



Sustainable Social Development Organization (SSDO)

## **COVID 19: Social Behaviours & Perception in Pakistan**

A Report based on public opinion survey



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**The Research Team**

## About SSDO

SSDO is a non-governmental organization founded and registered under Societies Registration Act 1860 in 2015. SSDO is working to contribute to the well-being of society for establishing an institutionalized system of social development through emphasizing a responsible citizenship. SSDO was formed with the vision of contributing towards the sustainable and inclusive development of underprivileged communities of marginalized areas of Pakistan. SSDO thematic areas include governance, human rights, peace, education and health. SSDO has practiced different development methodologies including advocacy, campaigning, capacity development of various development stakeholders, community mobilization and sensitization and public policy improvement.

## Survey Methodology

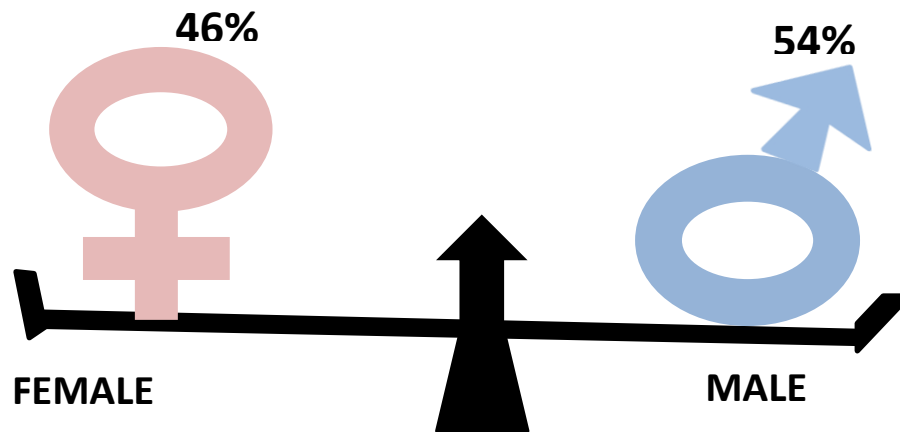
After carefully designing a structured questionnaire, the quantitative survey was conducted online using Google forms and the information was circulated through different mediums inclusive of email groups, Whatsapp messenger, and social media groups such as twitter and Facebook. In addition, the respondents were taken from the population of the four provinces of Pakistan along with Gilgit Baltistan and AJK. The objective of this survey was to collect the information from people upon COVID 19 and to understand their level of awareness and attitude towards this hazard. The data collection was carried out entirely through the online google forms. However, reminder was sent after every three days to the potential respondent using the same technique used earlier.

Considering the pandemic situation of COVID-19, the survey was conducted online, and it was universally available to both men and women. In total 312 respondents participated in the survey covering 58 districts of Pakistan. Age of the respondents ranged from 18 to 62 years each from the province Punjab, Sindh, KP, ICT, GB and AJK.

## Survey Respondents Profile

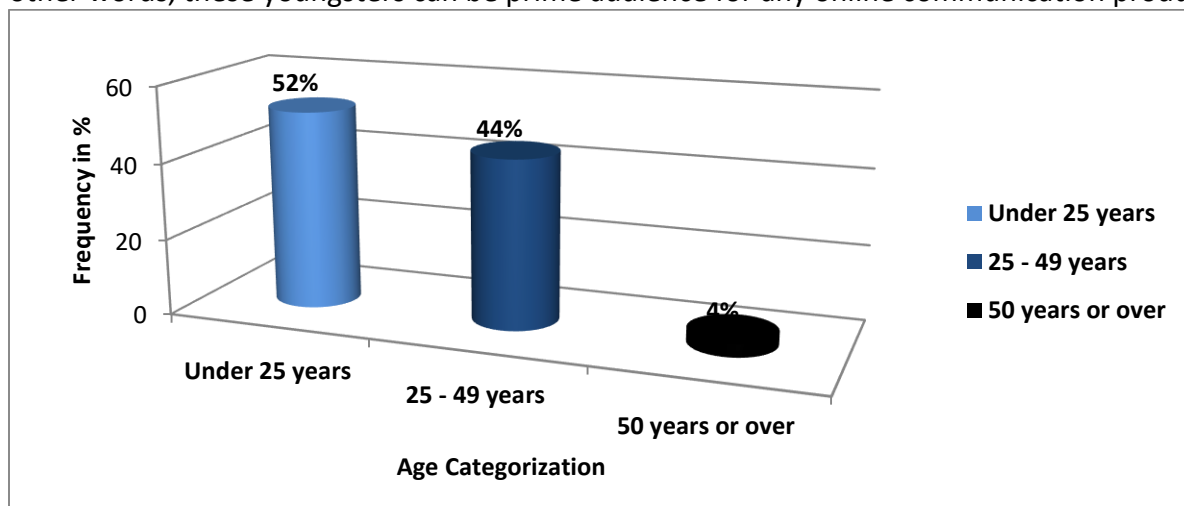
### 1. Gender Distribution of the Respondents

The figure shown below presents percentage distribution of the respondents who took part in the online survey. The analysis shows that 46% women and 54% men recoded their responses in full.



