

Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices Towards COVID-19 Among The Population In India.

Dr Saili Rajendra Lahare

Mentor: Mr Dhirendra Kumar



IIHMR UNIVERSITY

Overview

Introduction

Literature Review

Methodology

Objective and Methodology

Results and discussion

Recommendations

Introduction

- The world is presently dealing with a new catastrophe known as severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2). SARS-CoV-2 first appeared in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China in December 2019, but has since spread over the world, impacting billions of people, and killing millions. [1] The World Health Organization (WHO) identified the outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and designated it a pandemic on March 11, 2020. Presently India reports 43,197,522 COVID cases, and 524,723 deaths.
- People's understanding and perceptions of a pandemic like this are critical general practice considerations during such times of crisis because the fight against the current situation is heavily reliant on society's responsible conduct.
- This study was designed to evaluate these factors in order to better understand the difficulties that still need to be addressed in order to combat the disease.

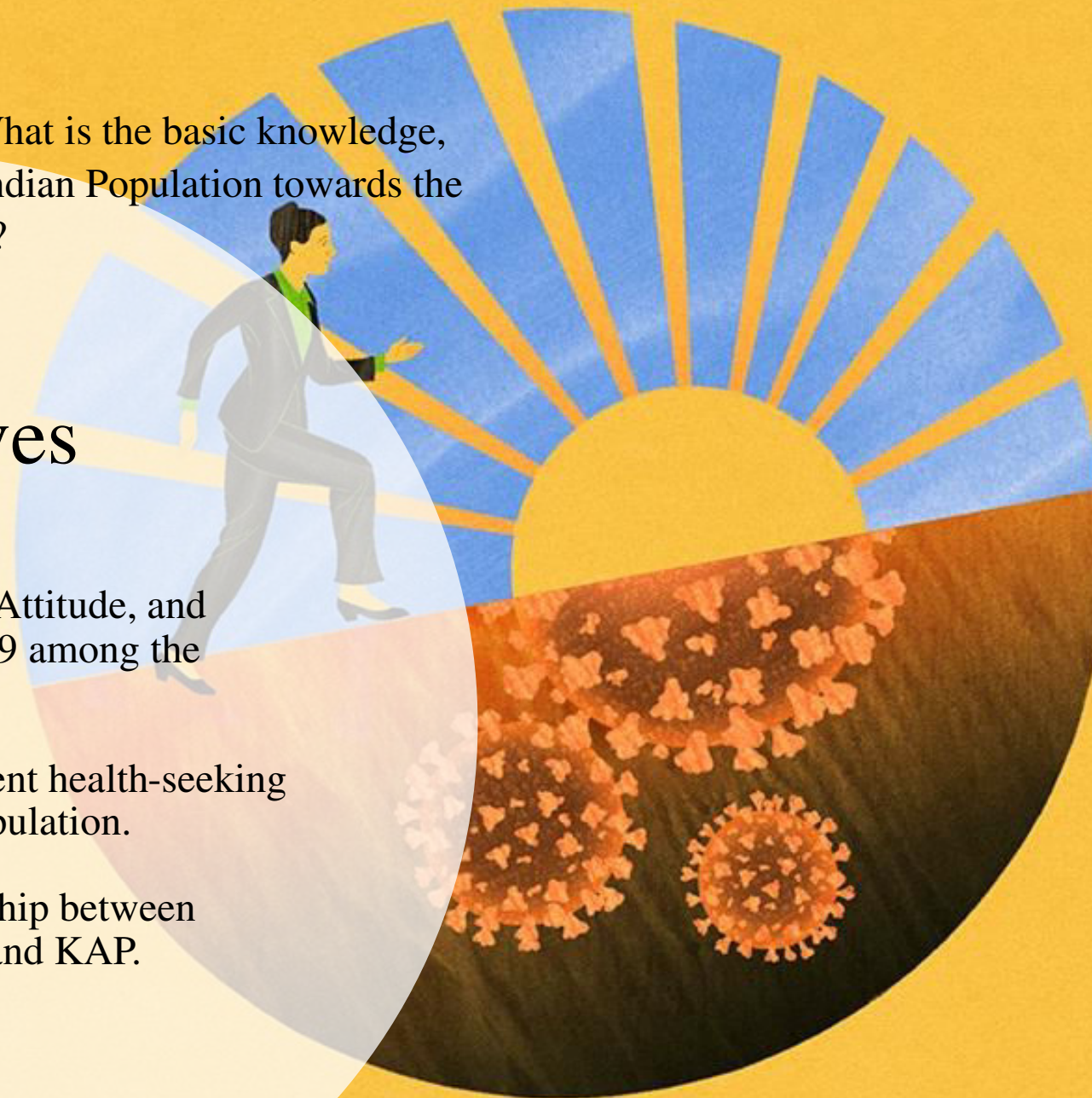
Literature Review

- A study by Md Nazir Hasan et al conducted on August 2020, The purpose of this study was to learn more about the Indian population's knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of COVID-19 illness during the early stages of the worldwide pandemic. This research shows that active public awareness campaigns have aided in the dissemination of information