

# How are we doing in Wales?

Public Engagement Survey on Health and Wellbeing during Coronavirus Measures

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Week 12 (22<sup>nd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> June 2020)

Public Health Wales are conducting a public engagement telephone survey to ask members of the public in Wales how coronavirus and related control measures are affecting their health and wellbeing.

The information collected from **500 or more randomly selected individuals** provides the basis of the results presented in each **weekly report**.

The survey aims to provide data representative of the Welsh population and data are adjusted to represent the Welsh population by age, sex and deprivation. In some weeks, new questions are added and others removed, depending on emerging issues at that time.

This week's report contains routine measures seen in previous reports. It also uses data across multiple survey weeks to look at demographic differences in responses across specific questions including concern about catching Coronavirus, hand washing practices, the re-opening of schools and the financial impact of restrictions.

We thank the people of Wales for giving us their valuable time to support this work.



605 Welsh residents aged 18 years and over were interviewed in week 12 of the survey (22<sup>nd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> June).

91%

of people left their home on at least one day in the past week. One in three people (32%) left their home to work, up from 21% last week.

12%

of people have always or often been feeling isolated in the last week, down from 22% last week.

38%

of people would prefer to stay in lockdown until there is no chance of catching coronavirus, down from 47% last week.

23%

of people said their current financial situation is worse than normal as a result of coronavirus restrictions; 14% said it is better and 63% that it was unchanged.

27%

of people think social distancing restrictions should already have ended for close family and friends that do not live together, and 43% think this should happen within the next 3 weeks.

46%

of people wear face coverings when going out; 26% some of the time and 20% most of the time.

Analyses of demographic differences combine data across relevant survey weeks.

## Young people aged 18-29 years are most likely to report a worsening in their financial situation due to coronavirus restrictions

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38% of 18-29 year olds report being financially worse off due to coronavirus restrictions compared with 12% of 70+ year olds.

The proportion of people reporting being financially worse off does not vary significantly across deprivation groups.

## Females are more concerned than males about getting coronavirus and report more frequent hand washing and greater support for use of face coverings

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58% of females say they wash their hands or use hand sanitiser at least 10 times a day compared with 42% of males.

57% of females think people should be made to wear face coverings in public places compared with 52% of males.

## The proportion of people preferring schools to remain closed until there is no chance of children catching coronavirus increases with deprivation

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People living in more affluent quintiles are less concerned about children catching coronavirus in schools and becoming ill or spreading this in their families or communities.

There are no differences across deprivation groups in concern around children's educational or social and emotional development.

Do you think you have or have had coronavirus?

Yes	11%
Don't know	9%

How worried are you that you could get coronavirus?

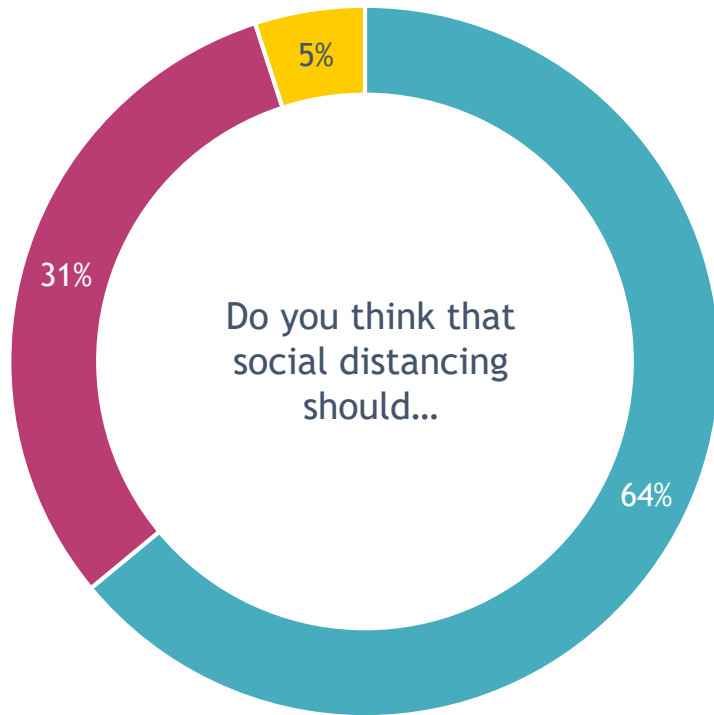
Excludes those answering 'yes' to having had coronavirus

Not at all	20%
A little	32%
Moderately	32%
Very	17%

Has someone close to you like a family member or friend become seriously ill\* with coronavirus?