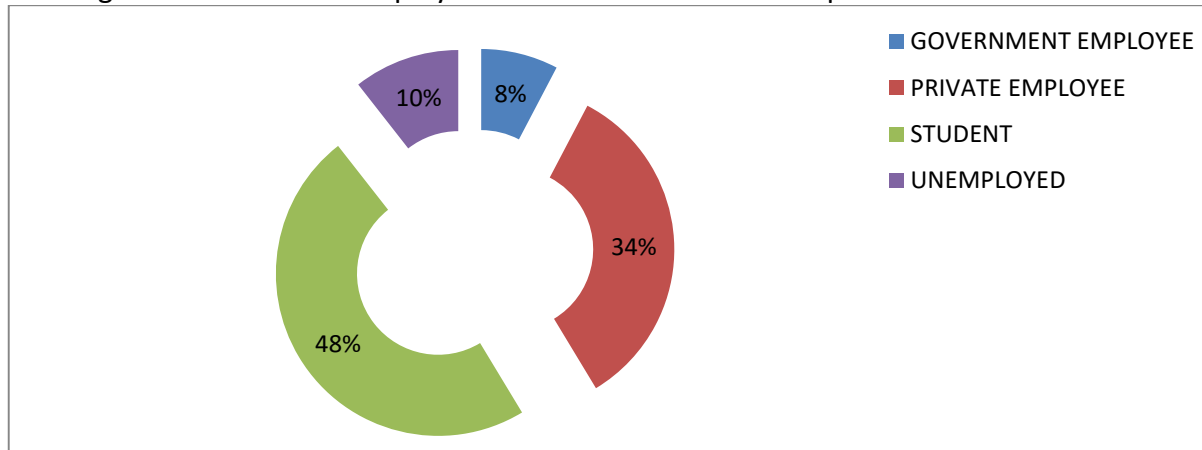
### 2. Age Categorization of the Respondents

The age categorization data show that the youth aged under 25 years took part in this survey in large numbers constituting around half of the population (52%). However, the next category of age 25-49 were 44 %. It seems the online surveys attract the younger generation more since they are more comfortable with information communication related electronic devices. In other words, these youngsters can be prime audience for any online communication products.



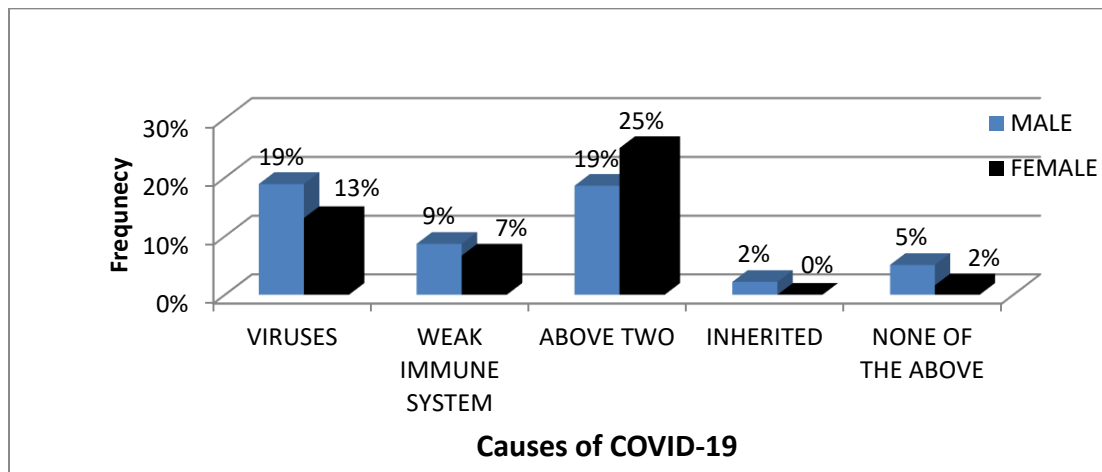
### 3. Occupation of the Respondents

Looking at the data from a respondents' occupation, a majority (48%) of the respondents were students and 34% were private sector employees while the unemployed and government sector employees constitute 18% of the respondents.