and the development of a favourable attitude concerning COVID-19. This study shows that aggressive public awareness campaigns from credible sources such as local government bodies, the Health Ministry, and the World Health Organization (WHO) have played an important role in spreading awareness and developing a positive attitude toward COVID-19 among the general public.
- Research by Benjamin R. Bates conducted on April 2021, was carried out during the global COVID-19 epidemic and a spike in positive cases in Venezuela. Despite the fact that Venezuela's health system is in grave danger because to COVID-19, the government has restricted independent scientific and journalistic research.

RESEARCH QUESTION: What is the basic knowledge, Attitude and Practices of the Indian Population towards the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic?

Objectives

- To assess the Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices toward COVID-19 among the Indian population.
- To study the past and present health-seeking behaviour of the Indian population.
- To understand the relationship between sociodemographic factors and KAP.



Materials and Methodology:

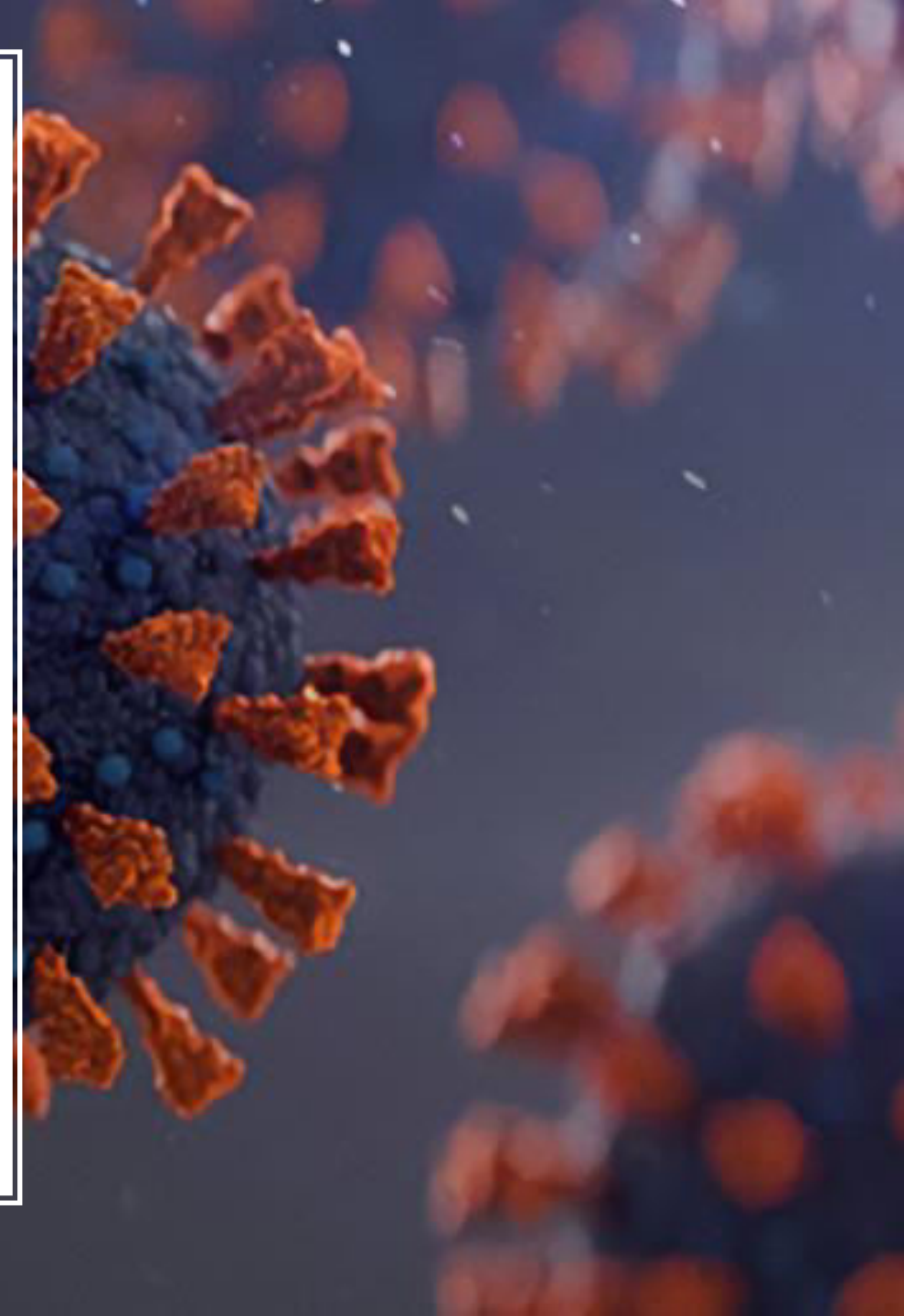
- Study design: This is a questionnaire-based descriptive cross-sectional study conducted online.
- Study Period: March 2022 - June 2022
- Study tools: Structured questionnaire
- Tools: MS Excel
- Data representation: Charts and graphs using MS Excel.
- Sample size: 80
- Ethical considerations:
 - Data confidentiality has been maintained throughout the study.
 - The information collected would be for dissertation purposes only.
 - There was voluntary participation.

