

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Survey on Socio Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Households Report

Wave 2

30th June 2020

KNBS
KENYA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS
Keeping you informed

CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 1

1. Introduction 3

2. Survey Objective, Design and Implementation 3

3. Survey Response Rates 4

4. Characteristics of Respondents 4

4.1 Education Attainment 4

5. Economic Activity 5

5.1 Working Population 5

5.2 Working Population by Employment Status 5

5.3 Hours Worked by Industry 6

5.4 Changes in working hours 7

5.5 Reasons for Absence from Work 7

5.6 Expected Time to Return to Work 9

6. Transport 10

6.1 Travel Pattern 10

6.2 Change in Cost of Travel 11

6.3 Change in Main Means of Transport 11

7. Rent 12

7.1 Ability to Pay Rent 12

7.2 Reason for inability to pay rent 12

7.3 Waiver/Relief on Rent 12

8. Health 13

8.1 Pre-existing Medical Conditions 13

8.2 Willingness to be tested for COVID-19 13

9. Food Security 14

9.1 Household Food Stock 14

9.2 Changes in Food Commodity Prices 14

9.3 Access to Markets/Grocery Stores 15

9.4 Availability of Various Food Items Within the Locality 16

10. Knowledge of Corona Virus 17

10.1 Awareness of Coronavirus 17

10.2 Source of information on Corona Virus 17
10.3 Knowledge of symptoms of Corona Virus infection 18
10.4 Knowledge on methods of protection from Corona Virus 18
10.5 Current methods being used to protect oneself/others from Covid-19 19
10.6 Protective methods currently being used by sex of individuals 20
11. Coping Mechanisms 21
11.1 Coping mechanisms used to continue learning at home 21
11.2 Coping mechanisms on financial distress 22
11.3 Coping mechanisms on health 22
11.4 Coping mechanisms on payment of rent 23
12. General information 24
12.1 Cash Transfers/Remittances 24
12.2 Renegotiation of Loan Repayment Terms 25
12.3 Domestic Violence 26
12.4 Worries Experienced 26
12.5 Time Use (Unpaid Work) 27

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Kenya Government has put in place measures aimed at cushioning Kenyans from the adverse effects of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Among the first steps that the Government took was the establishment of a National Coordination Committee on the Response to the Corona Virus Pandemic (NCCRCP). The NCCRCP has several working groups including the National Economic and Business Response (NEBR) which has the responsibility of availing information to facilitate formulation of appropriate strategies for intervention on socio-economic effects of the disease. The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) as a member of NEBR was tasked to undertake studies to provide information on the effects of COVID-19 on interactions between social and economic factors. Consequently, KNBS designed a survey to be undertaken in six (6) waves targeting individuals aged 18 years and above to provide estimates at the national and county levels.

Data collection for the first wave was conducted between 2nd and 9th May 2020 while that of the second wave was undertaken between 30th May and 6th June 2020. This report provides the findings for the second wave of the survey.

Out of the respondents who worked for at least one hour during the seven days preceding the survey period, 55.9 per cent were aged 35-64 years while those aged 25-34 constituted 33.8 per cent and those aged 18-24 constituted 10.2 per cent. Almost half (48.5%) of the respondents were working employers and own account workers while slightly more than a third (35.0%) were paid employees. About four out of ten males were in paid employment compared to about three out of ten of the females. The proportion of individuals absent from work due to COVID-9 related challenges was 61.9 per cent up from 49.9 per cent that was recorded in May 2020. Of the individuals absent from work, 77.8 per cent were not sure when they would resume.

Nationally, 26.9 per cent of respondents reported that they travelled less often, while 26.4 per cent had no change in travel pattern. Notably, 16.8 per cent of the individuals indicated that they were unable to travel at all. Countrywide, 59.2 per cent of the respondents reported a change in their cost of travel due to the pandemic. Further, the findings show that 14.4 per cent changed their main means of transport out of which 62.2 per cent opted to walk while 19.4 per cent opted to use *Boda Boda*.

Nationally, 37.0 per cent of households indicated that they were unable to pay rent for May 2020, while 31.6 per cent reported having paid the rent on time. Most (61.0%) of the households that were unable to pay rent cited reduced income as the main reason for defaulting. The survey further revealed that only 0.7 per cent of households in rented dwellings had received waiver or relief from landlords. A third of the households had not put in place any coping mechanism to counter the effect of COVID-19 on their ability to pay rent.

The findings show that 88.2 per cent of the population aged 18 years and above indicated that they would be willing to be tested for COVID-19. In order to cope with COVID-19 pandemic, 25.4 per cent of the individuals reported that they found solace in family and relatives while 25.3 per cent reported that they were praying or worshipping.

The findings from the survey show that 18.2 per cent of the households reported having at least one individual with a pre-existing medical condition. Out of these households, 35.0 per cent indicated having a member with high blood pressure/hypertension. A further 19.1 per cent and 15.0 per cent reported allergies and diabetes, respectively.

Nationally, 78.1 per cent of households reported to be food secure. About four out of five (78.8%) of the households indicated that there was an increase in food prices due to COVID-19 pandemic. Approximately 77.6 per cent of the households reported having no challenges in accessing market/grocery store to purchase food items.

Knowledge of COVID-19 among the population aged 18 years and above is almost universal at 99.0 per cent. Nationally, radio and television were reported as the main sources of information on COVID-19 at 82.8 per cent and 58.6 per cent, respectively. The most widely known methods of protection against COVID-19 were reported as washing hands with soap and water (96.0%) and use of masks (86.8%).

Countrywide, 65.8 per cent of the surveyed households reported to have at least one member who usually attend a learning institution. Self-learning at home was reported as the main coping mechanism used by majority (57.5%) of these households. However, 17.0 per cent of households with members who usually attend a learning institution were not using any method to continue with learning.

To mitigate the financial distress caused by the pandemic, majority (41.9%) of the households cut on financial spending on non-essential commodities. A notable proportion of individuals (36.7%) did not take any measures to overcome the financial distress caused by the COVID-19. Almost a quarter (24.1%) of population aged 18 years and above who were servicing a loan had successfully renegotiated repayment terms.

The proportion of households that reported to have received cash transfers from relatives or friends since COVID-19 was reported of in the country stood at 18.4 per cent.

Overall, 23.6 per cent of the respondents reported to have witnessed or heard cases of domestic violence in their communities. Majority (72.5%) of the households reported COVID-19 as their main cause of worry while 21.6 per cent were mainly worried about food security.

Socio-Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Households Survey Wave 2

1. Introduction

The novel Corona Virus Disease (COVID) which was declared a pandemic by World Health Organization (WHO) this year has ravaged many countries in the world. A number of measures aimed at curbing the spread of the virus have been introduced across the world. In Kenya, the measures that have been put in place by the Government include banning of all passenger flights, temporary closure of restaurants and bars, dusk to dawn curfew, cessation of movement into some high-risk counties among others. Globally, the confirmed cases of Corona Virus infections stood at 10,268,833 with 506,064 deaths (WHO) as at 30th June 2020. In Kenya, the confirmed cases were 6,366 with 148 deaths and 2,039 recoveries as at the same date.

In order to respond to the crisis and to cushion Kenyans from the adverse effects of the COVID-19, the Government of Kenya established a National Coordination Committee on the Response to the Corona Virus Pandemic (NCCRCP). Among the working groups of the NCCRCP is the National Economic and Business Response Working Group whose tasks include conducting a Household Economic Impact aimed at providing data that would facilitate formulation of appropriate strategies to respond to socio-economic effects of the disease. The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics was tasked to undertake surveys to provide the required information.

2. Survey Objective, Design and Implementation

The COVID-19 Household socio-economic impact survey was envasaged to be a longitudinal survey. However, given the response rates associated with telephone surveys, the design was reviewed to a cross sectional one for the subsequent waves of the survey. The survey aims at assessing the socio-economic impact of the Covid-19 on households and individuals in Kenya. It is designed to provide estimates at both national and county levels. The Survey which is being implemented in 6 waves utilizes Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI) approach in which the interviewers conduct interviews through telephone and the responses are captured in Tablets and the data is then transmitted to a central server for data processing and data analysis.

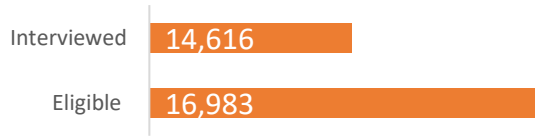
The 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census data of individuals aged 18 years and above was used as the sampling frame for selection of a representative sample for each of the 47 counties. During selection of individuals, the frame was stratified by county, sex and age and only one individual was sampled per household. A questionnaire was administered to the selected respondents who provided both personal and household level information. The data was weighted to adjust for non-response and to cater for non-proportional allocation of the sample to the strata.

The second wave of data collection was undertaken between 30th May and 6th June 2020.

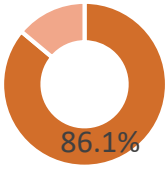
3. Survey Response Rates

The response rate for the second wave of the survey was 86.1 per cent. This was computed by dividing the number of successful interviews by the number of eligible respondents. Eligible respondents included; all successfully interviewed individuals, those who refused to be interviewed, those who never picked the calls, and those with partial interviews.

Number of Individuals



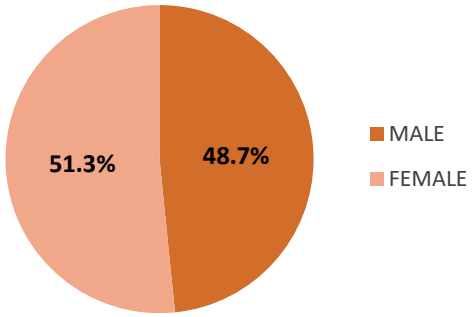
Response Rate



4. Characteristics of Respondents

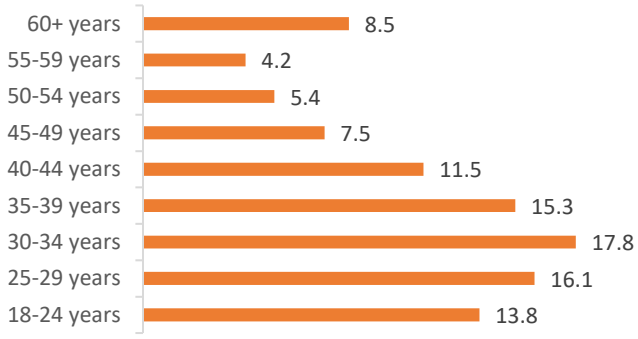
Sex

Females constituted 51.3 per cent of the respondents while males were 48.7 per cent.