Yes	12%
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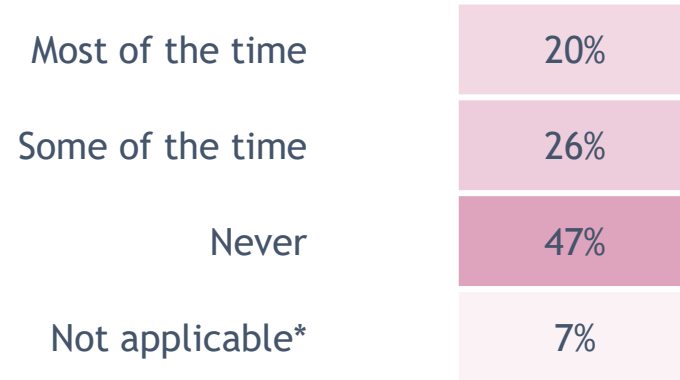
\* hospitalised or died



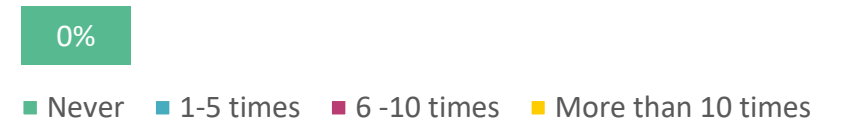
- Remain at 2 metres
- Be reduced to 1 metre
- Be removed completely

	None	1 - 2	3 - 10	More than 10
In the last 7 days, how many people from outside your household have you come into close contact with, meaning within 1 metre?	45%	26%	17%	12%
In the last 7 days, how many people have come into your house other than the people you usually live with?	73%	19%	8%	<1%
In the last 7 days, how many other people's houses have you been into?	76%	23%	1%	1%

## Currently, when you go out, do you wear a face covering...



\* do not go out



# How well are we handling coronavirus?

Do you think the restrictions in place to manage coronavirus are...

Too little 8%



About right 78%



Too much 14%



I would prefer to stay in lockdown until there is no chance of catching coronavirus

Agree 38%



Disagree 45%



Undecided 17%

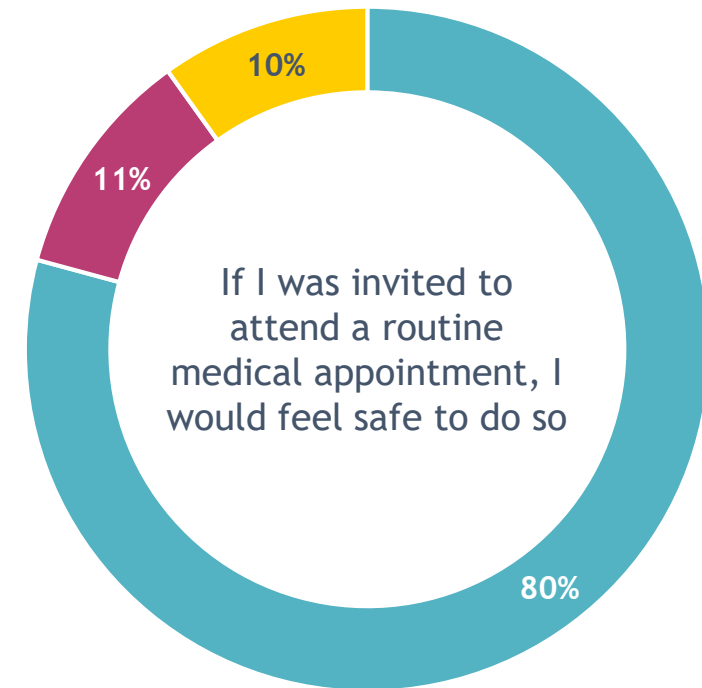


	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I think that <b>Welsh government</b> is responding to the problems caused by coronavirus well	22%	57%	9%	10%	2%
I am confident that the <b>NHS</b> would be able to adequately care for me if I became seriously ill with coronavirus	37%	52%	6%	5%	1%
I trust the <b>police</b> to use their powers to restrict people's movement sensibly	17%	57%	11%	9%	6%