Sociodemographic variables

- The questionnaire was administered to 80 people, and 80 of them responded by participating voluntarily. Of all the participants, the majority belonged to the age group of 20–60 years and consisted of 45% females and 55% males.
- Maximum respondents were from an urban residence (77.5%) and had an educational qualification of above high school (96.3%). This was reflected in the occupation distribution as the majority were in business, agriculture, engineers, veterinarian, students and homemakers.
- Almost 48.8% population lives in apartment setting and 42% lives in bungalows and 96% have a clean water supply as a key resource

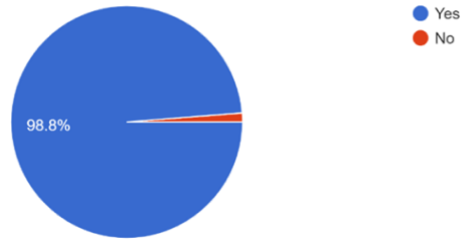
Knowledge

- The knowledge of the participants about the transmission of COVID 19 which can be transmitted through contact with the infected person. The awareness of the people about the signs and symptoms of the disease.
- About 100% of the people had the right idea about this aspect of the disease. Almost 26% of people fear that COVID 19 will always develop into a severe disease and likely result in death.
- Only 73% of the people think that COVID 19 is curable when appropriate measures like isolation and correct treatment for the disease.
- 95% of people are aware that people above 65 age who have a chronic disease and are obese are more likely to develop severe infection with the virus than a young healthy adult.
- All the participants had the correct idea that COVID 19 spreads through respiratory droplets or infected individuals. This is an important finding which shows the increase in people's awareness through government awareness programs.
- 100% of the participants had the idea that the right way to control COVID 19 is through maintaining social distancing and getting vaccinated.
- 26 % of people still think that it's not important to clean clothes and objects brought from outside as the virus cannot survive outside of the human body at all.
- 100% of the participants had the correct knowledge that the most important part of containing the virus is to immediately isolate the person who is infected with COVID 19 in a proper place.
- 93% of the people think that vaccine is by far the best solution to fight against COVID 19.