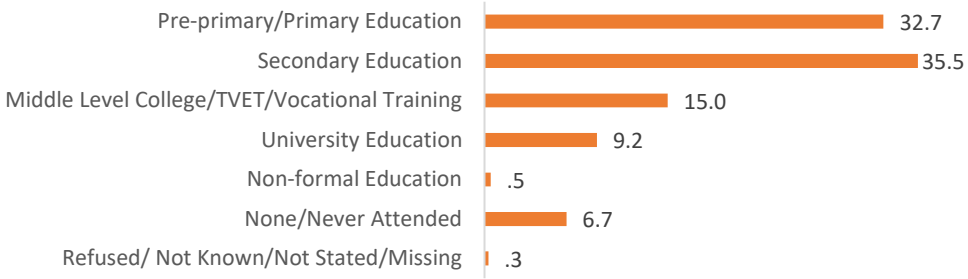
Age

The youth (18-34 years) formed 47.7 per cent of the respondents while those aged 60 years and above constituted 8.5 per cent.



4.1 Education Attainment

About 35.5 per cent of the respondents indicated that they had attained secondary level of education while a further 32.7 per cent reported to have attained pre-primary or primary level of education. Further, approximately 6.7 per cent reported having never attended school.



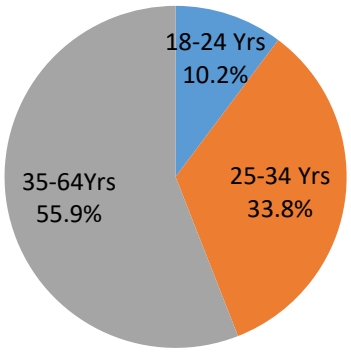
5. Economic Activity

Respondents were asked to indicate the economic activity they were engaged in during the seven days preceding the survey, the industry they worked, and the number of hours spent in undertaking the economic activities. Those who were absent from work were required to provide the reasons for the absence and also indicate when they expected to return to work.

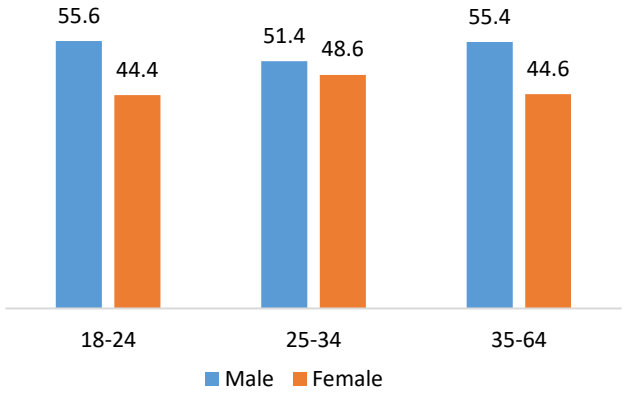
5.1 Working Population

Analysis by broad age cohorts of the respondents that were engaged for at least one hour during the seven days preceding the survey shows that 55.9 per cent were aged 35-64 years. The proportion of males was higher than that of females across all age cohorts.

Distribution of working persons by Age Cohorts



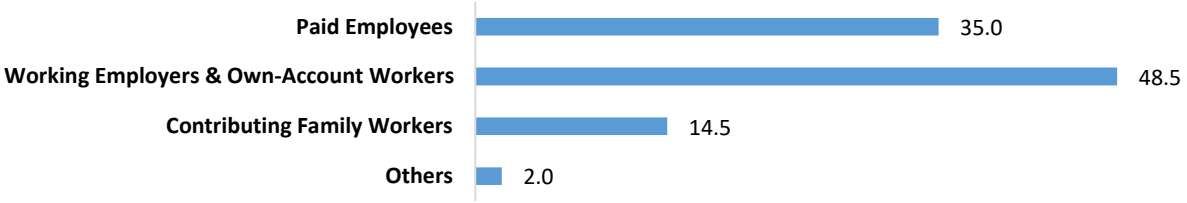
Percentage distribution of working persons by sex and age



5.2 Working Population by Employment Status

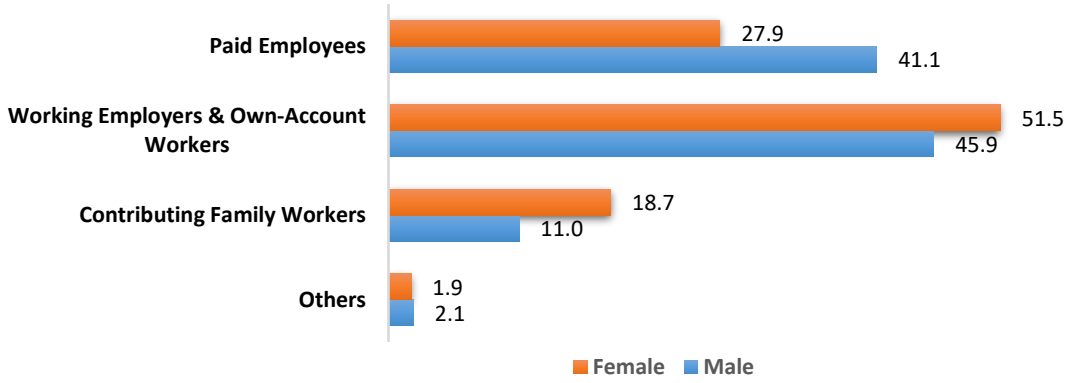
On working status, almost half (48.5%) of the working population were working employers and own account workers, while 35.0 per cent were paid employees.

Percentage distribution of working population by employment status



About five out of ten (51.5%) females were working employers and own-account workers compared to 45.9 per cent of the males. Approximately, 28 per cent females and 41 per cent males were paid employees.

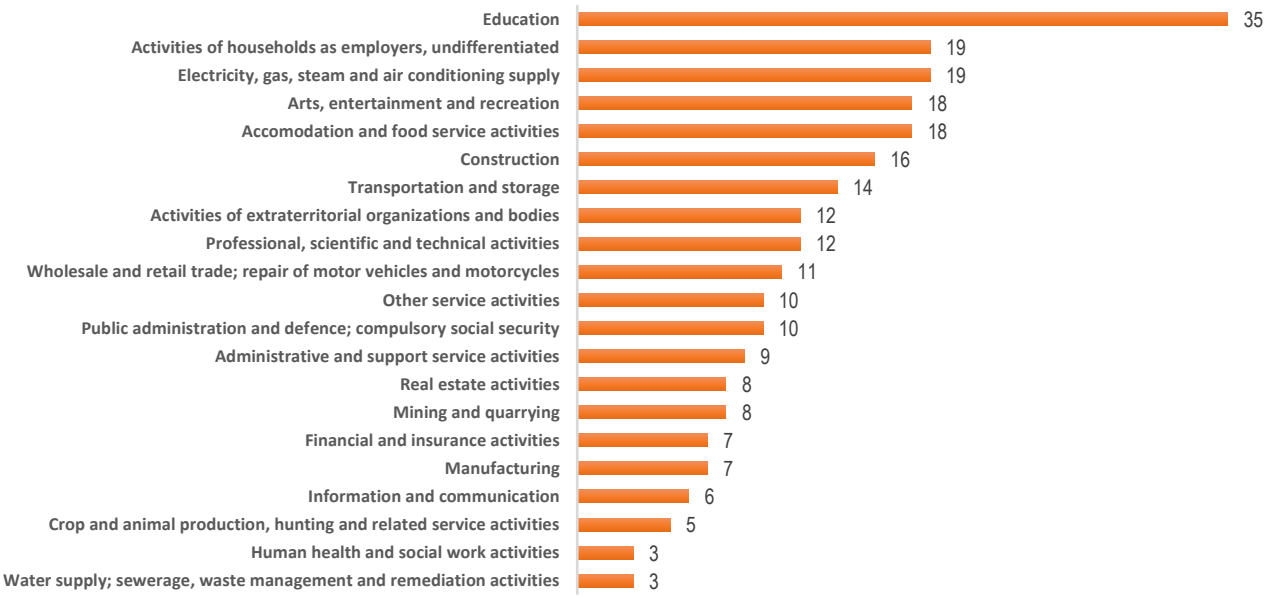
Percentage distribution of working population by sex and employment status



5.3 Hours Worked by Industry

Respondents who reported to have worked were asked to state the number of hours worked. Workers across all industries reported having worked fewer hours than usual in the week preceding the survey. The chart below shows the difference (usual hours less actual hours) in the hours worked during the reference week. Education sector recorded the highest difference (35 hours) while human health and social work activities and water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities recorded the lowest at 3 hours.

Difference between Usual and Actual Hours worked by Industry

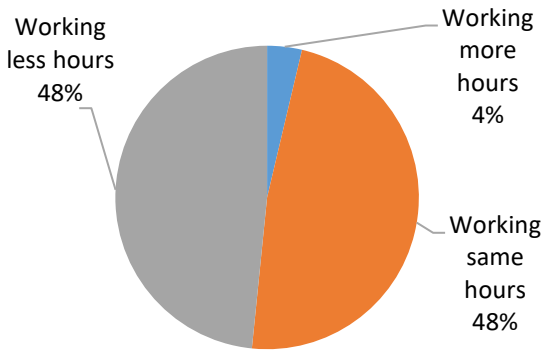


5.4 Changes in working hours

All respondents who reported to have worked were required to state whether there were changes in the number of hours they spent in any economic activities during the last seven days preceding the survey. The results show that 48.0 per cent of the respondents reported that they had worked less hours than usual while a similar proportion reported that their working hours did not change. Four per cent of the respondents reported to have worked more hours than usual.

