres, and distribution sites and are reported to community leaders, police/local authorities, NGO and UN staff, and community structures.

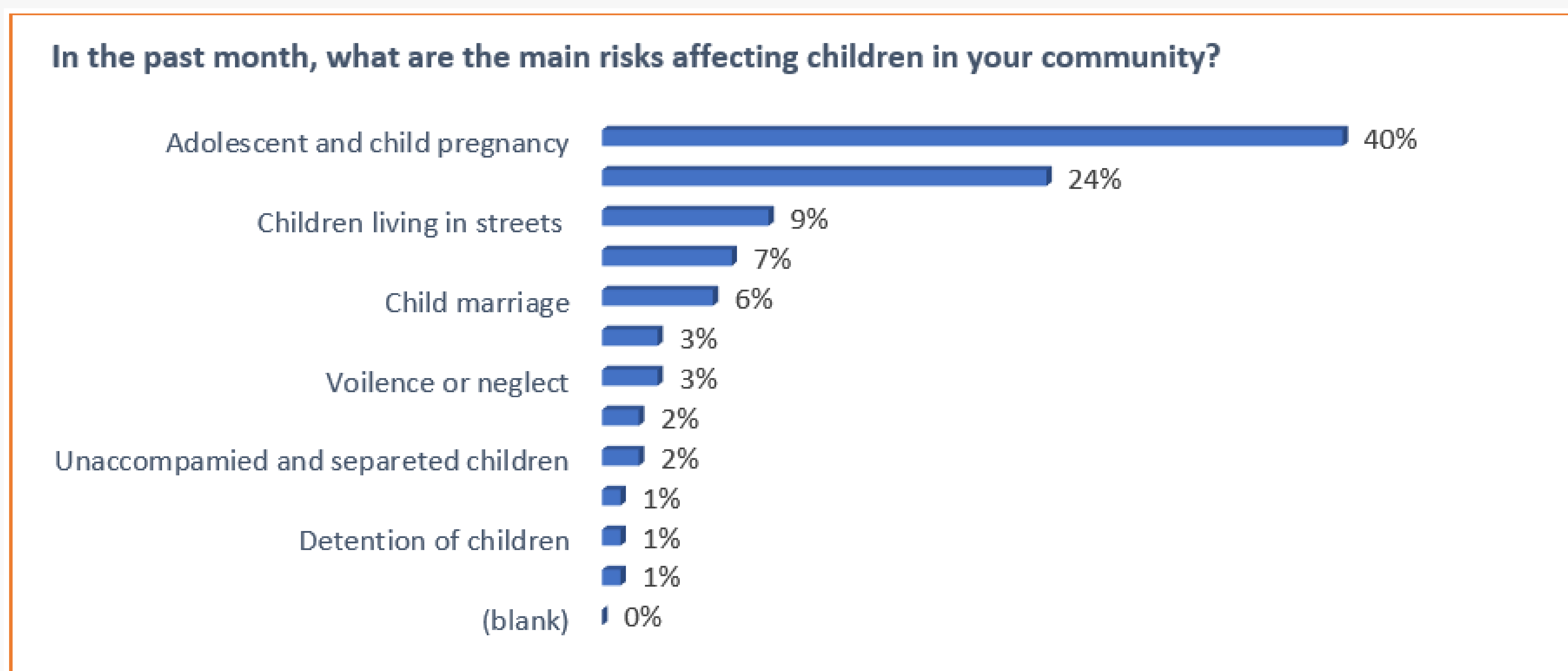
Gender based violence:

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) 27%, forced marriage (26%), and physical assault 17% are the most common forms of GBV. Other forms of GBV include female genital mutilation, forced marriage, denial of resources or opportunities, forced marriage, intimate partner violence, rape, trafficking, abduction, and human trafficking. Adolescent girls (aged 12-17), adult women (aged 26-59), and young women (aged 18-25) face considerable GBV risks.



Child Protection:

Adolescent and child pregnancy 40%, children living in the streets 24%, and child marriage 9% are the main reported child protection risks. Lack of access to quality education drives children to substance abuse, hence contributing to psychosocial distress among young children. Other reported child protection concerns include violence or neglect, child abuse, child marriage, and child detention. Adolescent girls and boys (12-17) are most at risk. Unaccompanied and separated children, girls/teenage mothers, children with disabilities, and children with mental illness are the most at-risk groups.



Persons with particular needs:

Positive changes have been reported as assistance with specific needs has been provided. People with disabilities have received assistive devices facilitating their movement, easing the burden on their caregivers. However, to ensure gaps are covered, agencies need to strengthen coordination and complementary efforts to cover the funding gaps.

Access to rights and Services:

The primary needs are education for children, cash assistance for medical services, and access to safe drinking water. Long waiting hours especially at the health service facilities constrains access to timely and access to service provision.

Recommendations:

General protection

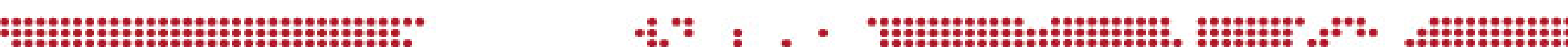
- Coordinate with the Department of Refugee Services (DRS) to support the streamlining of civil documentation processes for refugees.
- Multi-sectorial coordination with other agencies to improve and facilitate access to essential services such as health care, clean water, and education for children.
- Community safety planning based on the findings from the protection monitoring reports,
- Development of gender-sensitive GBV prevention programs targeting the different needs of women, men, girls, and boys.
- Improve access to information and legal aid remedies by working with partners to address barriers such as arbitrary costs, lack of trust, and accessibility restrictions that prevent community members from accessing justice and services.
- Strengthen alternative dispute resolution mechanisms by strengthening the capacity of community-based structures and traditional leaders in conflict resolution and mediation.
- Provide comprehensive training to community leaders, humanitarian actors, and service providers on GBV prevention, response, and psychosocial support.

Gender-based Violence

- Targeted interventions to address both visible and invisible forms of GBV, with a particular focus on specific vulnerable groups such as women, girls, persons with disabilities, and female-headed households.

Child Protection

- Develop and implement community-based child protection mechanisms that include psychosocial support, referral systems, and awareness campaigns targeting caregivers.
- Identify and provide specialized support to unaccompanied and separated children, including family tracing and reunification.



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