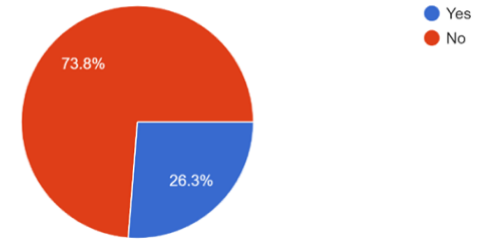
COVID 19 is an infectious disease which can be transmitted by contact with an infected person

80 responses



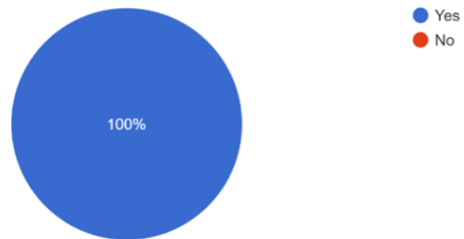
All people with COVID 19 will develop severe disease and are likely to die

80 responses



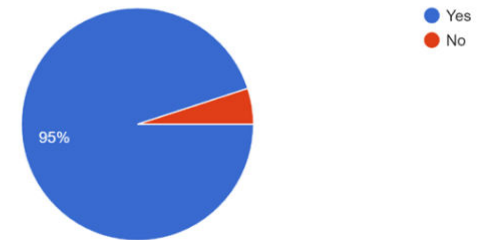
The main clinical symptom of COVID 19 are fever, tiredness, dry cough, and body aches

80 responses



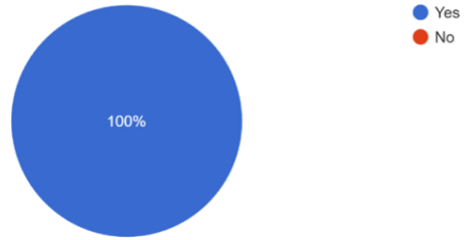
Those who are >65 years of age, have a chronic illness, and are obese are more likely to develop severe infection with the virus than a young healthy adult.

80 responses



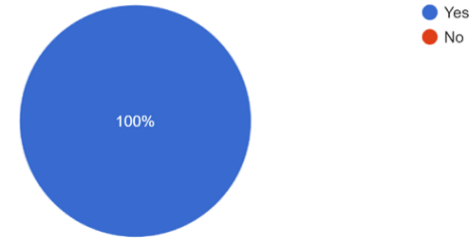
People who are infected with the COVID 19 virus should be immediately isolated in a proper place.

80 responses



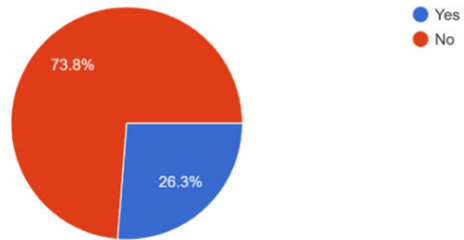
COVID 19 spreads via respiratory droplets or infected individuals.

80 responses



It's not important to clean clothes or surfaces of objects brought from outside as the virus cannot survive outside of the human body at all.