Percentage distribution of working population by changes in working hours

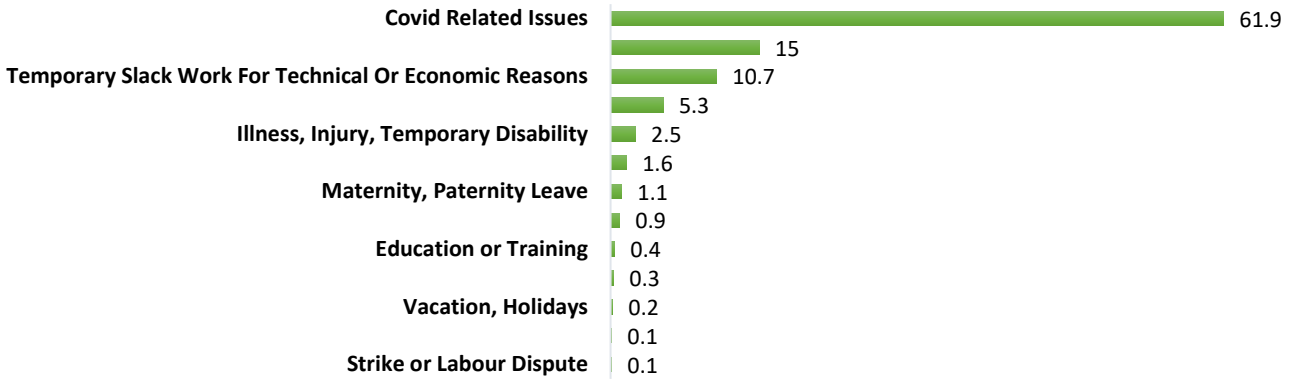
Persons working in the human health and social work activities, and in public administration and defence reported to have worked for more hours per week than usual, mainly attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic.



5.5 Reasons for Absence from Work

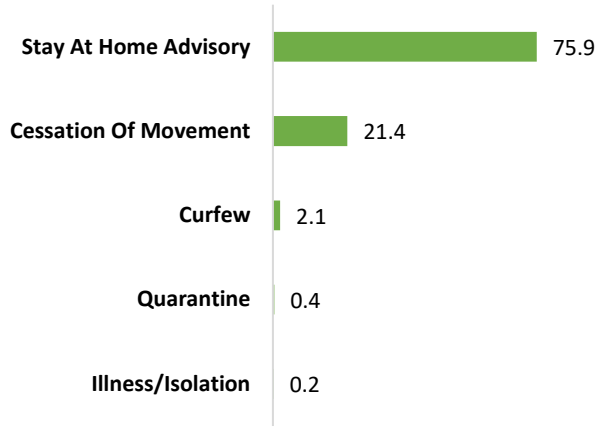
This question was asked to all persons who reported not having worked in the seven days preceding the survey period and had a job to return to. The proportion of respondents absent from work due to Covid-19 related issues was 61.9 per cent. The other reasons cited were temporary business closure (15%) and temporary work slack for technical and economic reasons (10.7%).

Percentage distribution of persons absent from work by main reason

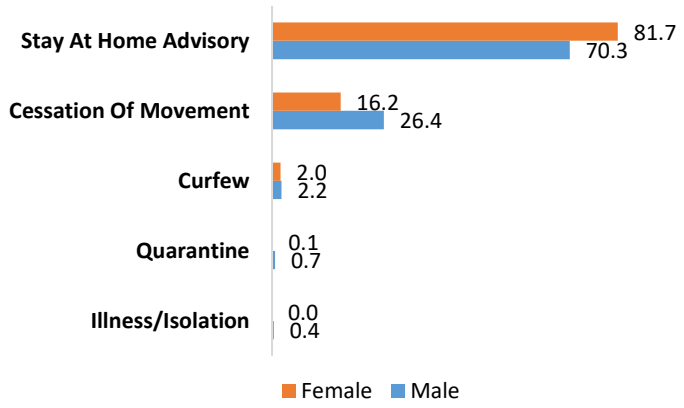


The specific COVID-19 related issues mentioned included the stay at home advisory (75.9%) and cessation of movement (21.4%). A higher proportion of women than men cited the stay at home advisory as their reason for absence from work. On the contrary, a higher proportion of men than women reported that cessation of movement order was their main reason for being absent from work.

Percentage distribution of persons absent from work by COVID-19 related issue



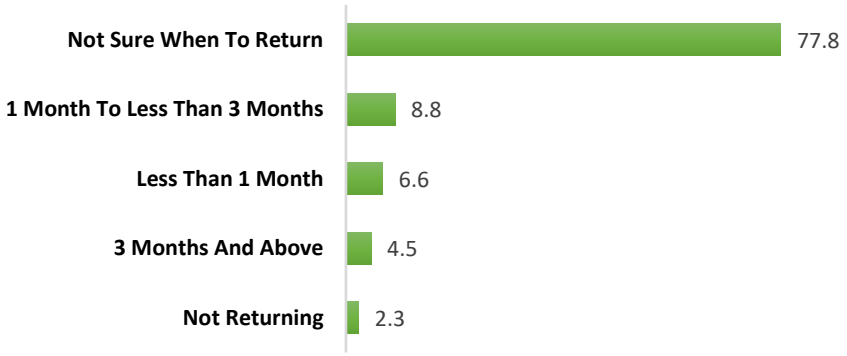
Percentage distribution of persons absent from work by sex and COVID-19 related issue



5.6 Expected Time to Return to Work

Respondents who were absent from work were asked to state when they were expecting to return. The highest proportion (77.8%) of these respondents reported that they were not sure when they would return to work.

Percentage distribution of persons absent from work by time expected to return to work



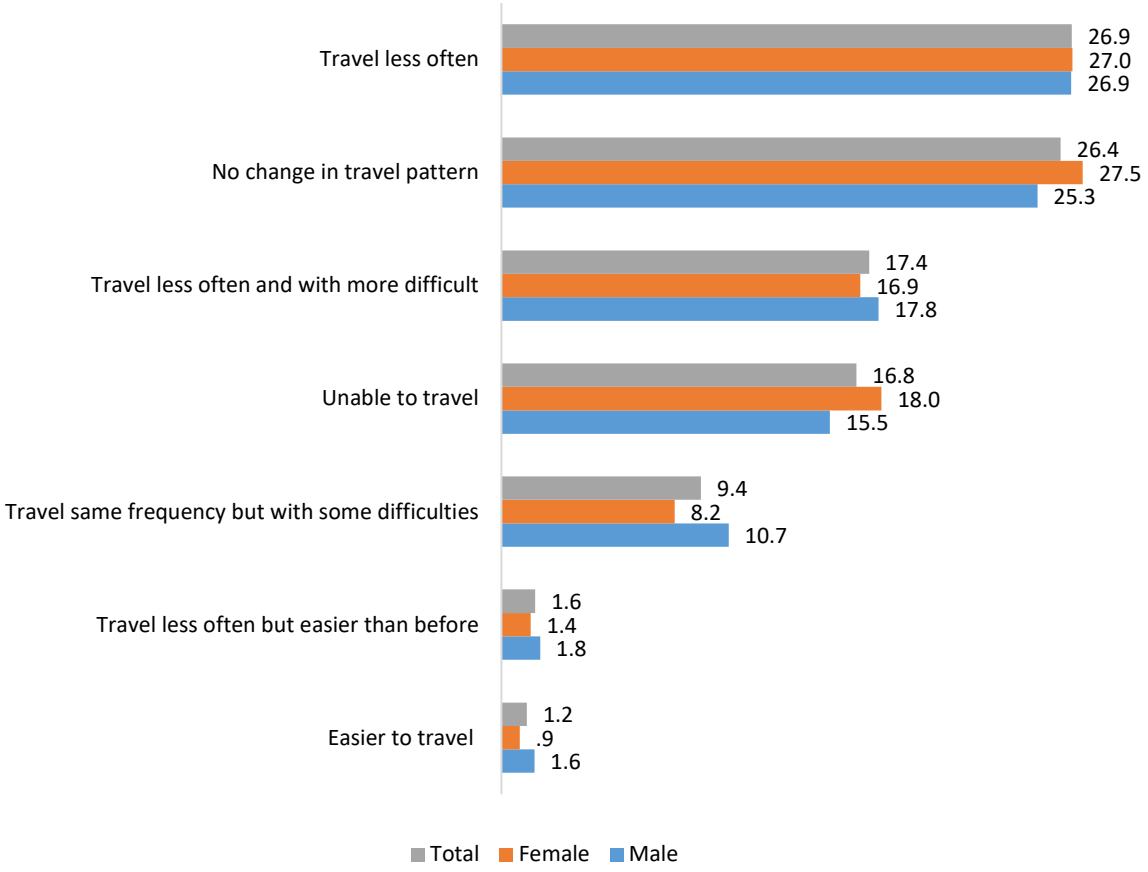
6. Transport

The survey sought information on changes in travel patterns, transport arrangements and cost of travel.

6.1 Travel Pattern

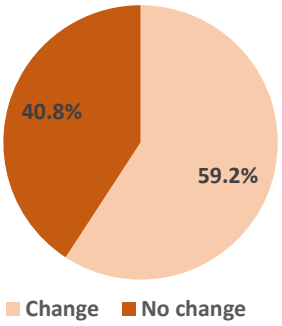
Respondents were asked about changes in their travel patterns due to the effects of the pandemic. Overall, 26.9 per cent of respondents reported they travelled less often, while 26.4 per cent had no change in travel pattern. Respondents who travelled less often but with more difficulty were 17.4 per cent. About 16.8 per cent of the respondents were unable to travel with the proportion being higher in females (18.0%) than males (15.5%).

