# GEOSTAT
www.geostat.ge

## National Statistics Office of Georgia

# REAL-TIME MONITORING SURVEY ON IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 ON THE WELL-BEING OF FAMILIES AND CHILDREN
## (MAIN RESULTS OF THE THIRD WAVE)

## MICS PLUS

## unicef

**REAL-TIME MONITORING SURVEY ON IMPACT OF THE COVID-19**

**ON THE WELL-BEING OF FAMILIES AND CHILDREN [1]**

(THIRD WAVE)

## I. SURVEY DESCRIPTION

National Statistics Office of Georgia continues Real-time Monitoring Survey on the impact of the COVID-19 on the well-being of families and children with the financial and technical assistance of the United Nations Childrens' Fund (UNICEF). The Survey is based on the sample of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS6). It is planned to conduct several waves of the survey, which will enable to collect of various information regarding the ongoing situation of the children and families during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a part of the survey, the data is collected both in urban and rural households. The sample size includes 1 996 households throughout the country, of which 966 units are in urban and 1 030 units in rural areas. Collection of the data is carried out by the Computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) method.

As a part of the preparatory work, which has started from the second half of 2020, the questionnaires of wave 1, wave 2 and wave 3 developed by UNICEF were adapted and tested, interviewers were trained and a pilot surveys were conducted. The third wave of data collection was conducted during the period May-June 2021.

Response rate amounted 83.7 percent, of which 84.0 percent in urban and 83.5 percent in rural areas.

## II. MAIN FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY

According to the findings of the survey, 79.8 percent of respondents was more or less able to avoid being in public places (always, often or sometimes), while 20.2 percent was able rarely to avoid public places or never able to avoid. The reasons of not being able to avoid public places, mentioned by the respondents, are going to work (80.3%), going shopping (50.5%), visiting or meeting someone (25.4%), visiting a pharmacy (14.5%), visiting private entities for services (12.9%), visiting government entities for services (7.3%), visiting a health facility (6.8%), getting tested for coronavirus (0.6%).

---

[1]„Real Time Monitoring/Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) Plus".

The chart below indicates the percentage of respondents who were rarely or never able to avoid public places during 7 days before the interview, by reasons.

CHART №1

**PERCENTAGE BY REASONS FOR BEING RARELY OR NEVER ABLE TO AVOID PUBLIC PLACES**
**(%)**

| Reason | % |
|---|---|
| WORK | 80.3 |
| SHOPPING | 50.5 |
| VISIT OR MEET SOMEONE | 25.4 |
| VISIT A PHARMACY | 14.5 |
| VISIT PRIVATE ENTITIES FOR SERVICES | 12.9 |
| VISIT GOVT. ENTITIES FOR SERVICES | 7.3 |
| VISIT A HEALTH FACILITY | 6.8 |
| TO GET TESTED FOR CORONAVIRUS | 0.6 |
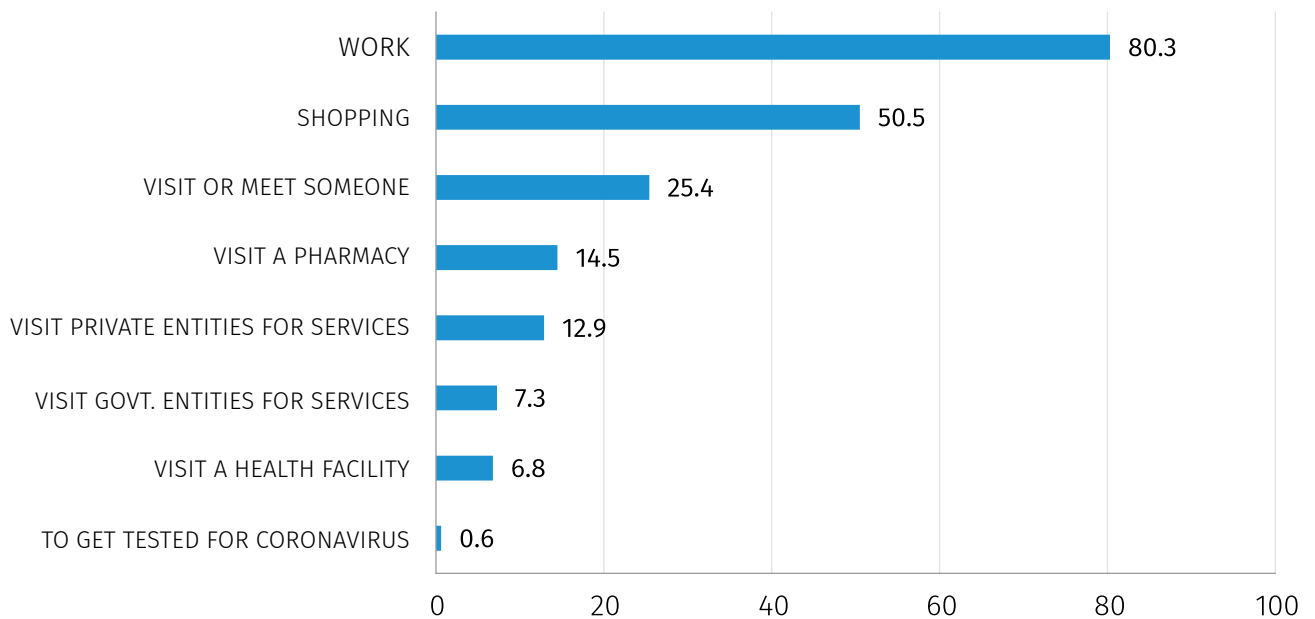
According to the survey, 80.1 percent of respondents always wore a mask to protect themselves from COVID-19 while being in public places during 7 days before the interview, 15.4 percent – often wore, 2.5 percent – sometimes wore, 1.5 percent – rarely wore, and 0.5 percent of respondents never wore a mask during the given period.