## As the current restrictions are lifted, which measures do you think should be put in place to protect people?

	Yes	No	Unsure
People should be made to wear face coverings in public places	61%	26%	13%
People who leave their homes should be regularly tested to see if they have the virus	57%	29%	14%
People should not share cars with people they do not live with	62%	28%	10%
People working in shops should wear face coverings or visors	85%	10%	5%

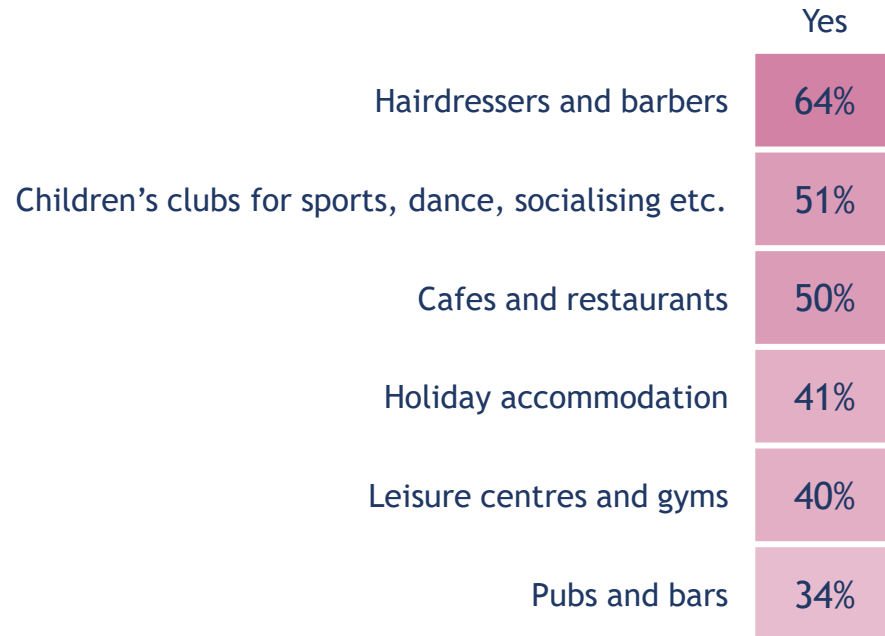


■ Agree
 ■ Disagree
 ■ Undecided

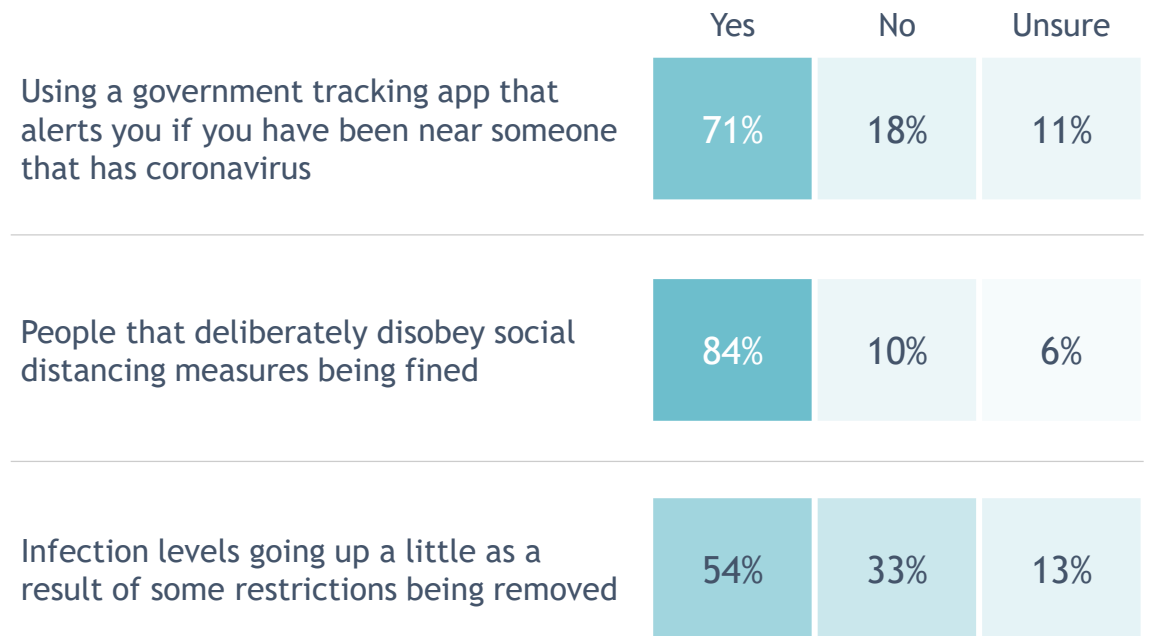
## When do you think the following changes should happen?