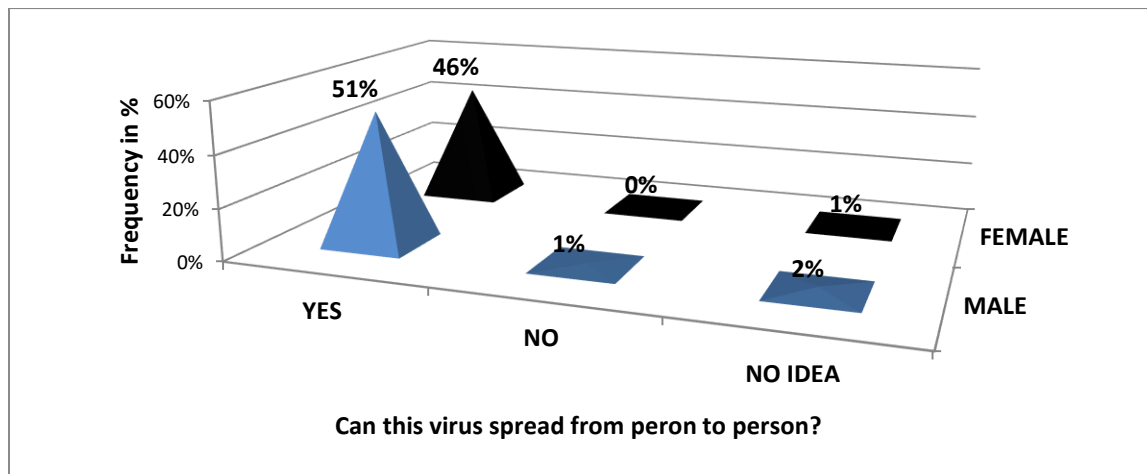
### 4. Gender-wise Perception on Causes of COVID-19

**Responding to the question about causes of COVID-19**, 19% men and 25% women responded that viruses are the cause and weak immune system can be associated with increased risk of severe COVID-19. Our finding shows that although people know about COVID-19 as a viral disease, they need to be educated about contributing factors which complicates a disease.



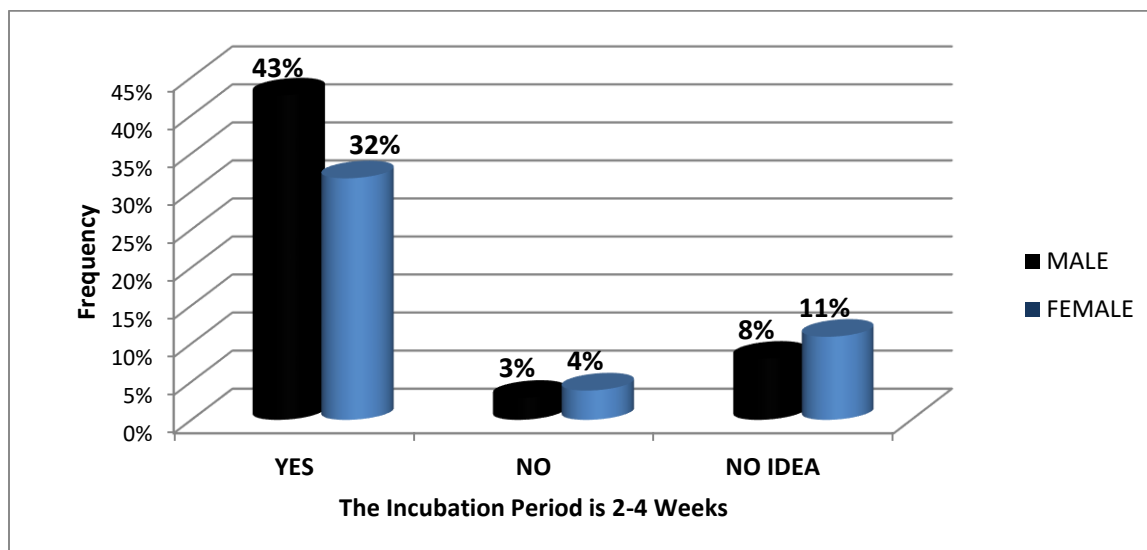
### 5. Gender-wise Perception on Can COVID-19 Spread From Person to Person?

When they were asked about the reason to spread COVID-19, 51% men and 46% women said human to human transmission is possible. Therefore, 97% people knew about the mode of transmission.