The chart below indicates percent distribution of respondents, by frequency of wearing a mask when in public places during 7 days before the interview.

**PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY FREQUENCY OF WEARING
A MASK WHEN IN PUBLIC PLACES**
**(%)**

RARELY
**1.5%**

NEVER
**0.5%**

SOMETIMES
**2.5%**

OFTEN
**15.4%**

ALWAYS
**80.1%**
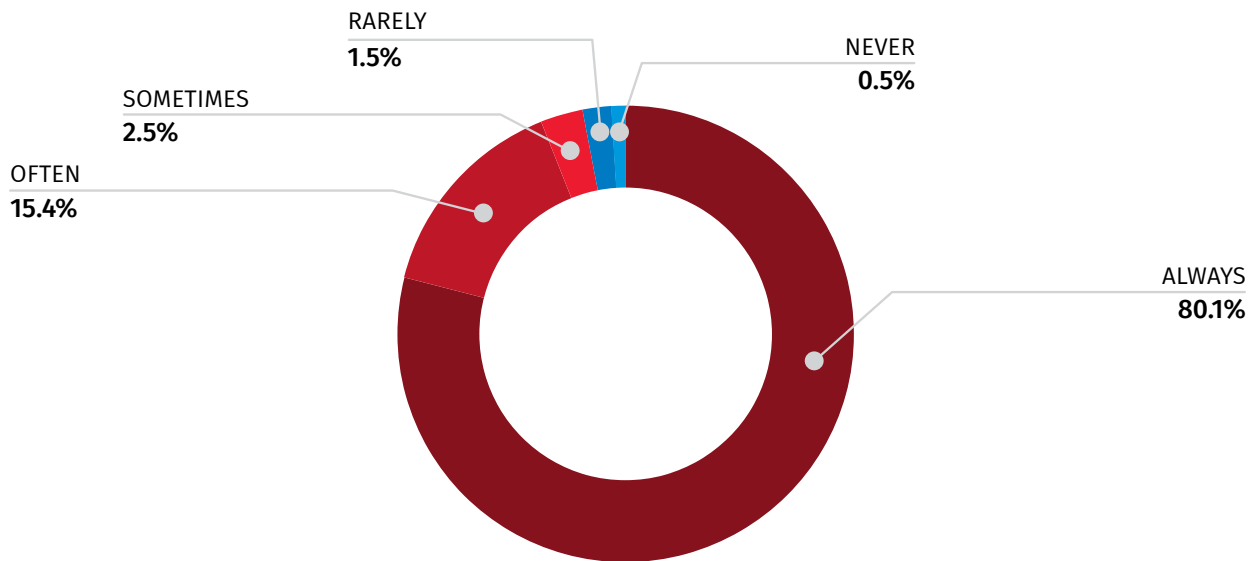
According to the survey findings, based on information declared by households, in 13.9 percent of households, at least one member lost job temporarily or for a long period from December 2020 to the day of interview. It is noteworthy that the value of this indicator varies according to the type of settlement: 16.3 percent for urban areas and 10.5 percent for rural areas.

The chart below shows the percentage of households by urban and rural areas, in which at least one member has lost job from December 2020 to the day of interview, temporarily or for a long period.

**PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH AT LEAST ONE MEMBER WHO LOST JOB
FROM DECEMBER 2020 TO THE DAY OF INTERVIEW
(%)**
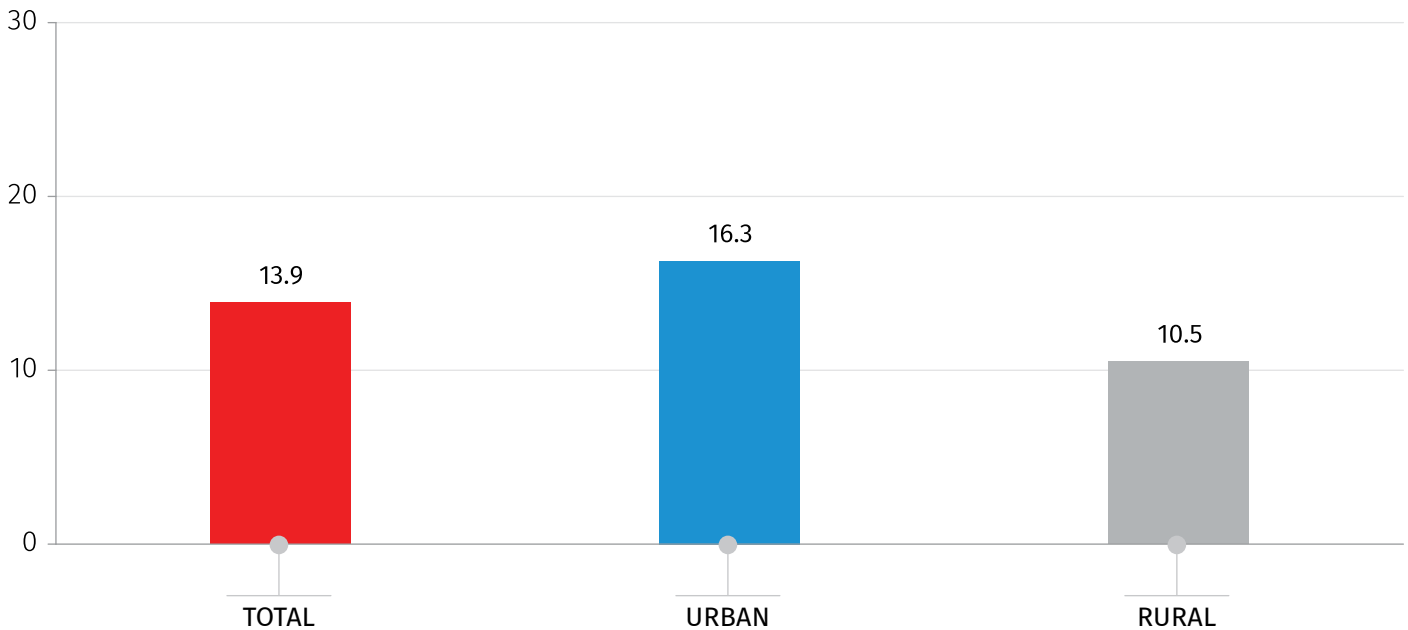


According to the survey results, an average monthly incomes have been declined to 37.4 percent of households from December 2020 to the day of interview. The above-mentioned indicator makes up 38.2 percent in urban and 36.3 percent in rural areas.
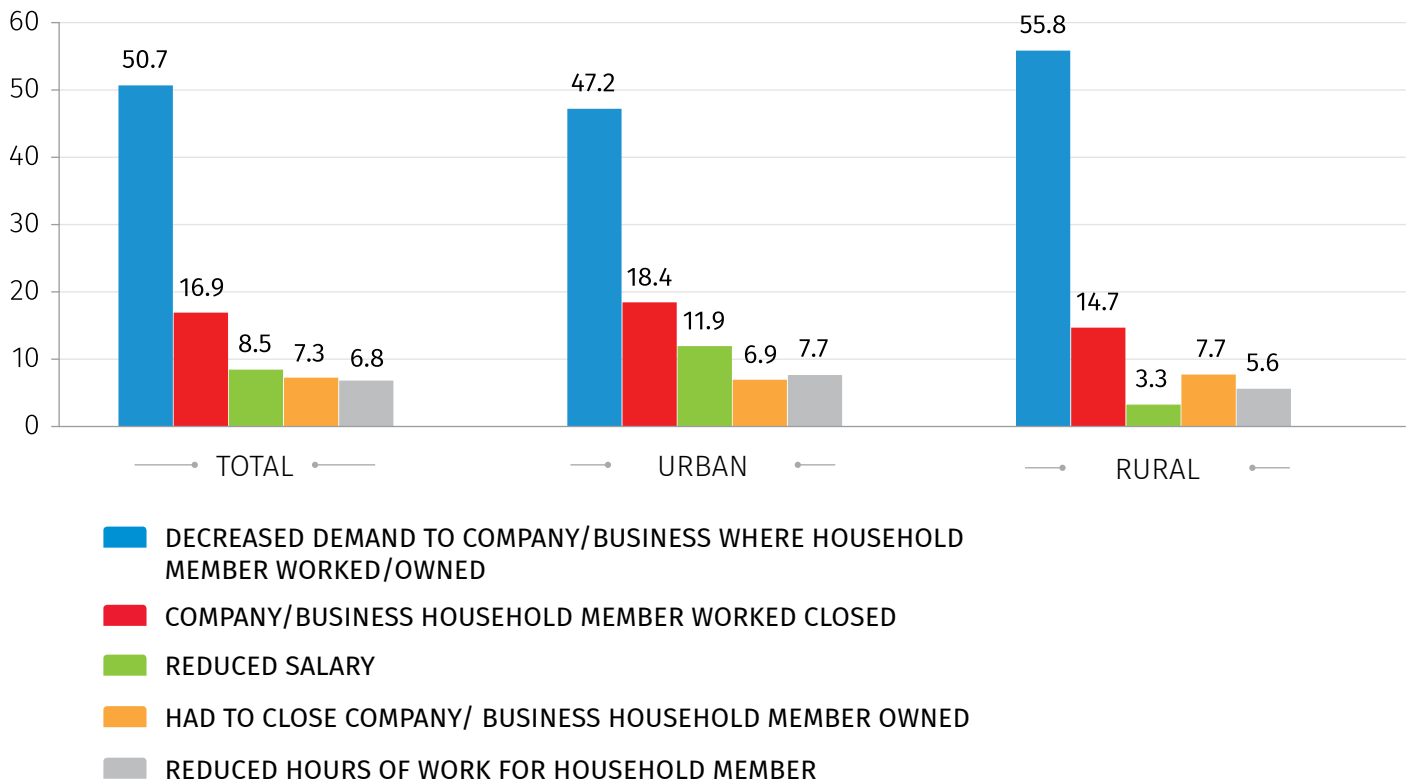
The main reasons for income decline were the COVID-19 and reasons related to COVID-19 such as decreased demand to company/ business where household member worked/ owned (50.7%), company/ business household member worked closed (16.9%), reduced salary of household member (8.5%), had to close company/ business household member owned (7.3%),  and reduced work hours of household member (6.8%).