80 responses



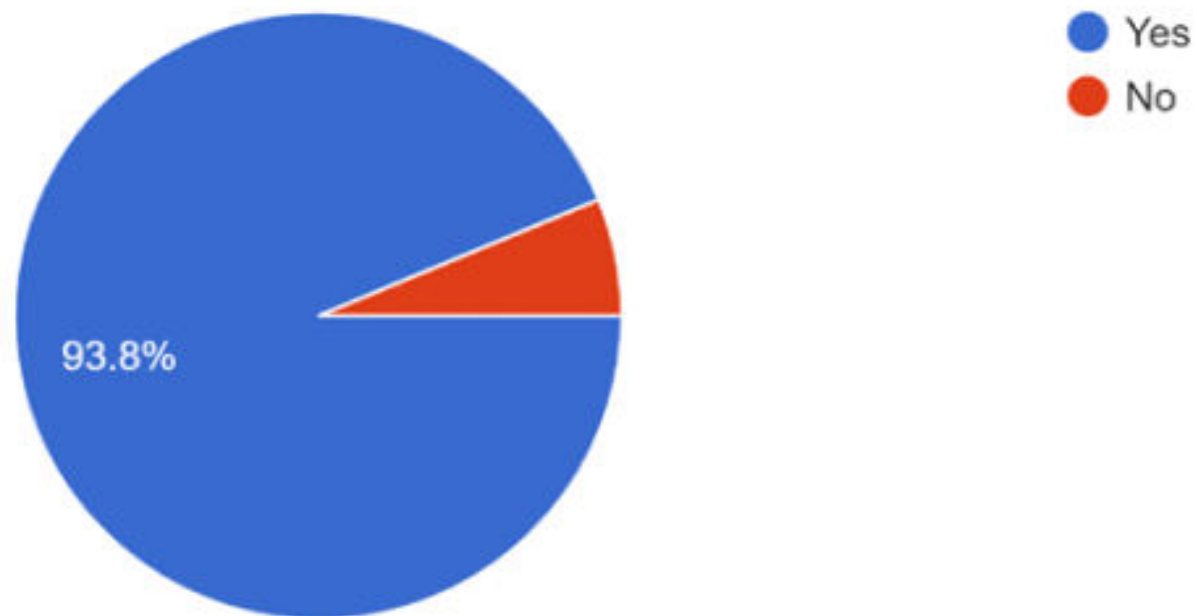
To prevent the infection by COVID 19 individuals should avoid going to crowded places and get vaccinated.

80 responses



The vaccine is by far the best solution to fight against COVID-19.

80 responses

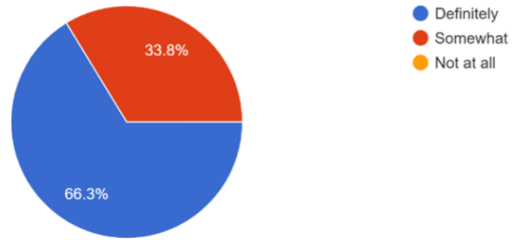


Attitude

- 16% of the people are somewhat likely to report their symptoms or history of travel to COVID affected area and almost 82% are likely to report the same which shows the responsible behaviour of the people during this pandemic.
- Only 69% of people believe that vaccination of the general population will help in the containment of this pandemic.
- 27% still believe that vaccination is ONLY not sufficient. Almost 24% of the participants think that suffering from COVID 19 can lead to being stigmatized or targeted in society. And 40 somewhat feel that this is done, which should be taken into consideration and investigated.
- 66% of the participants think that COVID 19 will be controlled. 33% still think it's somewhat possible to control COVID 19 successfully. The most important situation we are encountering daily, the mask mandate.
- 48% of participants feel that the practice of wearing the masks is declining in recent days and 47% somewhat feel the same. This can be an indicator that the carelessness of people regarding the mask mandate can be resulting in an increase in the number of COVID 19 patients.

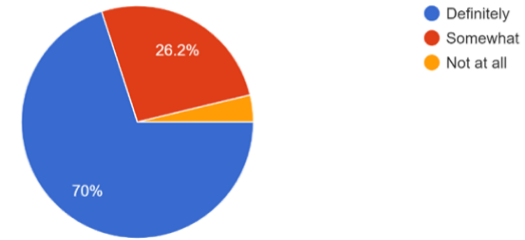
Do you believe that COVID 19 will be successfully controlled?

80 responses



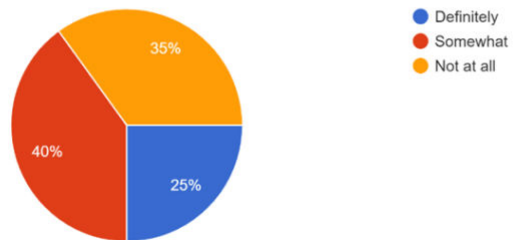
Do you think vaccination of the general population will help contain this pandemic?

80 responses



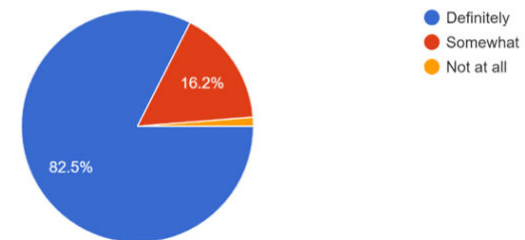
Do you think that being infected with COVID 19 virus can lead to being stigmatized or targeted in society?