### 6. Gender-wise Perception on the Incubation Period

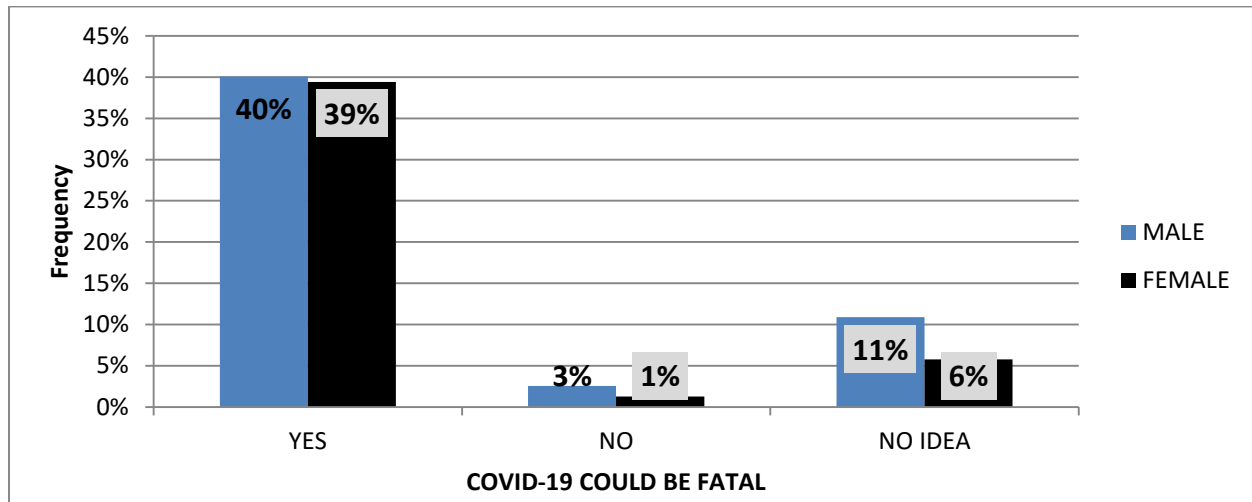
The data show that respondents do not have correct perception about the incubation period of COVID-19 and 43% men and 32% women said that its 2-4 weeks.





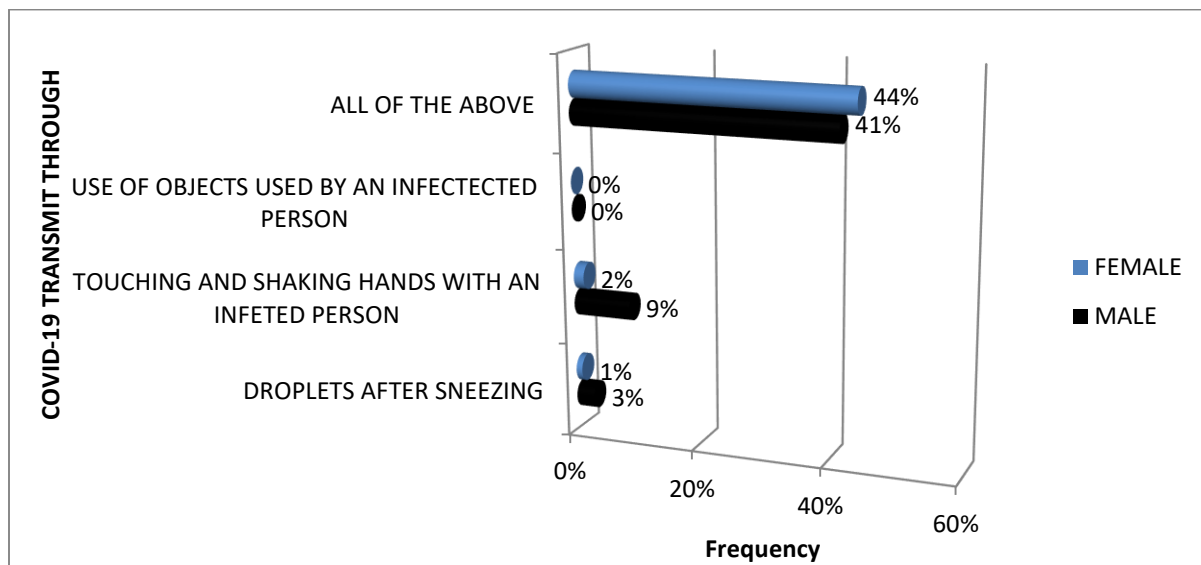
### 7. Gender-wise Perception about COVID-19 Fatality

40% men and 39% women respondents considered that COVID-19 could be fatal. It means that they are somewhat aware of the virulence of the virus.