The chart below shows the percentage of households, in which average monthly income has declined due to COVID-19 realated reasons.

## PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH DECLINED AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME BY REASONS RELATED TO COVID-19
### (%)



Legend:
- **DECREASED DEMAND TO COMPANY/BUSINESS WHERE HOUSEHOLD MEMBER WORKED/OWNED** (blue)
- **COMPANY/BUSINESS HOUSEHOLD MEMBER WORKED CLOSED** (red)
- **REDUCED SALARY** (green)
- **HAD TO CLOSE COMPANY/ BUSINESS HOUSEHOLD MEMBER OWNED** (orange)
- **REDUCED HOURS OF WORK FOR HOUSEHOLD MEMBER** (grey)

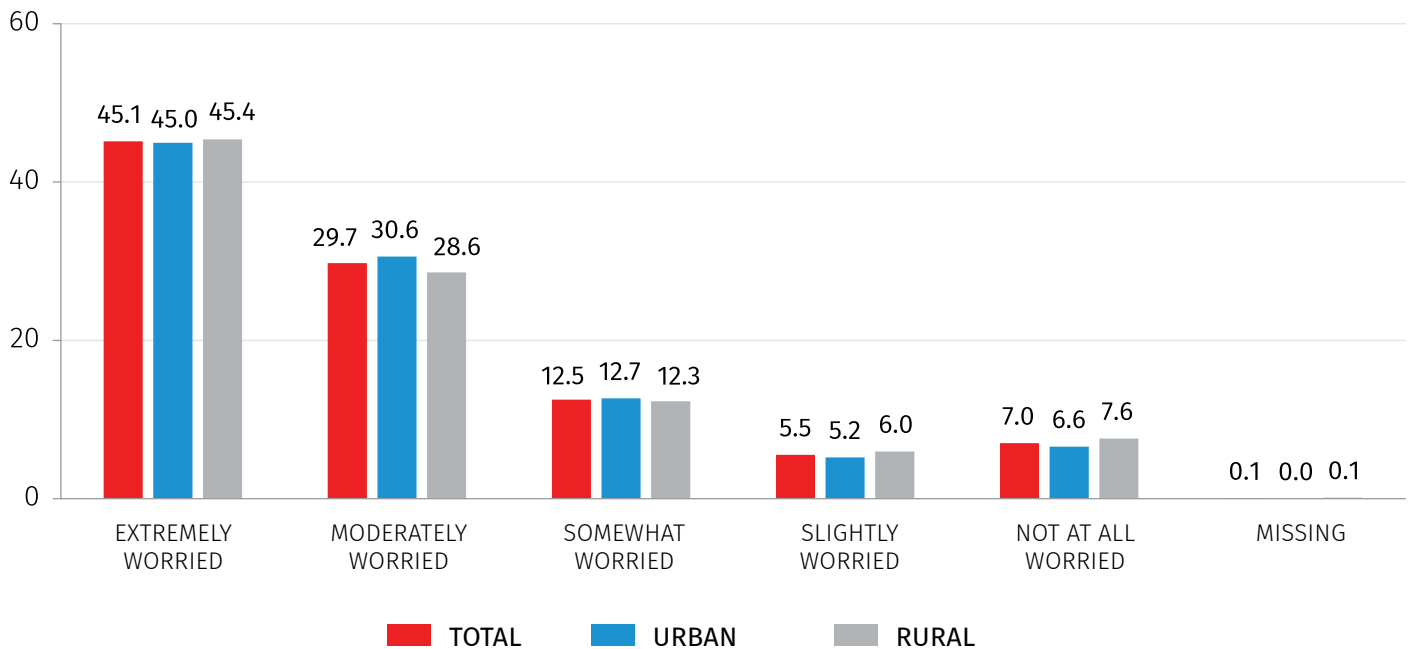| | TOTAL | URBAN | RURAL |
|---|---|---|---|
| Decreased demand | 50.7 | 47.2 | 55.8 |
| Company closed | 16.9 | 18.4 | 14.7 |
| Reduced salary | 8.5 | 11.9 | 3.3 |
| Had to close company | 7.3 | 6.9 | 7.7 |
| Reduced hours | 6.8 | 7.7 | 5.6 |

