

# newsletter on social vulnerability

Number 03 October 2010

In this Newsletter 03, the Red Cross continues with the analysis of the situation faced by the most vulnerable people due to the crisis. The sample of 1050 people is representative of the 32,032 people participating in Social Intervention Programs across the country, which are objectively "in the most vulnerable social situation" and whose updated information is available on the Application of Social Intervention, the Red Cross' database. The error of this sample is 1% for a confidence level of 95%. The telephone survey was conducted in July 2010.

## Primary findings

- Concern with regard to unemployment, economic conditions and rising prices.
- Expectations for the future: nearly 50% of the respondents think that their situation will not change in the short to the medium term.
- Similar optimism and pessimism about the economic future than the overall population, and lower optimism than the overall European population as reflected in the Eurobarometer (Standard EB73).
- Pessimistic assessment of the employment situation in Spain.
- Negative perception of the crisis' influence on their lives has increased.
- More than half of the people surveyed are living under the poverty line (58.5%), compared with 20.1% of the national average. Increase in the percentage from the Newsletter 02 (May 2010), which was 50%.
- Problems with housing: three times more people affected by housing problems than the overall population.
- More than twice unemployed, than the national average (46.4% and 19.5%). Sharp rise in unemployment (from 31% to 46.6% in 10 months). Among those employed, an increase among the low-qualified workers, while the fear of losing the jobs significantly grows.
- Unemployment benefits are nearly exhausted. 75% to 80% of the overall unemployed population receive benefit, compared to only 21.8% of the vulnerable people.
- Unemployment affecting people at social risk is not only motivated by the economic decline (53.1%), but also by personal problems (bad health and lack of documentation) and reconciliation issues (35.5%) .
- It's going to take a long time ... 50% are long-term unemployed people (the national rate is 4.3%). The profile is composed by men (63%), young (39.84 years), foreign (62%), educated (52.4% with secondary or more).
- 9 out of 10 do not participate in leisure activities or training.
- Only 50% have significant social relationships (only 24% have people on whom to turn to for financial support).
- Worsening state of stress, worries and negative feelings with regard to October 2009 (affecting more women of working age).
- Expectations for the future are determined by income and living conditions.