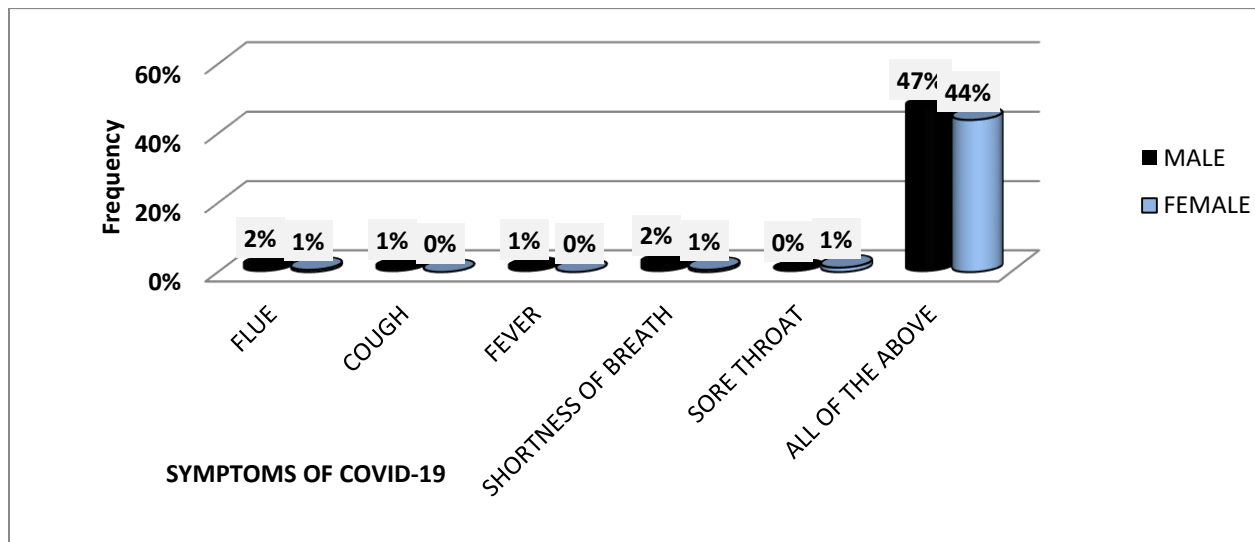
### 8. Gender-wise Perception on Transmission of COVID-19

The below given figure shows that women are more informed than men on transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and 44% women and 41% men said that the transmission of the virus is through the use of objects used by and infected person, through touching and shaking hands with and infected person, and through droplets after sneeze and cough.



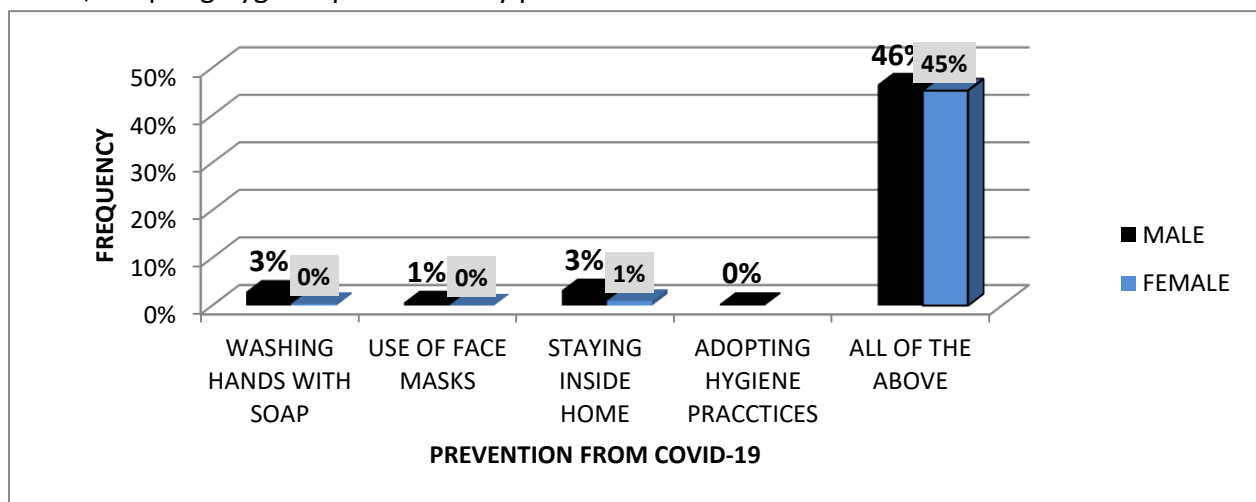
### 9. Gender-wise Perception on Symptoms of COVID-19

Responding to the question about symptoms of COVID19, 47% men and 44% women replied that it may include sore throat, shortness of breath, fever, cough, and flu. However, there is need to tell people that the differentiating features of COVID-19 from other types of flu-like illnesses are persistent dry cough and with fever, and it may aggravate to shortness of breath meaning onset of lungs related complication.