According to the survey results, 45.1 percent of respondents answered that they are extremely worried to the question how worried respondents are about someone in their immediate family might become seriously ill from COVID-19, 29.7 percent answered - moderately worried, 12.5 percent – somewhat worried, 5.5 percent – slightly worried, and 7.0 percent of respondents is not worried at all.

The chart below shows the percent distribution of respondents, by how worried they are that someone in their immediate family might become seriously ill from COVID-19.

www.geostat.ge          info@geostat.ge

CHART №5

**PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS HOW WORRIED THEY ARE ABOUT SOMEONE IN THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILY MIGHT BECOME SERIOUSLY ILL FROM COVID-19**
(%)



| | EXTREMELY WORRIED | MODERATELY WORRIED | SOMEWHAT WORRIED | SLIGHTLY WORRIED | NOT AT ALL WORRIED | MISSING |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL | 45.1 | 29.7 | 12.5 | 5.5 | 7.0 | 0.1 |
| URBAN | 45.0 | 30.6 | 12.7 | 5.2 | 6.6 | 0.0 |
| RURAL | 45.4 | 28.6 | 12.3 | 6.0 | 7.6 | 0.1 |

According to the results of the survey, the majority of respondents say that they need information related to COVID-19, the most common of which are: information about vaccines against COVID-19 (43.0%), information about spread/ infection of COVID-19 (13.8%), information about disease of COVID-19 (13.4%), information about restrictions (10.7%), information about preventive measures (3.9%), information about lockdown (1.9%), information about government benefits (1.5%), information about testing (1.1%), information about hygiene practices (0.2%), 42.3 percent of respondents do not need any kind of information.

The chart below shows the percentage of respondents, by the type of information needed about COVID-19.

**PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS BY TYPE
OF INFORMATION NEEDED ABOUT COVID-19
(%)**



| | |
|---|---|
| COVID-19 VACCINES | 43.0 |
| SPREAD/INFECTION | 13.8 |
| DISEASE OF COVID-19 | 13.4 |
| INFORMATION ABOUT RESTRICTIONS | 10.7 |
| PREVENTIVE MEASURES | 3.9 |
| INFORMATION ABOUT LOCKDAWN | 1.9 |
| GOVERMENT BENEFITS | 1.5 |
| NO INFORMATION IS NEEDED | 42.3 |
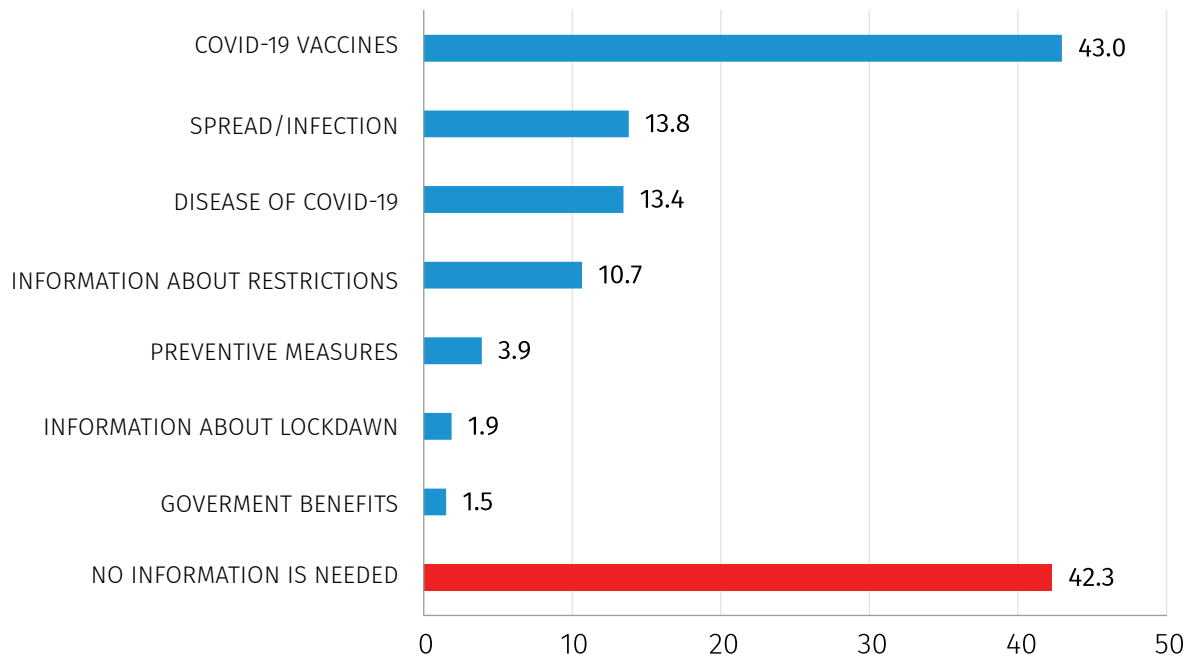
According to the survey results, during the 2 weeks before the interview, in 27.3 percent of households, at least one member needed health service. The value of the indicator is 28.1 percent for urban areas and 26.3 percent for rural areas. Out of the households, where at least one member needed health service during the 2 weeks before the interview, 94.9 percent received it. The value of the indicator is 96.9 percent for urban areas and 91.8 percent for rural areas.