Proportion of Individuals Travel Patterns by Sex

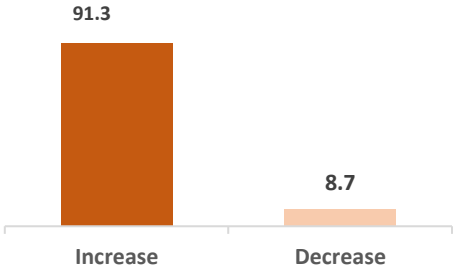


6.2 Change in Cost of Travel

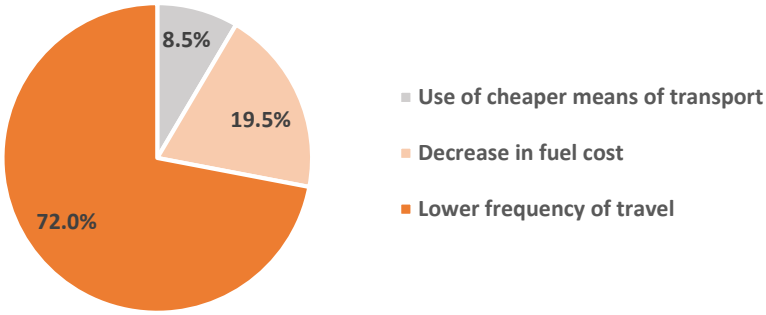
About 59 per cent of the respondents reported a change in their cost of travel due to the pandemic.



Among the respondents that reported a change in their main means of transport, 91.3 per cent reported an increase while 8.7 per cent reported a decrease.



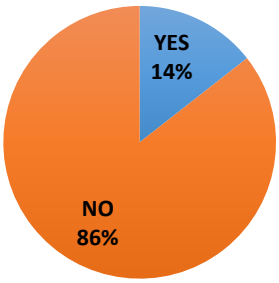
Proportion of Respondents by Reason for Decrease in Cost of Travel

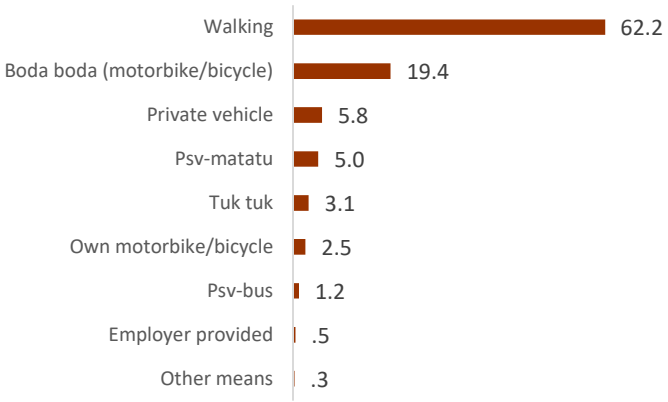


Among the respondents that reported a decrease in the cost of transport, 72.0 per cent attributed it to a lower frequency of travel while about one fifth (19.5 %) cited lower fuel cost.

6.3 Change in Main Means of Transport

About 14 per cent of respondents changed their main means of transport as a coping mechanism to counter the effects of the pandemic. Out of those who had changed their means of transport, 62.2 per cent opted to walking while 19.4 per cent opted to use Boda Boda. Only 5.8 per cent indicated use of private vehicles as their main means of transport.





7. Rent

Information on rent payment that include inability to pay, waivers/relief and coping mechanism were asked to households that reside in rented premises.

7.1 Ability to Pay Rent

All respondents who reported to be paying rent, were asked whether before the COVID-19 pandemic and for the month of May, they paid rent on the agreed time with the landlord. Overall, 31.6 per cent of households paid rent on time for May 2020, while 37.0 per cent were unable or would not be able to pay. Almost a third of the households (30.9 %) who usually paid rent on the agreed date with the landlords before the pandemic were unable to pay on time for the month of May 2020.

Percentage number of households by their ability to pay rent for May 2020

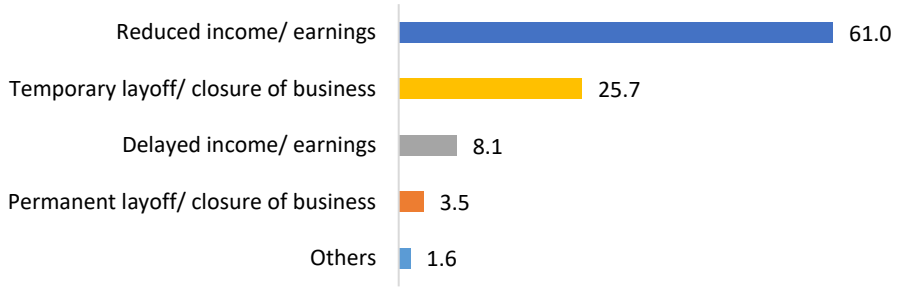
Usually Paid Rent on Time before COVID-19 pandemic	Status of Rent Payment for Month of May 2020			
	Paid, On Time	Paid, But not fully	To Pay On Time*	Unable to Pay/Will Not be able to Pay*
Yes, Always	44.0	17.9	7.2	30.9
Yes, Sometimes	21.8	29.1	9.3	39.7
No	13.1	15.3	8.6	63.0
TOTAL	**31.6**	**23.0**	**8.3**	**37.0**

** Since the survey was undertaken beginning of June 2020, the date for payment date was not due for some households*

7.2 Reason for inability to pay rent

Respondents who reported that they were unable or would not be able to pay or not fully paid the rent for May 2020, were asked to give their main reason for not being able to do so. Most of the households that were unable to pay rent for May 2020 attributed it to reduced income/earning (61.0%).

Percentage distribution of households by the main reason for the inability to pay rent for May 2020



7.3 Waiver/Relief on Rent

The survey revealed that only 0.7 per cent of households in rented dwellings had received waiver or relief from landlords on rent for May 2020 while only 6.0 per cent had received a partial waiver.

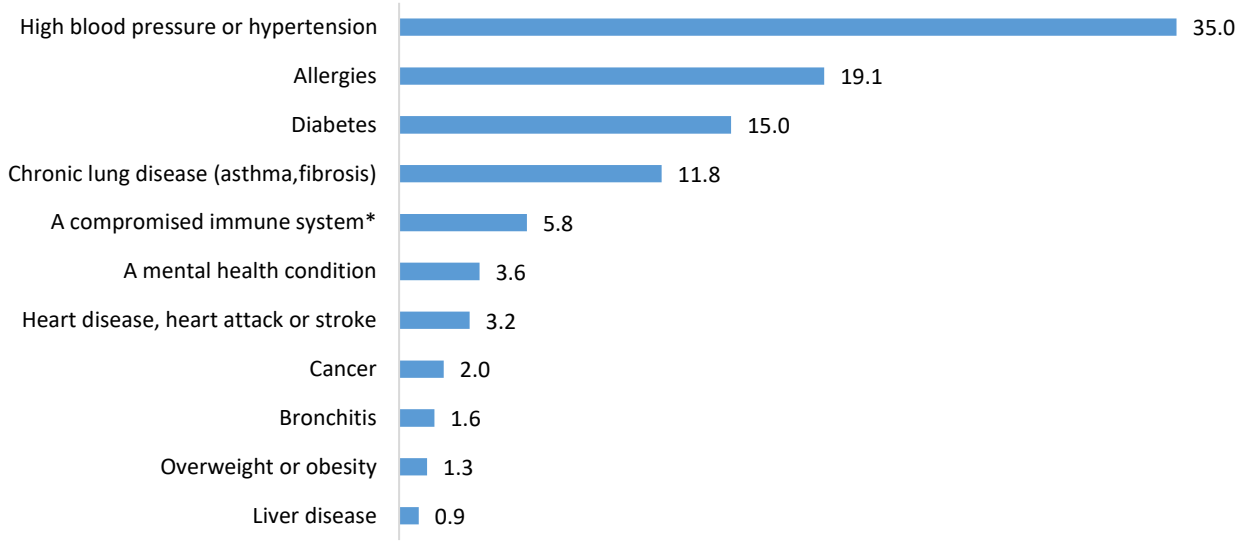
8. Health

This module sought information on health care seeking behavior of individuals and the vulnerability of the households to the Corona Virus.

8.1 Pre-existing Medical Conditions

Nationally, 18.2 per cent of the households reported having at least a member with a pre-existing medical condition diagnosed by a healthcare practitioner. High blood pressure/hypertension (35.0%) was the most common among the reported conditions followed by allergies (19.1%) while liver disease (0.9%) and Overweight/ Obesity (1.3%) were the least cited pre-existing medical conditions.

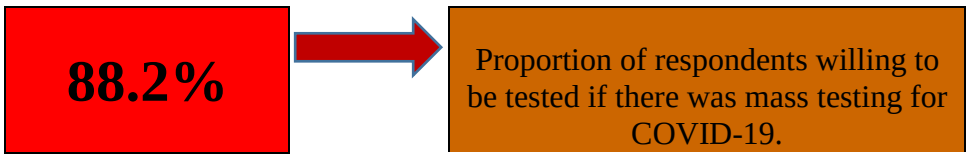
Households with Members with Pre-Existing Medical Conditions



**A compromised immune system constitutes conditions such as HIV/AIDS.*

8.2 Willingness to be tested for COVID-19

The findings show that 88.2 per cent of the respondents indicated that they would be willing to be tested for COVID-19.



9. Food Security

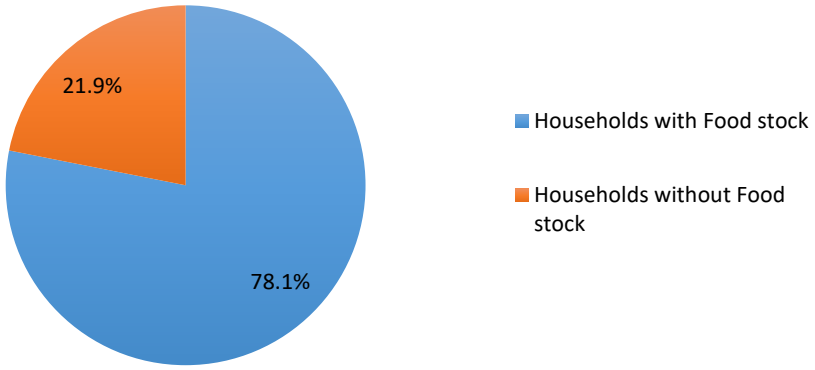
Food security is a measure of the availability of food and individuals' ability to access it. Household Food security exists when individual(s), at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

The survey sought information on food security including food availability, access and utilization at household level.