80 responses



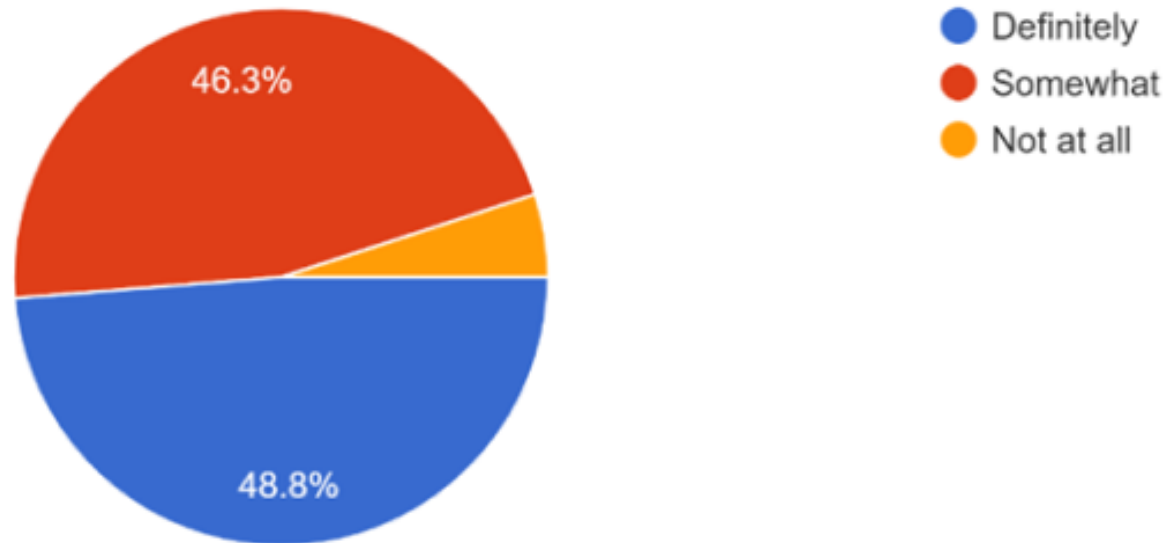
How likely are you to self-report your symptoms/ history of travel to COVID 19 affected areas to the concerned authorities?