The chart below shows the percent distribution of households, depending on whether at least one member needed any health service during the 2 weeks before the interview, by type of settlement.

**PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY WHETHER AT LEAST ONE MEMBER NEEDED
ANY HEALTH SERVICE DURING THE 2 WEEKS BEFORE THE INTERVIEW
(%)**
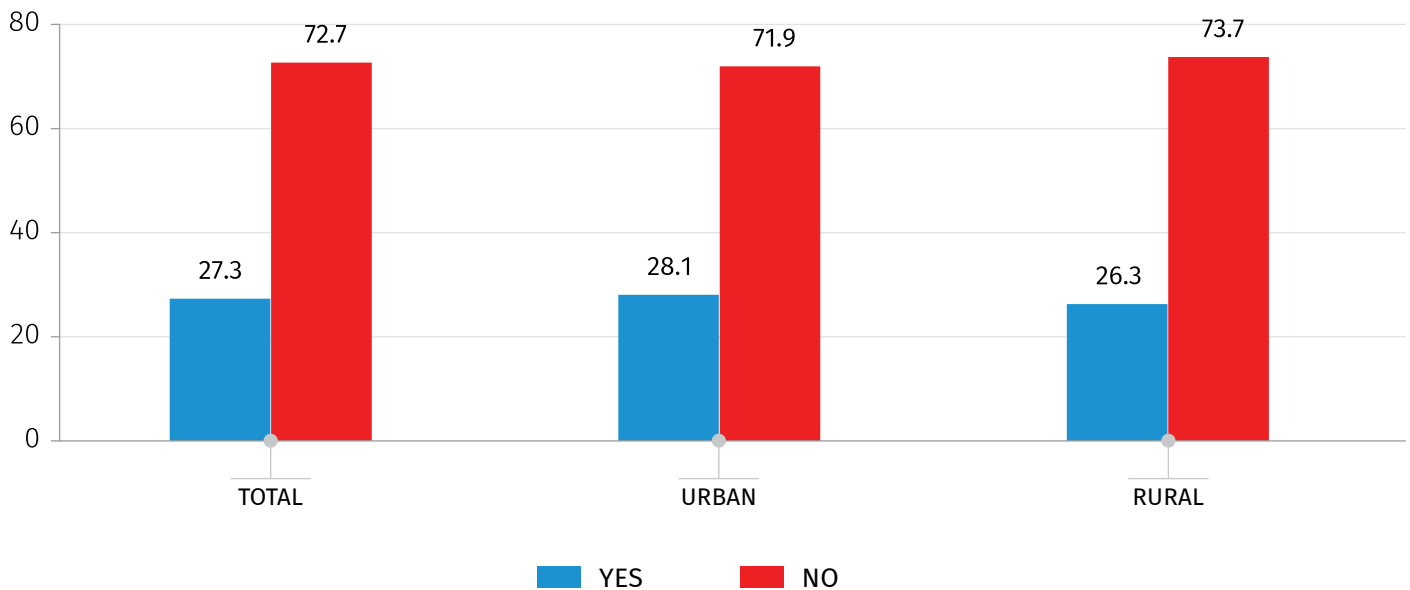


The survey also assessed the impact of COVID-19 on children's development and lifestyle. According to the survey, 31.9 percent of children aged 5-17 always sleep at about the same time on weeknights, 39.9 percent usually sleep at the same time, 15.4 percent – sometimes, 9.7 percent – rarely, and 2.2 percent never sleep at the same time at night.