9.1 Household Food Stock

The respondents were asked if the households in which they lived in had food stocks. Nationally, 78.1 per cent of the households reported having food stock.

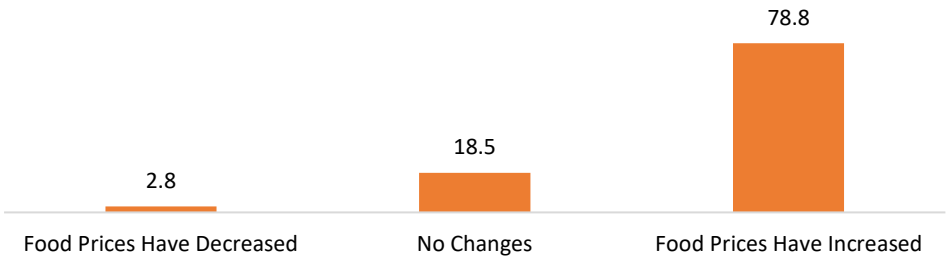
Proportion of households with food stock



9.2 Changes in Food Commodity Prices

The households were asked if there had been any changes in the cost of food items over the last two weeks preceding the survey. Slightly more than three quarters, (78.8 %) respondents reported that there was an increase in food commodity prices, while 18.5 per cent of the respondents indicated that they had not experienced a change in the prices.

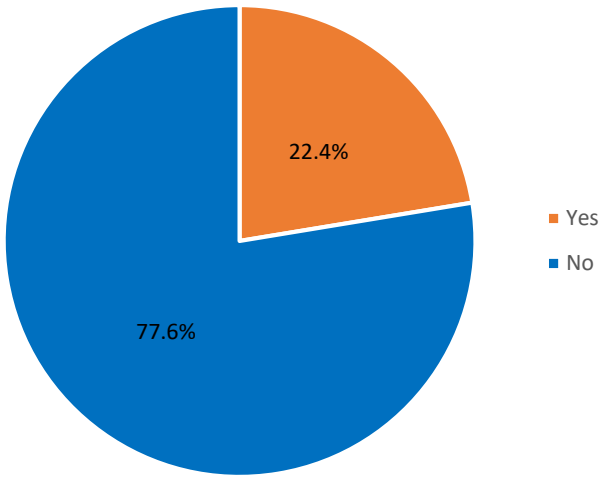
Percentage distribution of households experiencing change in food commodity prices



9.3 Access to Markets/Grocery Stores

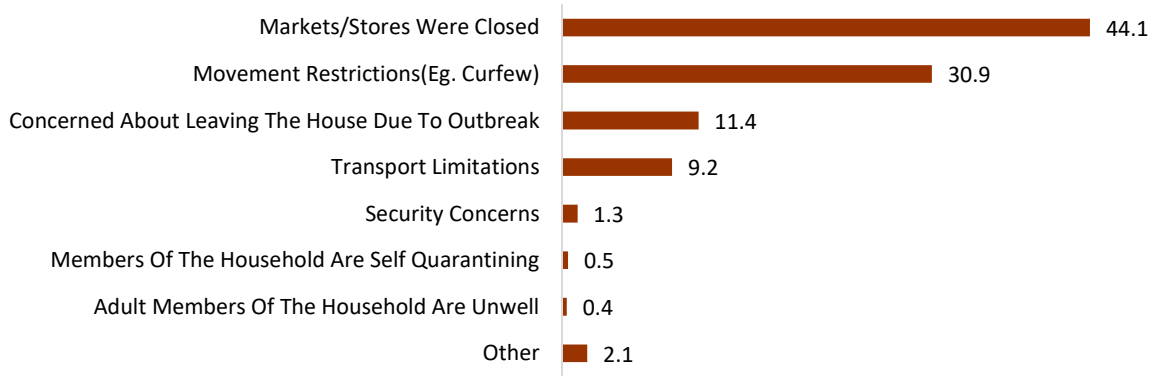
The respondents were asked if there had been a time when they or their household could not access the markets or grocery stores to purchase food items. Generally, 77.6 per cent of households reported having no challenge in accessing a market/grocery store to purchase food items.

Percentage distribution of households not accessing market/grocery stores



The respondents were asked for the reasons why their households were unable to access the market/grocery stores to purchase food items in the past 7 days preceding the survey. Majority (44.1%) of the respondents cited closure of the markets/grocery stores.

Percentage distribution of households according to reasons for not accessing the market/grocery to purchase food items



9.4 Availability of Various Food Items Within the Locality

Enquiries were made on the availability of various food groups within the locality. In all cases, nine in ten households reported that various food items were locally available. The most available food groups were milk and dairy products (95.0 %) and sugar & sweets (95.4%).

Percentage distribution of households by availability food groups

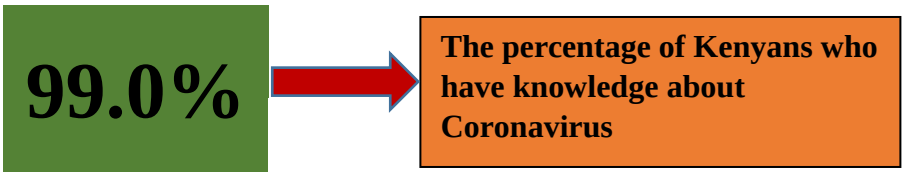
Cereals, grains, roots and tubers	Legumes / nuts	Milk and other dairy products	Meat, fish and eggs	Vegetables and leaves	Fruits	Oil /fat /butter	Sugar and sweet
94.4	91.9	95.0	92.2	91.1	90.2	94.3	95.4

10. Knowledge of Corona Virus

The respondents were asked questions on knowledge of Corona Virus, symptoms, and measures they were taking to protect themselves from the disease.

10.1 Awareness of Coronavirus

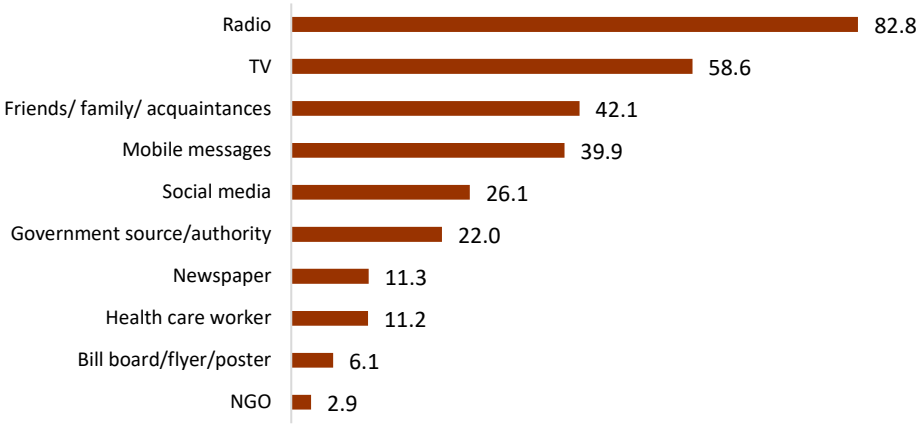
Knowledge of Corona virus was almost universal above 99.0 per cent nationally for both males and females.



10.2 Source of information on Corona Virus

Respondents mainly received information on Corona Virus on radio and television at 82.8 per cent and 58.6 per cent respectively.

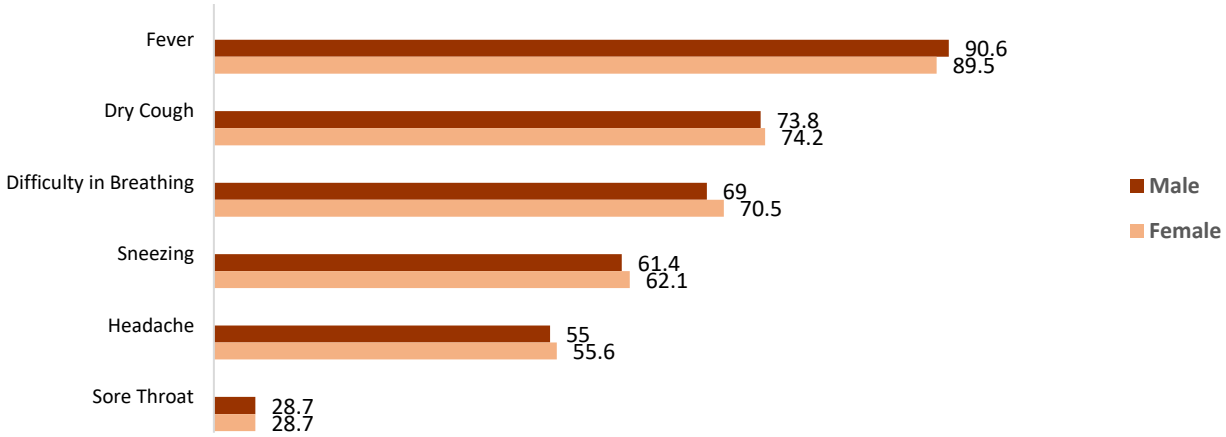
Percentage distribution of individuals by sources of information on Corona Virus



10.3 Knowledge of symptoms of Corona Virus infection

There were no much differentials on knowledge of symptoms of the Corona Virus by sex of the respondent. However, slightly more women (70.5%) knew of difficulty in breathing as a symptom compared to men (69.0%) while more men (90.6%) were aware of fever as a symptom compared to women (89.5%).

