UNICEF Innocenti is undertaking a wide range of research projects to provide evidence needed to inform UNICEF and its partner’s work to respond to immediate and longer term consequences of the pandemic. Longer-term works will be undertaken as more information and evidence come to light.

RESEARCH

SHORT TERM PROJECTS

Identifying good practices for equitable remote learning during COVID-19 school closures
Rapid analysis of promising remote learning practices during school closures and how it affects all children, including those most vulnerable without electricity. Builds on data collected from country offices and other sources.

Parental engagement in children’s learning: Insights for remote learning response during COVID-19
Rapid analysis using MICS 6 data on the potential of child-oriented books at home and the parental role for learning, especially with no access to technology.

Social protection for families and children: considerations for a post COVID-19 response
Comparative research will determine what social protection changes we may see in different countries when seeking to protect children from the health and financial crisis.

PRINCIPLES OF COVID-19 RESEARCH

Understand & interpret existing evidence collected under differing circumstances
Focus on vulnerable groups & children
Gender & intergenerational lens
Child-focused
Action, policy, & impact oriented

RESEARCH PROMOTION

Blogs, webinars, & other communications products are disseminating and promoting the new research. The communications team scans for & highlights key publications & data sources from partner organisations.

For more contact drichardson@unicef.org

UNICEF-IRC.ORG/COVID19
The importance of children’s internet access during COVID-19
Analysis of new data from Global Kids Online and EU Kids Online on: children’s internet access, proportion of children accessing health information online, and extent to which they are able to verify the truth of online information.

Estimating the impact of COVID-19 on violence prevalence
Three sources of data will be analyzed to estimate the impact of COVID-19 on the prevalence of violence: big data and social media; helpline data; existing nationally representative data sets (MICS, DHS).

LONG TERM PROJECTS

Learning from COVID-19 on providing continued education for all in times of school closures
Investigating the impacts of COVID-19 school closures on education and other outcomes and what works to provide continued learning during crises. The research will draw on available data and ongoing Innocenti research.

Children’s experiences and views of COVID-19
Children’s voices on this global issue must be heard and considered when formulating responses. Focusing on the most vulnerable children, primary research will ask: How do children experience the COVID-19 situation?

COVID-19 lessons on providing assistive technology to persons with disability in humanitarian response
This study will help us better understand how assistive technology is provisioned in humanitarian response and will study coordination and national governance challenges.

Children’s use of digital technology during COVID-19
Online surveys across eleven European countries will help understand: what digital engagement looks like during COVID-19; how it has changed; and what support children need to take advantage of the internet during lockdowns.

COVID-19 RESEARCH PROJECTS

Identifying good practices for equitable remote learning during COVID-19 school closures

Parental engagement in children’s learning

Social protection for families & children: considerations for a post COVID-19 response

The importance of children’s internet access during COVID-19

Estimating the impact of COVID-19 on violence prevalence

Learning from COVID-19 on providing continued education in times of school closures

Children’s experiences & views of COVID-19

COVID-19 lessons on providing assistive technology to persons with disability in humanitarian response

Children’s use of digital technology during COVID-19
EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS

Pandemics and child protection, a rapid review
A review of existing literature and evidence to support evidence needs for COVID-19 child protection. It will define a methodology to undertake such reviews in other areas outside Innocenti’s work streams.

Epidemiology of COVID-19 among children and adolescents
Review of evidence on COVID-19 child and adolescent epidemiological patterns/health outcomes and interactions with other co-morbidities and vulnerabilities, disaggregating by age, sex, and geography.

Review of emerging evidence on mental health among children and adolescents in the context of COVID-19
A review of emerging evidence, interventions, and lessons to inform policy and programmes.

Review of emerging evidence on social impacts of COVID-19 on children, families, and communities
A review of emerging evidence and implications for programmes and policy.

COVID-19 and Children Open Evidence Repository
An externally searchable repository of scientific evidence related to COVID-19 and children.

ETHICS

Ethical considerations for evidence generation involving children on COVID-19
This work explores the ethical considerations when undertaking evidence generation involving children on COVID-19.

Ethical issues in the use of digital technology for contact tracing and surveillance
High quality data is essential to support decision makers’ response to COVID-19, but the collation and use of personally identifiable data may pose significant risks to children’s rights.

LEADING MINDS ONLINE

The new ‘Coronavirus & Children Series: What the experts say’ will host expert consultations to garner expertise and experience on pandemics, responses and effects on children, and support efforts by our research teams, research teams, other UNICEF divisions, and external partners.

PAST AND UPCOMING LEADING MINDS ONLINE

6 May: COVID-19 & Children Online WATCH NOW
21 May: COVID-19 & Violence REGISTER NOW

Future Coronavirus & Children Series will explore pressing topics like mental health, the societal impact of the pandemic, economic crisis and social protection, continued learning, WASH, and fragile settings.