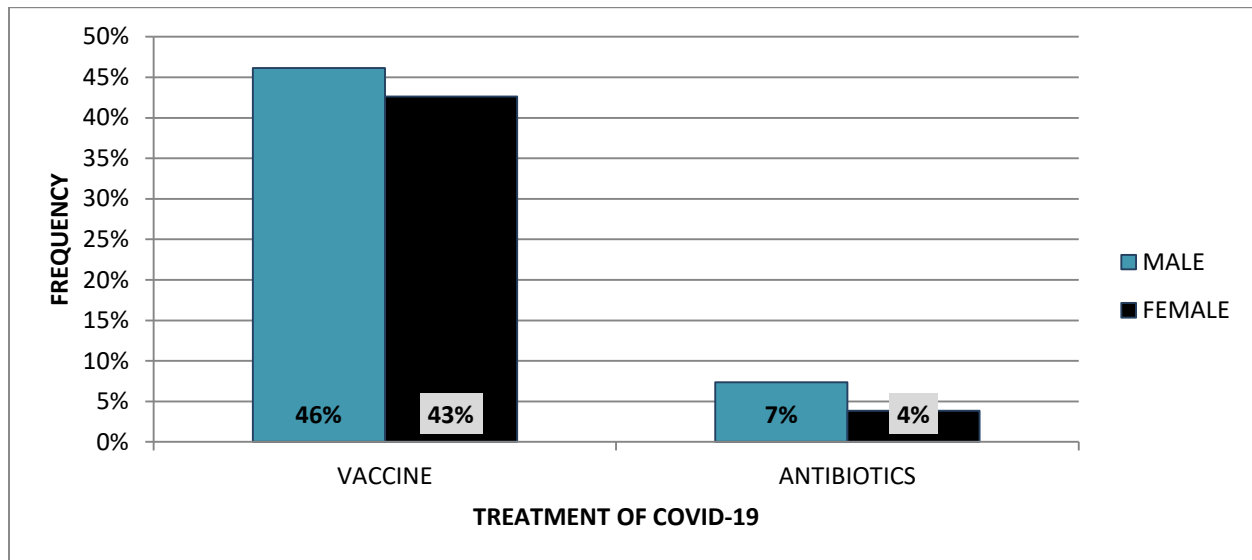
### 10. Gender-wise Awareness on Prevention from COVID-19

Men and women both are almost equally aware of the prevention from COVID-19 as 46% men and 45% women mentioned that washing hands with soap, use of face masks, staying home, adopting hygiene practices may prevent from the infection.



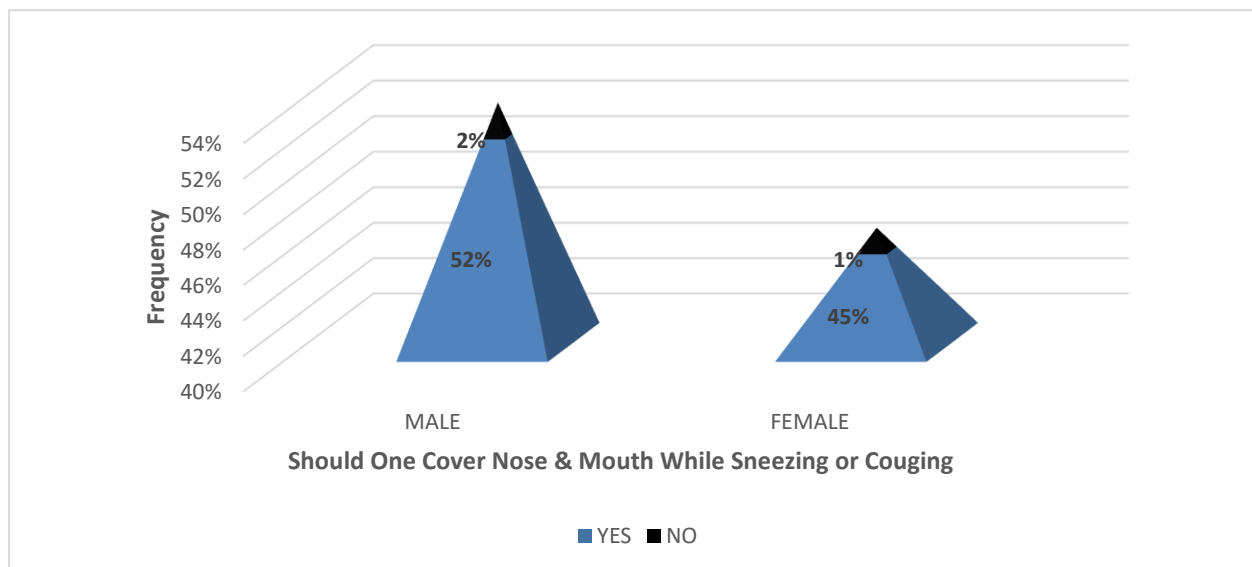
### 11. Gender-wise Information upon the Prevention from COVID-19