	Should already be happening	Within the next 3 weeks	In more than 3 weeks
Restaurants, pubs and bars should re-open	6%	31%	62%
Non-essential workers should be able to return to work	30%	50%	21%
Major events like sports & concerts should be able to run	3%	8%	90%
People should be able to travel as far as they like in Wales to meet people and use public spaces so long as they maintain social distancing	34%	41%	25%
Social distancing restrictions should be ended for close family and friends that do not live together	27%	43%	30%
People should be able to travel abroad and return to Wales without having to go into quarantine	6%	11%	83%
Cancer screening appointments should re-start (e.g. for breast, bowel and cervical cancer)	85%	13%	2%

## Which of the following do you think should be in the priorities to re-open next as restrictions are relaxed?



## Which of the following do you find acceptable?



## Thinking about children returning to school, how concerned would you be about the following?

I would prefer schools to remain closed until there is no chance of children catching coronavirus

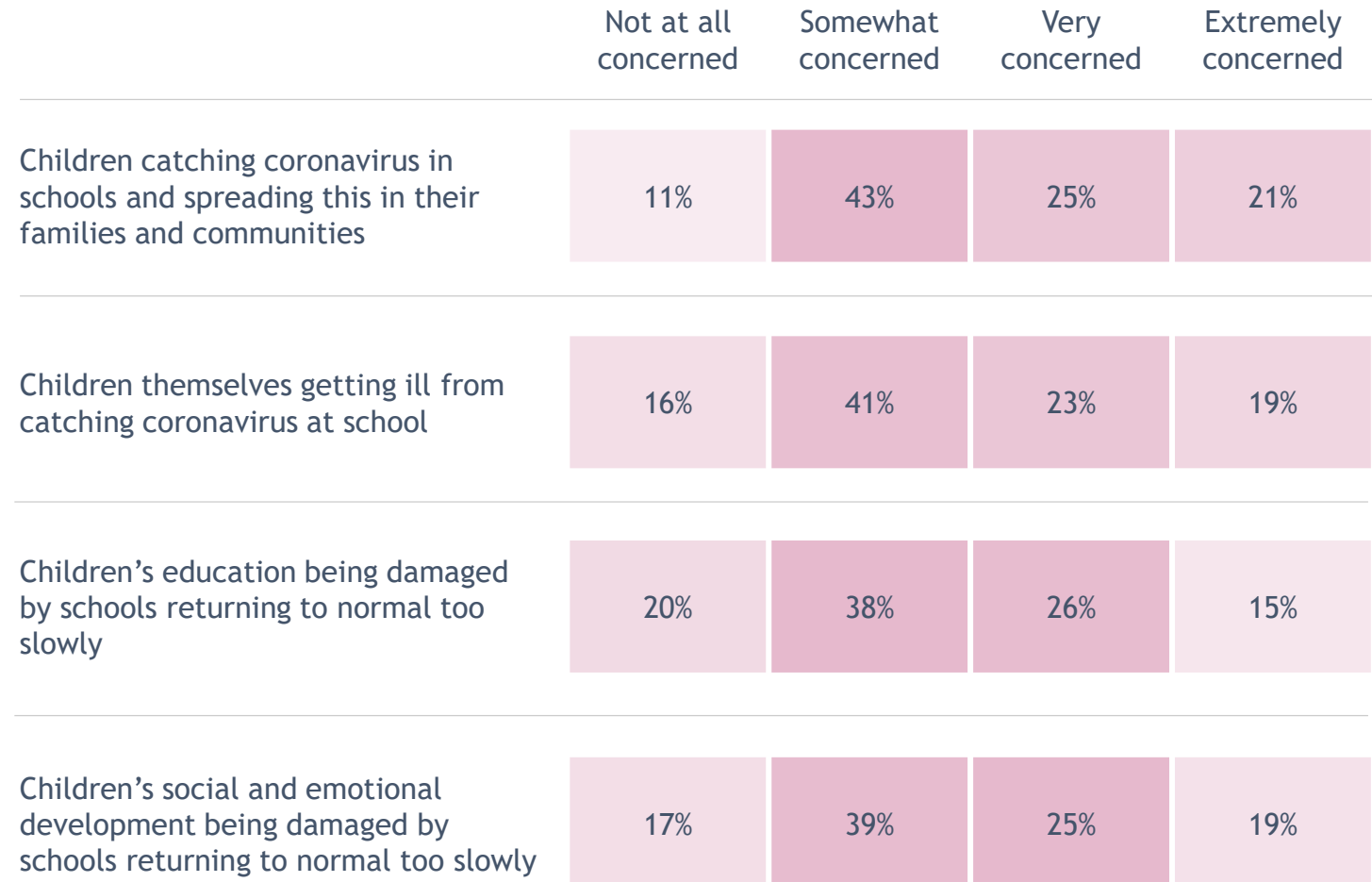