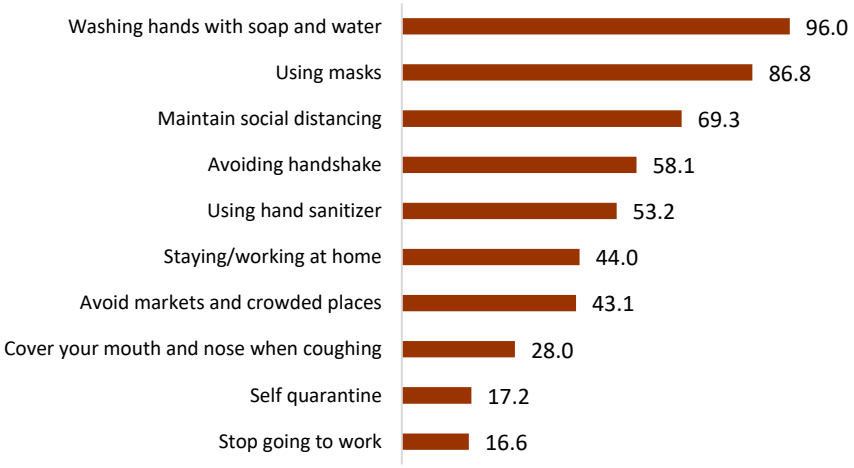
Percentage distribution of individuals by knowledge of symptoms of Corona Virus infection



10.4 Knowledge on methods of protection from Corona Virus

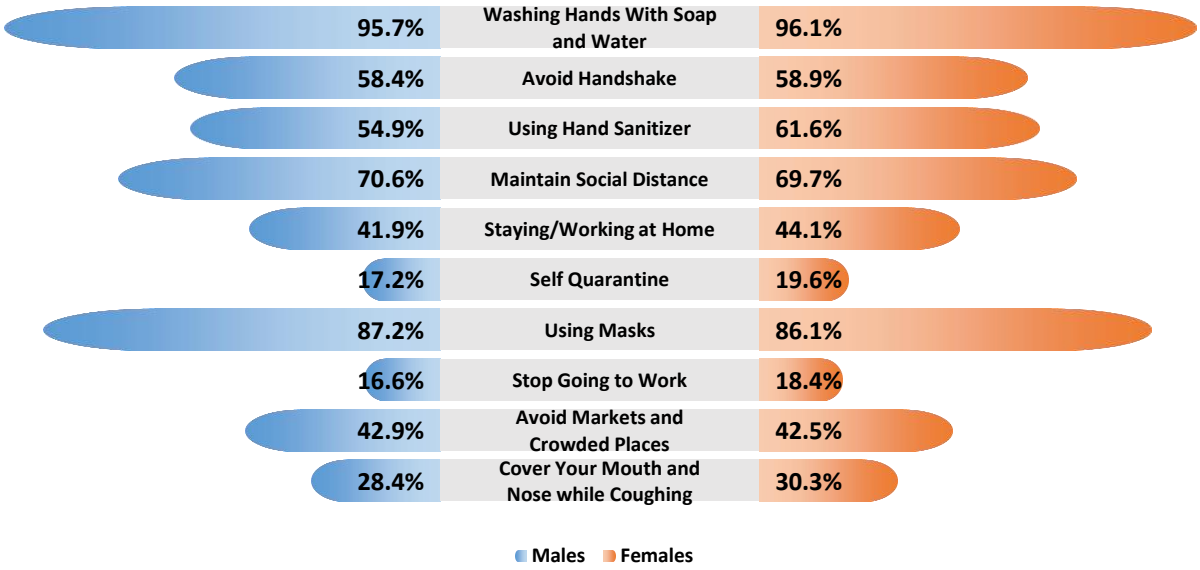
The widely known methods of protection from Corona Virus as reported in the survey were washing hands with soap and water and the use of masks at 96.0 per cent and 86.8 per cent, respectively.

Percentage distribution of individuals by knowledge of protective measures against Corona Virus



There were no major differentials on knowledge on methods of protection from the virus by the different sex. However, notable difference was observed on the use of hand sanitizers which was cited by 61.6 per cent of females compared to 54.9 per cent of males.

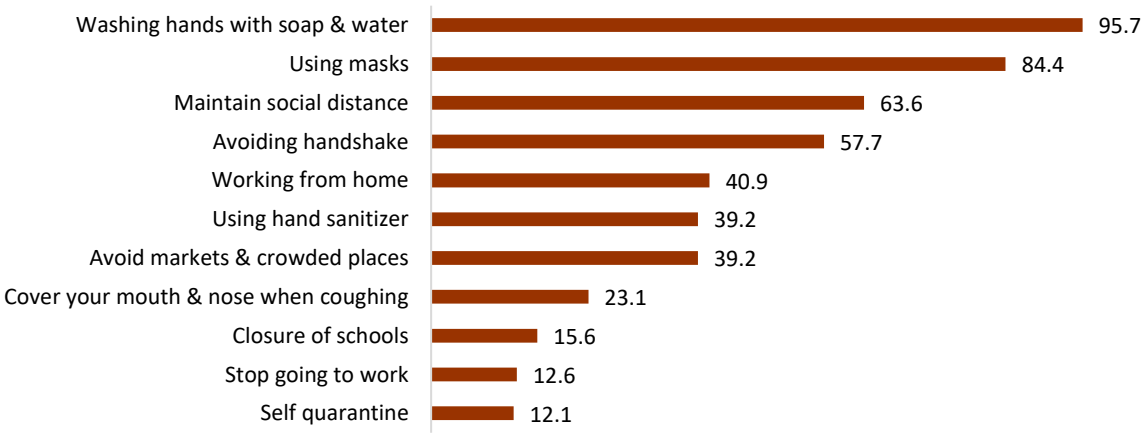
Percentage distribution of individuals according to knowledge of methods of protection from Corona Virus by sex



10.5 Current methods being used to protect oneself/others from Covid-19

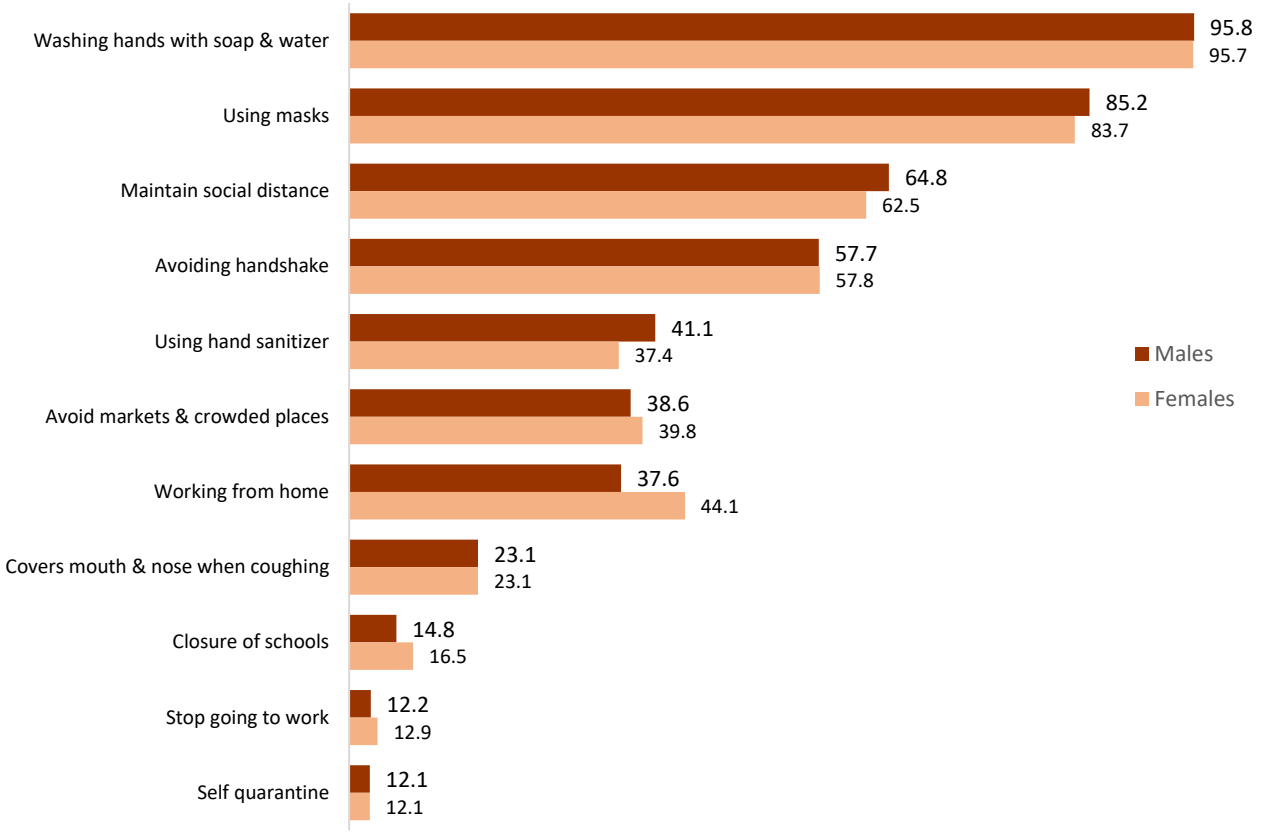
Respondents were asked on measures they have put in place to avoid contracting the Corona Virus. Majority of the respondents (95.7%) reported practicing washing hands with soap and water as a way of protecting themselves from Corona Virus. About 84 per cent of the respondents were using masks while 63.6 per cent stated that they were practicing social distancing.

Percentage distribution of individuals by protective methods currently being used



10.6 Protective methods currently being used by sex of individuals

The most common method used as a protective measure against contracting Corona Virus by both male and female respondents was washing hands with soap and water. The differences in use of various protective methods by female respondents relative to male respondents were marginal, however, a notably higher proportion of females (44.1%) reported that they worked from home to avoid Corona Virus infection compared to males (37.6%).