46% men and 43% women mentioned that COVID-19 prevention could be possible through vaccine. However, they may also know that the neither such vaccine nor any anti-viral drug is available. So, the only non-pharma solutions of prevention are available.



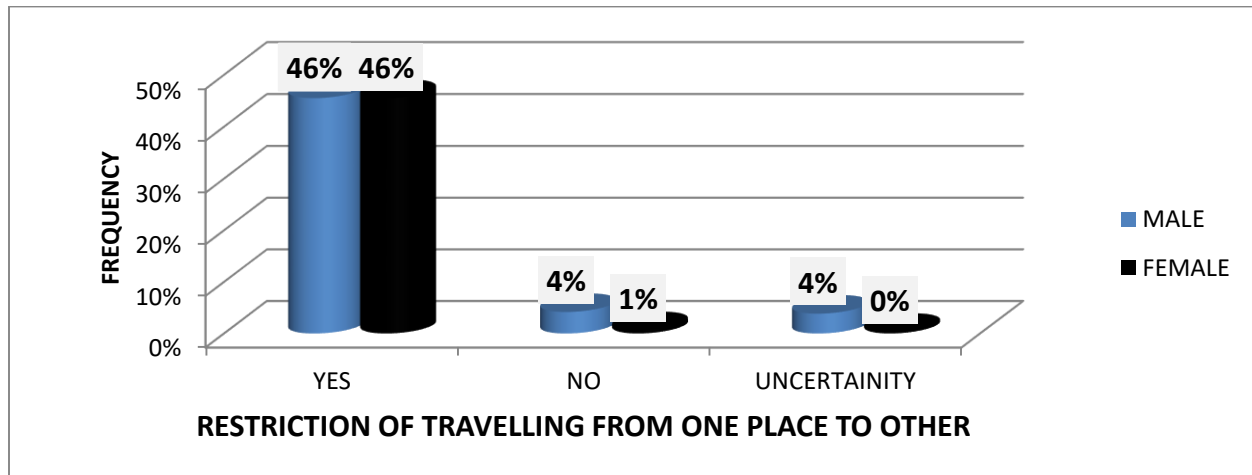
### 12. Gender-wise Perception on Covering Mouth and Nose while Sneezing

The below given chart showed that 52% men and 45% women were aware that covering nose and mouth while sneezing or coughing is helpful to prevent virus transmission from one person to the other.