**Agree 50%**



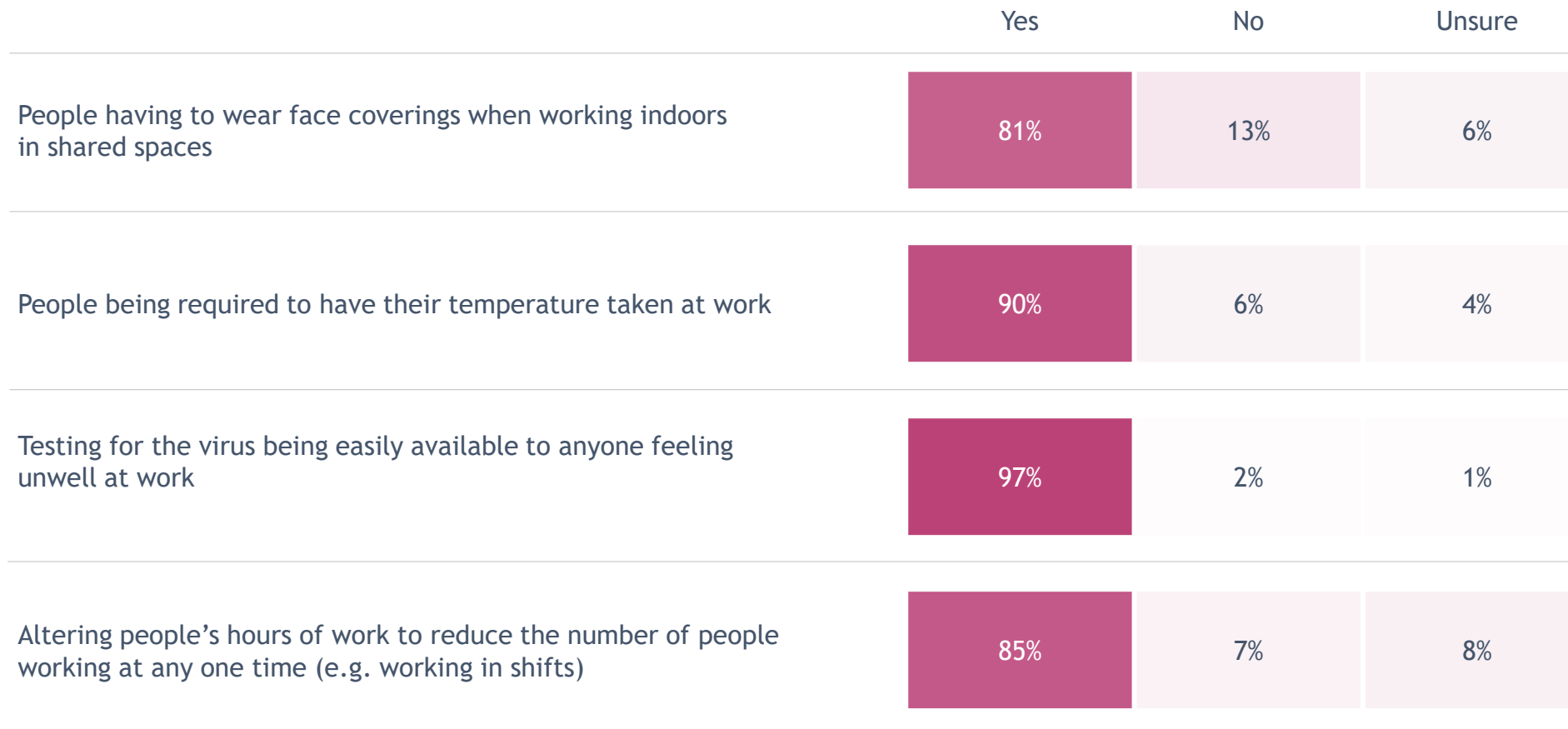
**Disagree 32%**



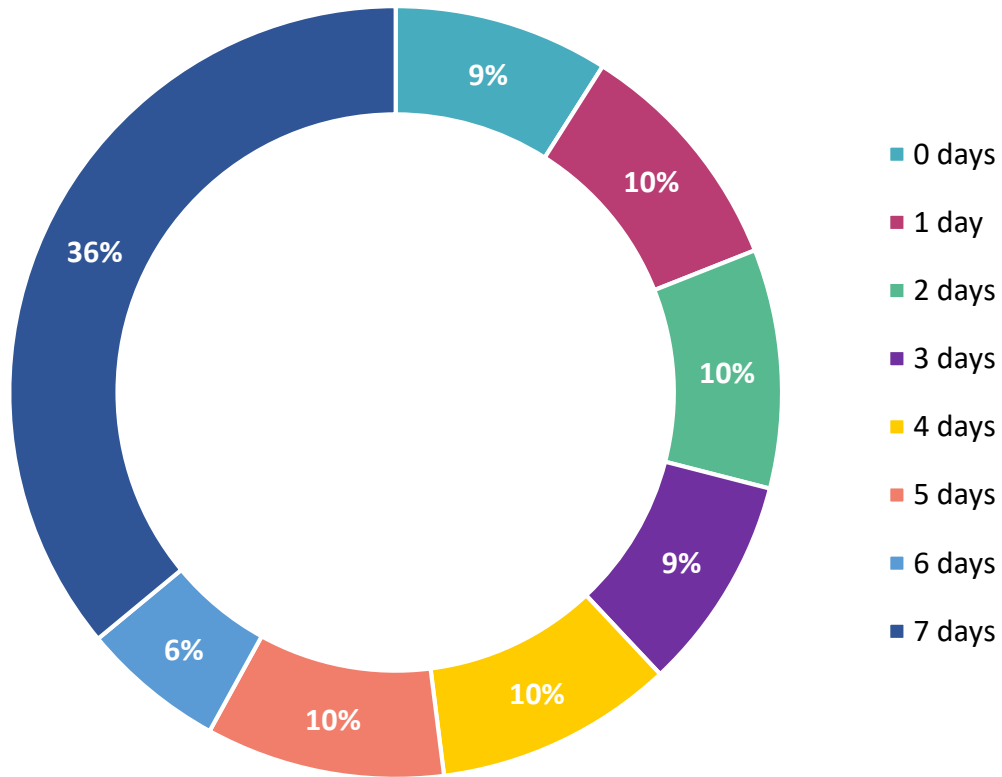
**Undecided 18%**



## To make it safe for people to return to work, which of these measures would you support?



In the past 7 days, on how many days have you left your home?



In the past 7 days, on how many days have you left your home...

	0 days	1-2 days	3-4 days	5+ days
...to work	68%	5%	9%	17%
...to shop	32%	55%	9%	5%
...for medical reasons	83%	16%	1%	<1%
...to exercise	37%	15%	15%	32%
...to meet family/friends	64%	28%	5%	2%