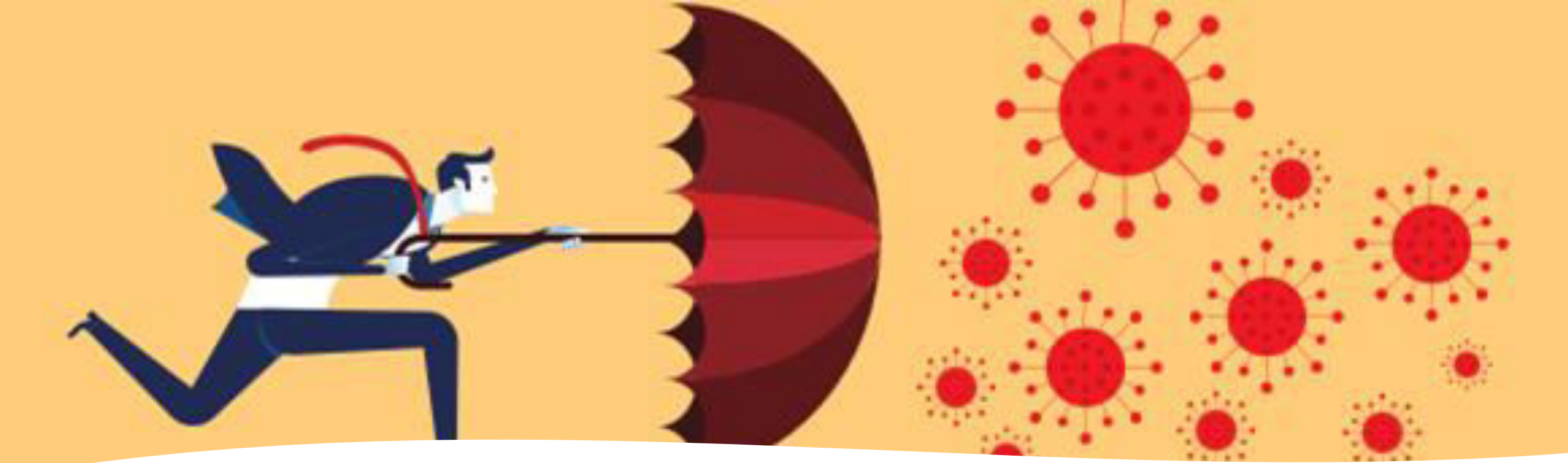
80 responses



Do you think practices like wearing masks and washing or sanitizing hands are declining?

80 responses



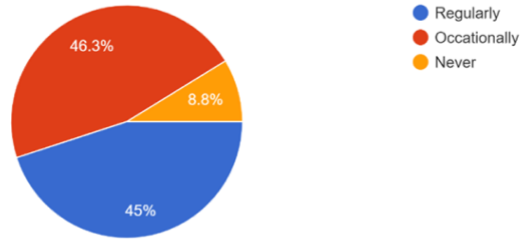


Practices

- The practice of wearing the mask in these pandemic times has fallen to 44% and 50 % of people occasionally use the mask while leaving home. This should be investigated as the pandemic is not yet over.
- 50% of people still follow the practice of hand sanitizing/ washing as per suggested guidelines. 41% occasionally keep this practice.
- Almost 70% of the participants are stepping out of the houses. 22% of people have stopped keeping tap on the news related to COVID 19.
- 48% occasionally keep the tab while 30% regularly keep the tab on the news related to COVID 19.

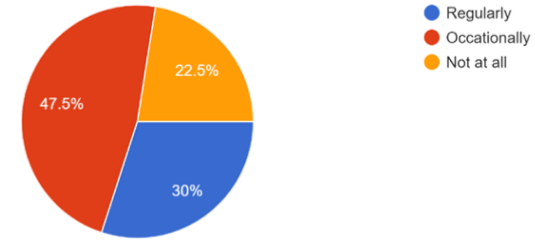
In recent days, have you worn a mask when leaving home?

80 responses



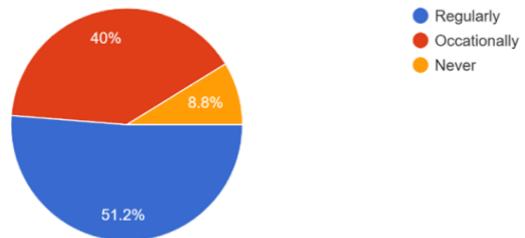
5. In recent days have you been keeping a tab on news related to covid 19?

80 responses



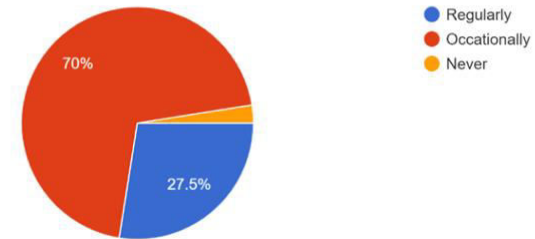
In recent days have you been washing/ sanitizing your hands as per the suggested guidelines?

80 responses



In recent days, are you or any of your family members gone out to your place of worship or shopping?

80 responses



A gloved hand, likely from a healthcare worker, is shown holding a large, green, spiky virus particle. The background is dark and misty, with several other similar virus particles floating around. The hand is wearing a white glove with a blue circular logo on the wrist.

Recommendations

- Sensitization at the appropriate moment may aid in the reduction of anxiety and its potentially negative consequences on decision-making and behavioural flexibility, particularly in high-risk groups.
- While social media is a diverse and useful tool for sharing information, it can quickly mislead the public and ruin all beneficial efforts if not properly managed.
- Other components, such as completely removing handshakes or wearing masks whenever one goes outside, need to be pushed a bit harder.
- Other transmission-facilitating factors, such as touching the face and nose, must also be promoted