11. Coping Mechanisms

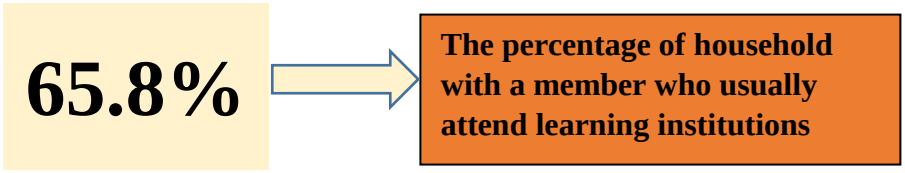
The survey sought information on the various mechanisms used by households to cope with the effects of COVID-19 pandemic.

11.1 Coping mechanisms used to continue learning at home

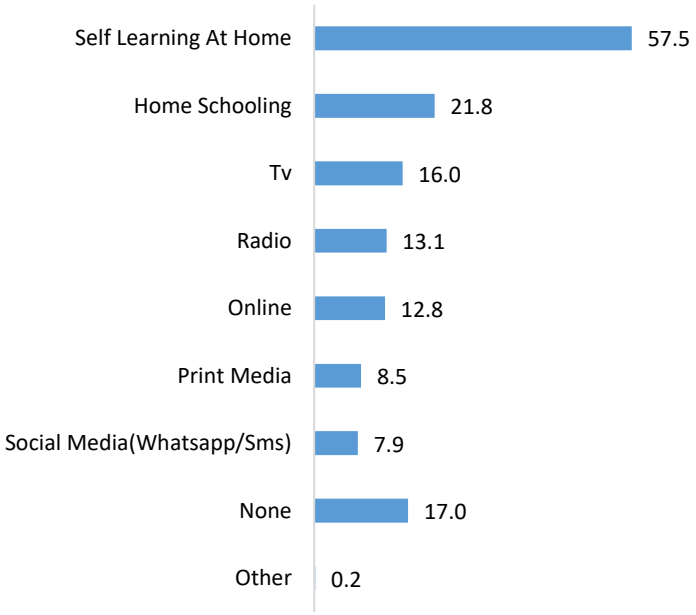
Respondent were asked which ways members of their households were using to continue with learning.

Proportion of households with members who usually attend learning institutions

Nationally, 65.8 per cent of households reported having members who usually attend learning institutions.



Coping mechanisms used to continue learning at home

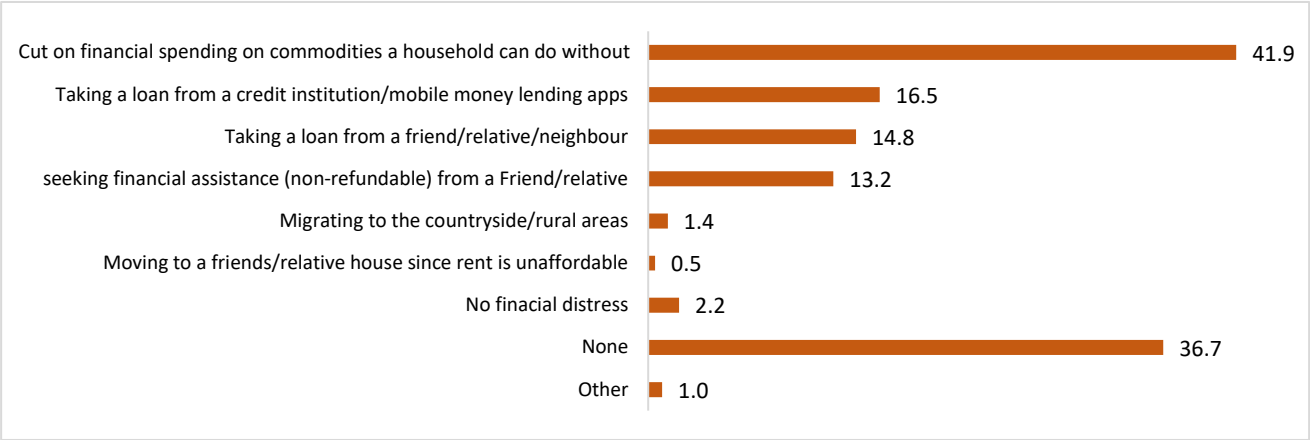


Self-learning at home was reported as the main coping mechanism used by majority (57.5%) of these households. However, 17.0 per cent of households with members who usually attend a learning institution were not using any method to continue with learning.

11.2 Coping mechanisms on financial distress

To mitigate the financial distress caused by the pandemic, majority (41.9%) of the households had cut on financial spending on non-essential commodities. Notably, 36.7 per cent did not take any measure to overcome the financial distress caused by the COVID-19.

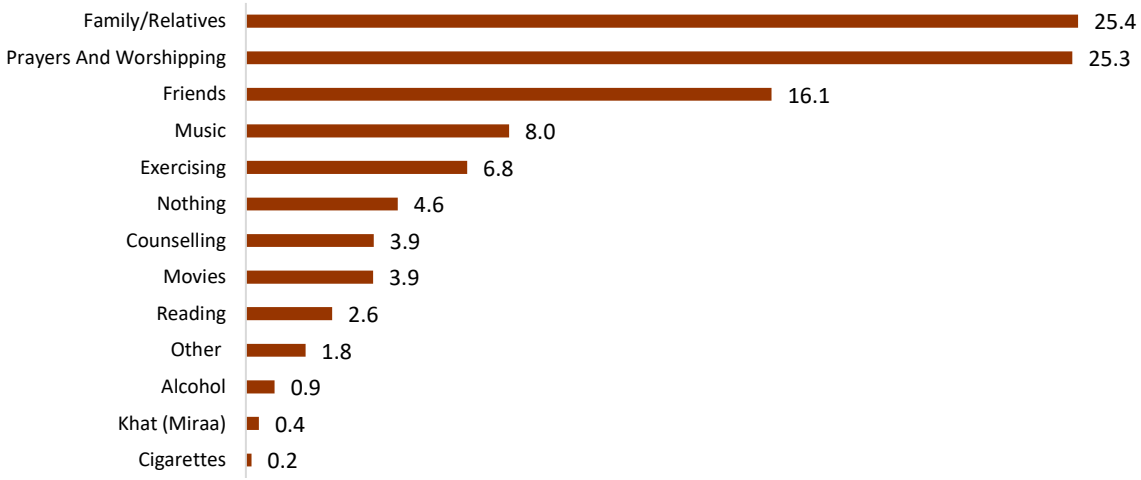
Proportion of the household by measures taken to overcome financial distress



11.3 Coping mechanisms on health

Respondents were asked what they did to help them cope with the COVID-19 pandemic. The highest of proportion (25.4%) of individuals got consolation from family and relatives while 25.3 per cent of the respondents opted to prayers and worshiping.

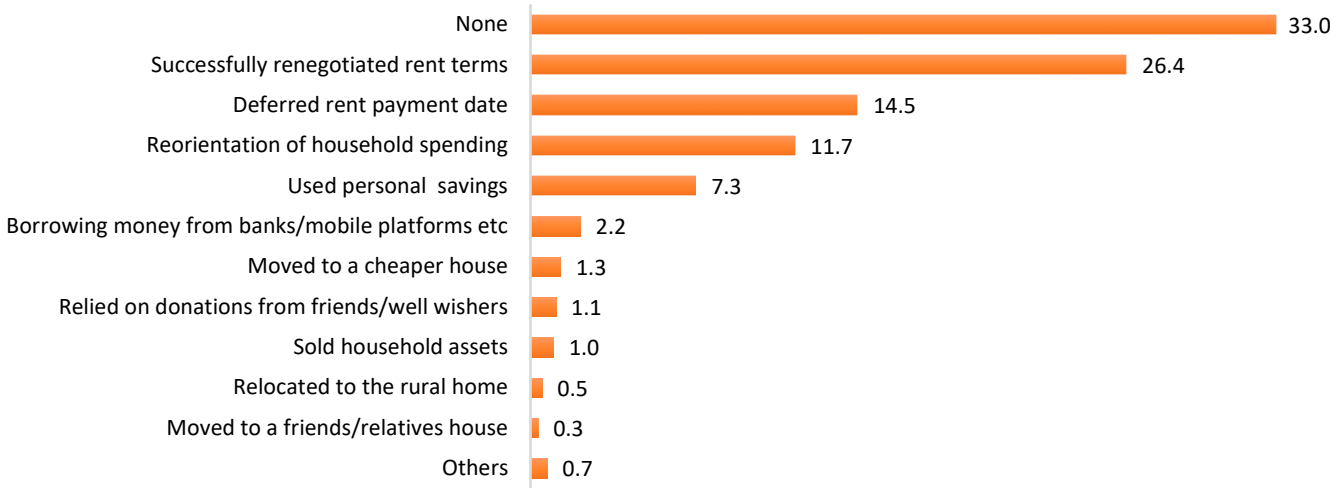
Proportion of Individuals by what makes them feel better to Cope with COVID-19 Pandemic



11.4 Coping mechanisms on payment of rent

All the respondents who reported to be living in rented houses were asked what mechanisms they were using to cope with payment of rent during COVID-19 pandemic. Nationally, 33.0 per cent of the households did not use any mechanism to cope with their inability to pay rent for May 2020 due to the effects of COVID-19. Over a quarter (26.4%) of the households successfully renegotiated rent terms with the landlord while 14.5 per cent deferred rent payment date.