Compared to the period before the lockdown in April 2020, the sleeping time pattern of children aged 5-17 years remained unchanged for 69.9 percent, for 19.8 percent – changed for the worse, and for 7.7 percent – changed for the better.

The chart below shows the percent distribution of children age 5-17 by how often they go to bed at about the same time on weeknights.

**PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CHILDREN AGE 5-17 YEARS BY HOW
OFTEN THEY GO TO BED AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME ON WEEKNIGHTS
(%)**

NEVER
2.2%

NO RESPONSE
0.9%

RARELY
9.7%

ALWAYS
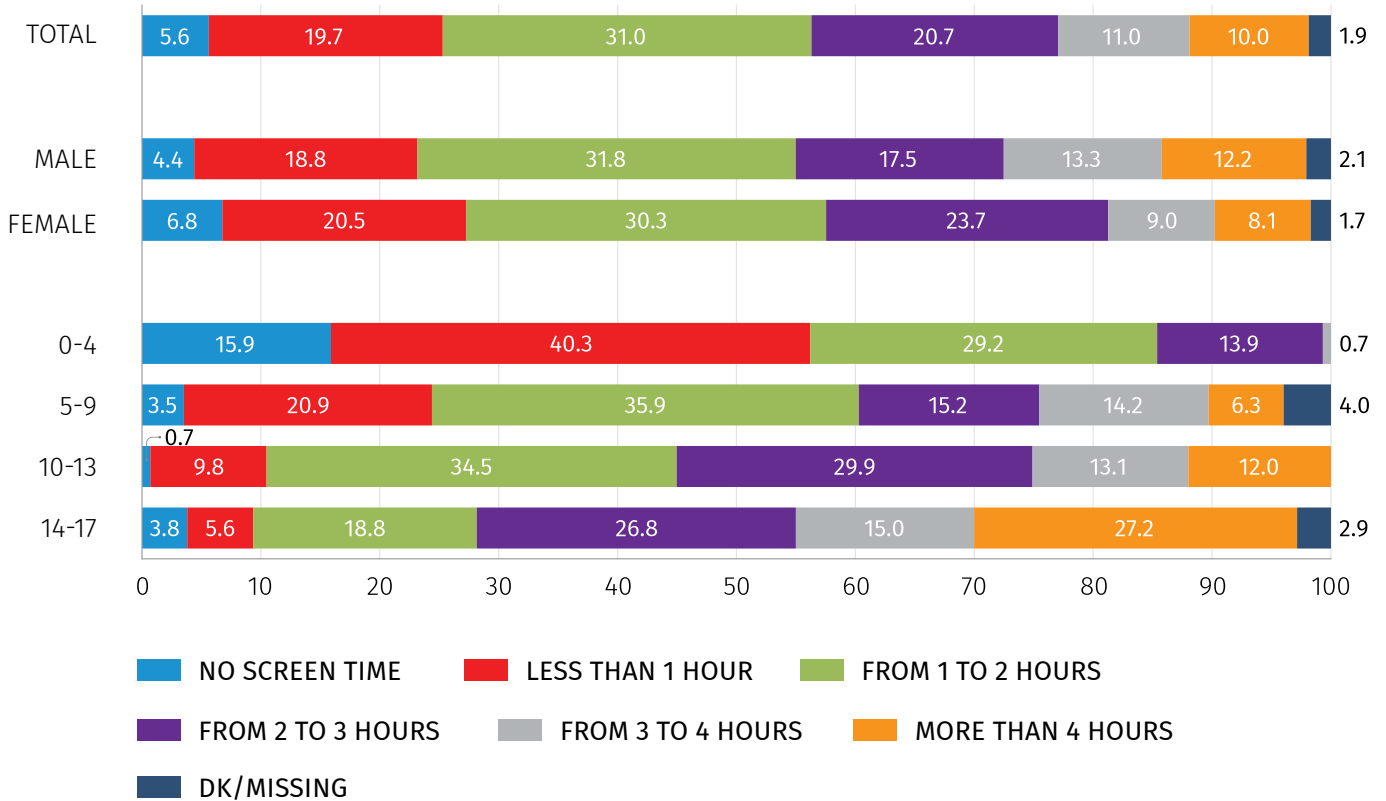31.9%

SOMETIMES
15.4%

USUALLY
39.9%
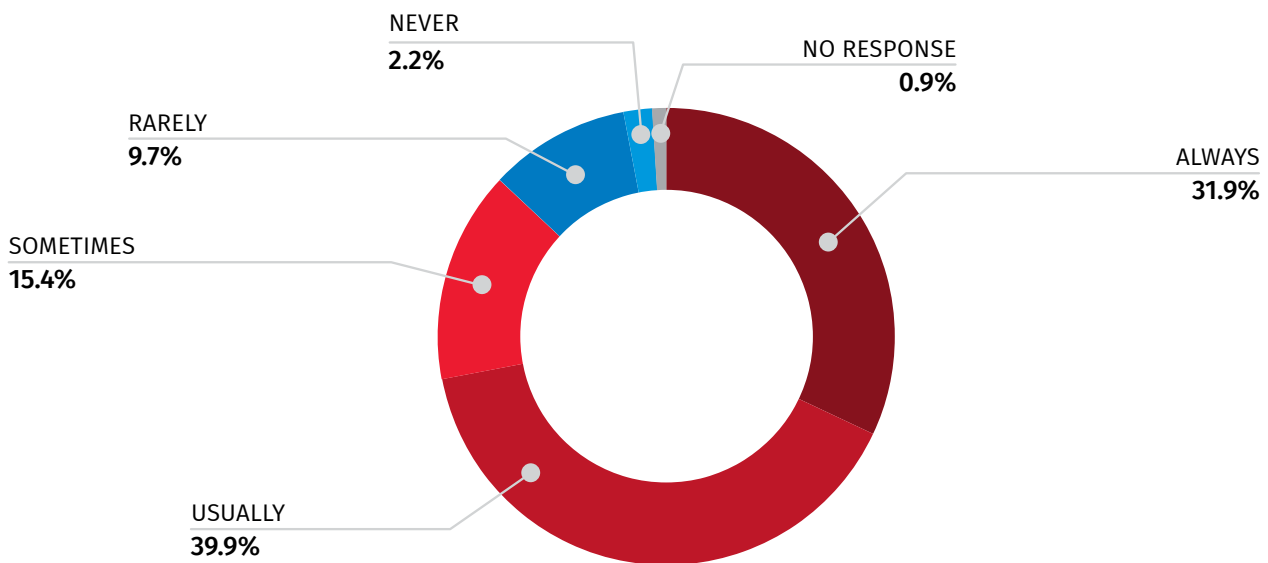
According to the survey, 10.0 percent of children aged 0-17 spent time in front of any kind of screen (TV, computer, cellphone, or other electronic device) for 4 hours or more during the 7 days before the interview, 11.0 percent – 3 to 4 hours, 20.7 percent – 2 to 3 hours, 31.0 percent – 1 to 2 hours, 19.7 percent – less than 1 hour, and 5.6 percent did not spend any time at all in front of any kind of screen. By gender, most boys and girls spend 1 to 2 hours in front of any kind of screen (31.8% and 30.3%, respectively). The time spent in front of any kind of screen differs according to the age groups of the children. Most children aged 0-4 spend less than 1 hour in front of the screen (40.3%), most children aged 5-9 and 10-13 spend 1 to 2 hours (35.9% and 34.5%, respectively) and most children aged 14-17 years – 4 hours or more (27.2%). It should be noted that the given hours do not include time spent doing schoolwork.