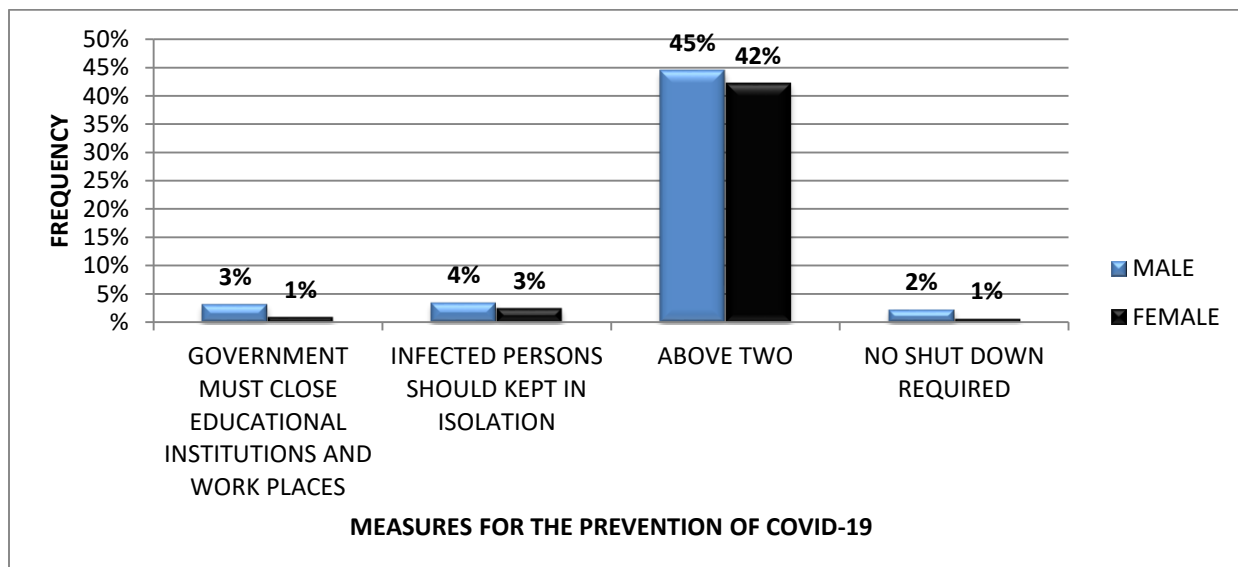
### 13. Gender-wise Awareness on Travelling Restrictions during COVID-19

Survey data show an equal level number of men (45%) and women (45%) that restrictions on travel are needed to slow down the infectivity of SARS-CoV-2.



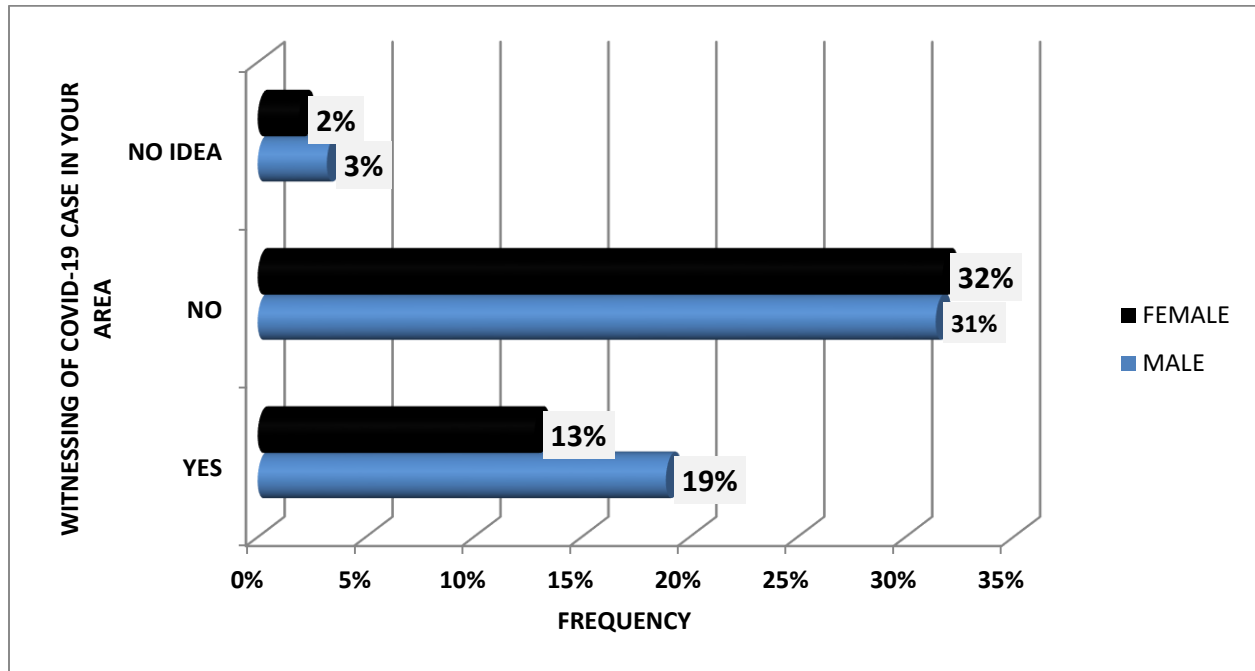
### 14. Gender Wise information on Measures for Prevention of COVID-19

Survey results show that 45% men and 42% women mentioned that government should close educational institutions and work places for the prevention of COVID-19, and also make isolation centers to keep the infected people away from community.



### 15. Gender-wise Witnessing of COVID-19 Case in your Area

Majority of the respondents (63%) opined that they did not see any case of COVID-19 in their area.





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