Percentage distribution of households by coping mechanism on rent payment for May 2020

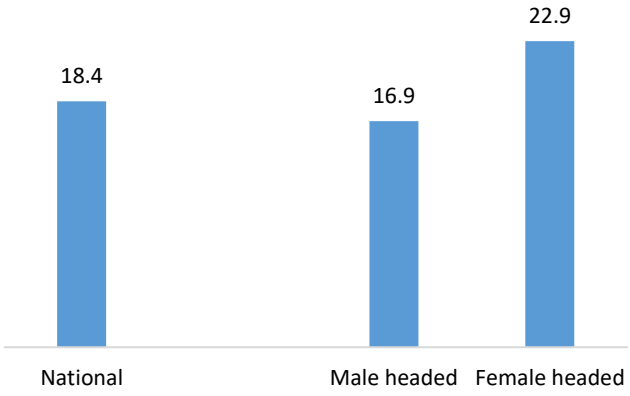


12. General information

12.1 Cash Transfers/Remittances

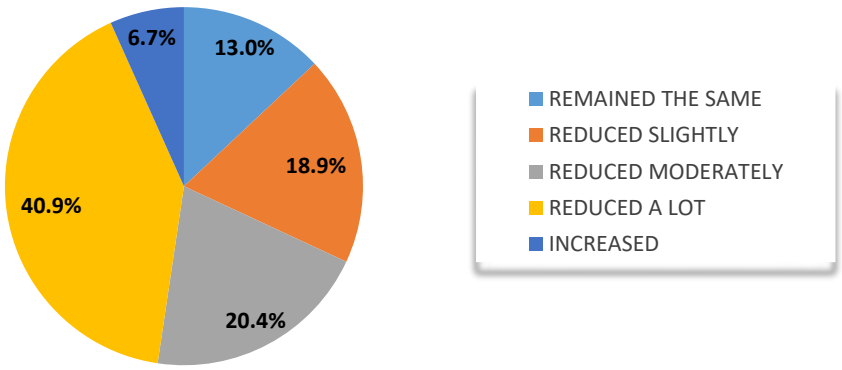
Respondent were asked about information on cash transfers/remittances received by households from relatives or friends, after the first case of corona virus was reported in Kenya. Nationally,18.4 per cent of households reported to have received cash transfers/remittances from relatives or friends since the first case of COVID-19 pandemic was confirmed in Kenya. A higher proportion (22.9%) of female-headed households received cash transfers/remittances from relatives or friends compared to 16.9 per cent of male-headed households.

Proportion of households that received cash transfers/remittances from family/relative(s) or friend(s)



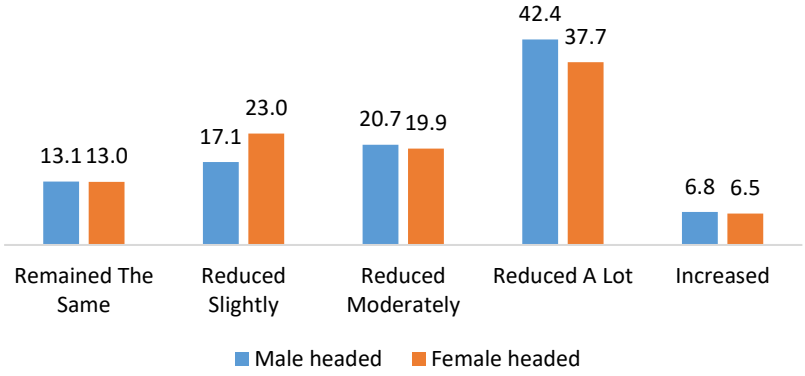
Proportion of Households by change in Cash Transfers/Remittances

Among the households that received cash remittances, 80.2 per cent reported that the amount received had reduced compared to the period before COVID-19 pandemic. Out of these households, 40.9 per cent reported a lot of reduction in the amount received. Only 6.7 per cent of the households reported an increase in the amount received.



Proportion of households by change in Cash Transfers/Remittances and household headship

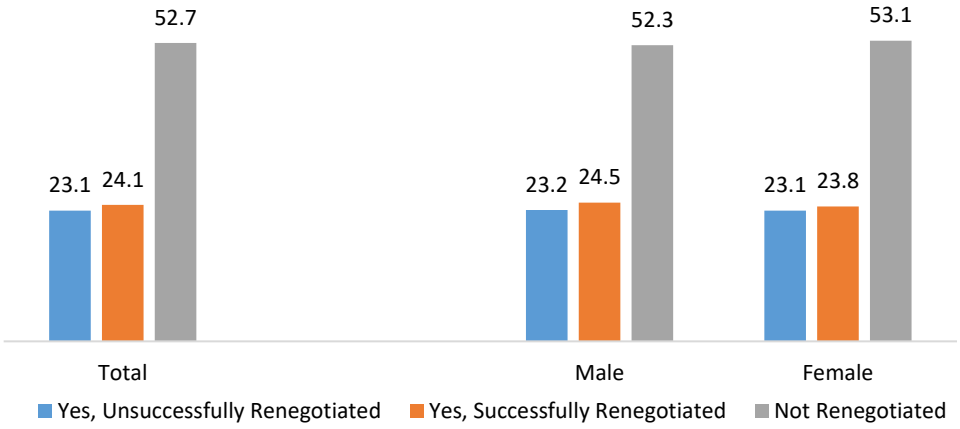
Of the households that received cash remittances, slightly more than four in every ten (42.4%) male-headed households reported that the amount had reduced a lot compared to female headed households at 37.7 per cent.



12.2 Renegotiation of Loan Repayment Terms

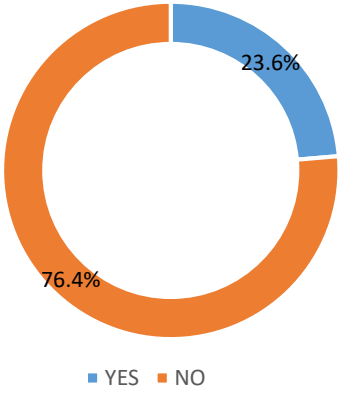
Respondents who were servicing a loan were asked whether they had renegotiated loan repayment terms due to circumstances emanating from COVID-19. Nationally, 52.7 per cent of the individuals who had loans did not renegotiate the repayment terms while 24.1 per cent had managed to successfully renegotiate the repayment terms due to circumstances emanating from COVID-19 pandemic.

Percentage distribution of population age 18 years and above by results of loan repayment terms renegotiation and sex



12.3 Domestic Violence

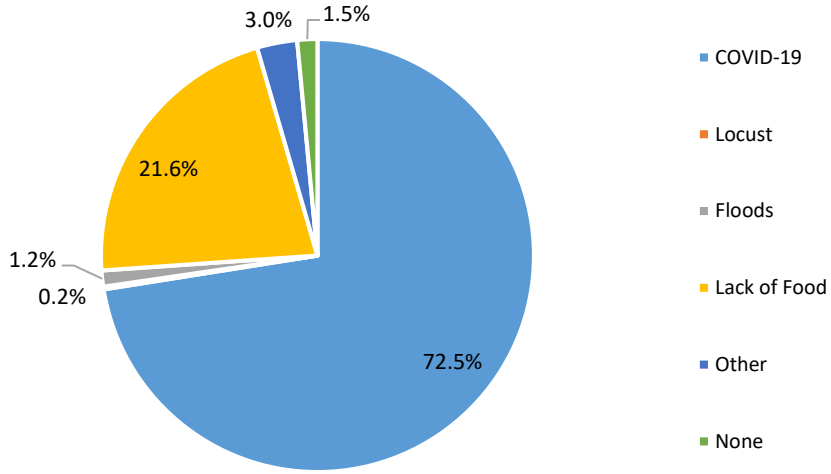
The survey sought to establish whether the respondents had witnessed or heard any form of domestic violence in their community since the Government instituted measures to contain COVID- 19. Approximately 24.0 per cent of the respondents reported having witnessed or heard cases of domestic violence in their communities since the introduction of COVID-19 pandemic containment measures.



12.4 Worries Experienced

Information about the worries that the households currently experience were sought from the respondents. Majority (72.5%) of the respondents indicated that their households were worried about COVID-19 pandemic. About two in every ten (21.6%) mentioned about lack of food as their main worry.

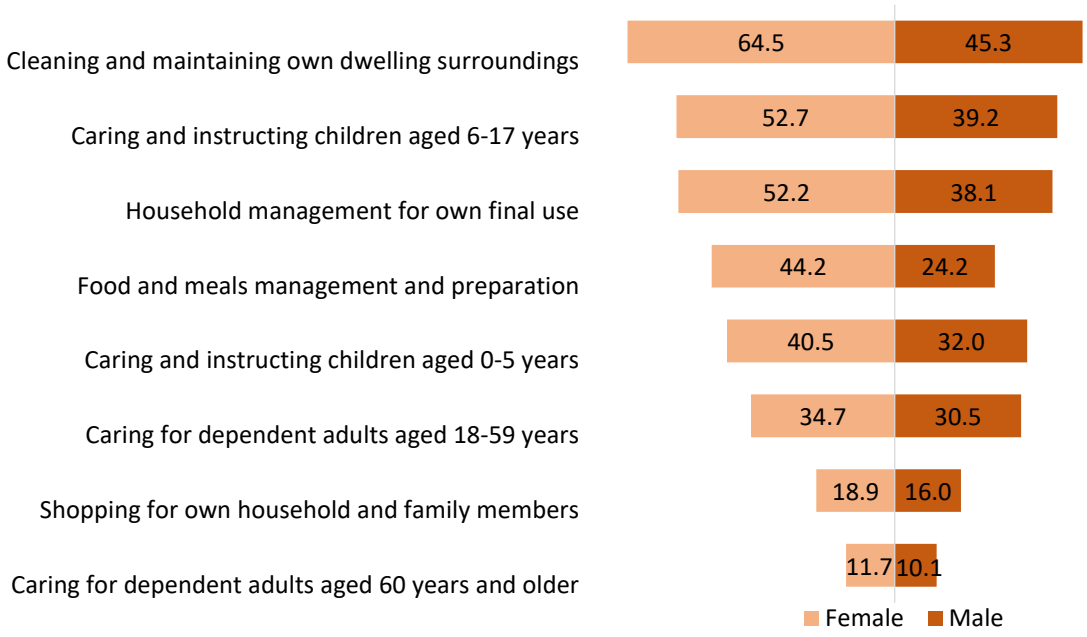
Proportion of households by main cause of worry



12.5 Time Use (Unpaid Work)

Respondents were asked whether there had been any changes in the amount of time spent on various unpaid domestic and care work within their households. Nationally, 64.5 per cent of women reported that the time spent on cleaning and maintaining own dwelling surroundings had increased compared to 45.3 per cent of men. Notably, a higher proportion of women reported increased time spent in all unpaid work activities compared to men.

Proportion of individuals whose time spent on unpaid care and domestic work increased in the last two weeks



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