The chart below shows percent distribution of children age 0-17 years by the hours spent in front of any kind of screen during the 7 days before the interview, by gender and age groups.

# NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE OF GEORGIA

04.10.2021

CHART №9

## PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF SPENT TIME IN FRONT OF ANY KIND OF SCREEN BY AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS PER DAY
### (%)

| Category | No Screen Time | Less Than 1 Hour | From 1 to 2 Hours | From 2 to 3 Hours | From 3 to 4 Hours | More Than 4 Hours | DK/Missing |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL | 5.6 | 19.7 | 31.0 | 20.7 | 11.0 | 10.0 | 1.9 |
| MALE | 4.4 | 18.8 | 31.8 | 17.5 | 13.3 | 12.2 | 2.1 |
| FEMALE | 6.8 | 20.5 | 30.3 | 23.7 | 9.0 | 8.1 | 1.7 |
| 0-4 | 15.9 | 40.3 | 29.2 | 13.9 | | | 0.7 |
| 5-9 | 3.5 | 20.9 | 35.9 | 15.2 | 14.2 | 6.3 | 4.0 |
| 10-13 | 0.7 | 9.8 | 34.5 | 29.9 | 13.1 | 12.0 | |
| 14-17 | 3.8 | 5.6 | 18.8 | 26.8 | 15.0 | 27.2 | 2.9 |

**Legend:**
- NO SCREEN TIME
- LESS THAN 1 HOUR
- FROM 1 TO 2 HOURS
- FROM 2 TO 3 HOURS
- FROM 3 TO 4 HOURS
- MORE THAN 4 HOURS
- DK/MISSING

**Note:**

- The discrepancy between the totals and the sum in some cases can be explained by using rounded data.

**CONTACT PERSONS:**

Vasil Tsakadze,
Tel.: (+995 32) 236 72 10 (600). E-mail: vtsakadze@geostat.ge

Mariam Kavelashvili,
Tel.: (+995 32) 236 72 10 (020). E-mail: mkavelashvili@geostat.ge