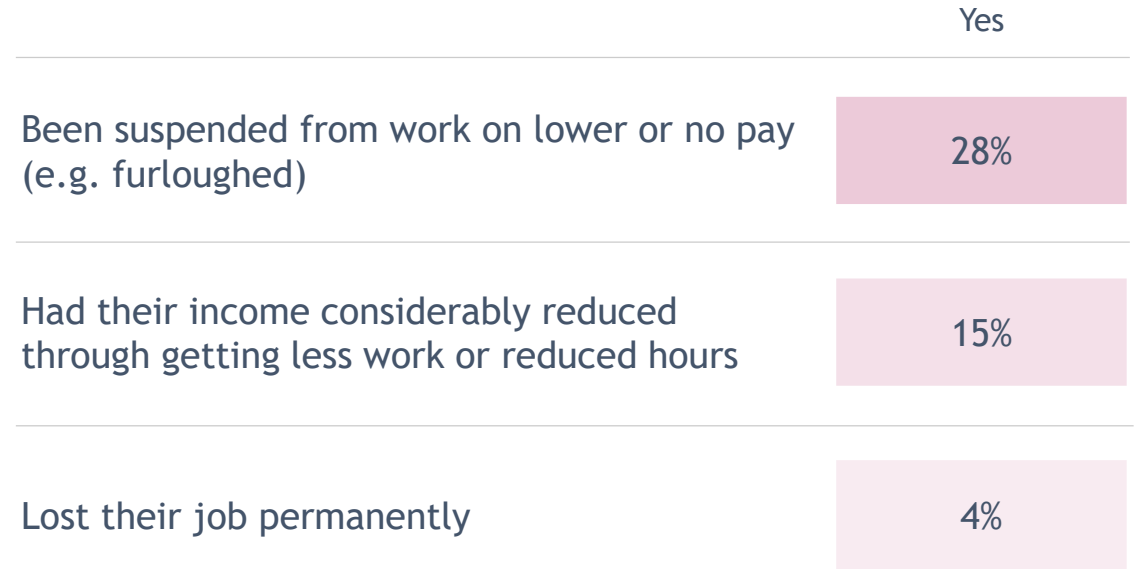
# What are we worried about?

Over the past week, how much have the following been worrying you?

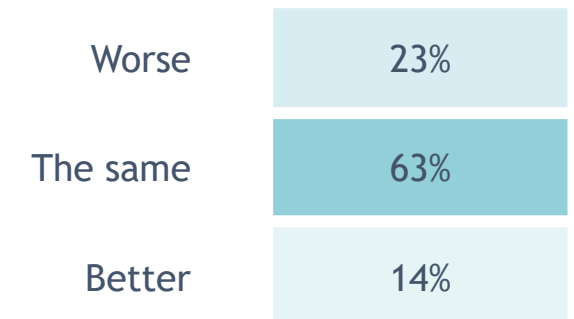
	Not at all	A little	A lot
Becoming seriously ill with coronavirus	37%	44%	19%
Losing someone you love to the virus	23%	32%	46%
The wellbeing of your children <sup>**</sup> -	25%	33%	43%
Your children's education <sup>**</sup> -	24%	24%	52%
Your marriage or relationship with a partner <sup>#</sup> -	77%	14%	10%
Losing your job or not being able to find one <sup>#</sup> -	64%	18%	18%
Work, even if your job is secure <sup>#</sup> -	58%	25%	17%
Your finances	62%	22%	16%

\*Limited to those with children in the household; -Unweighted data; #Excludes those responding 'not applicable'

As a result of coronavirus, have you or anyone in your household...

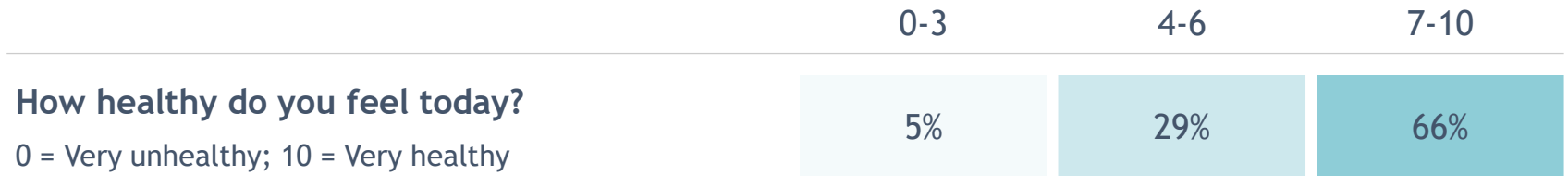


As a result of coronavirus restrictions, would you say your current financial situation is?

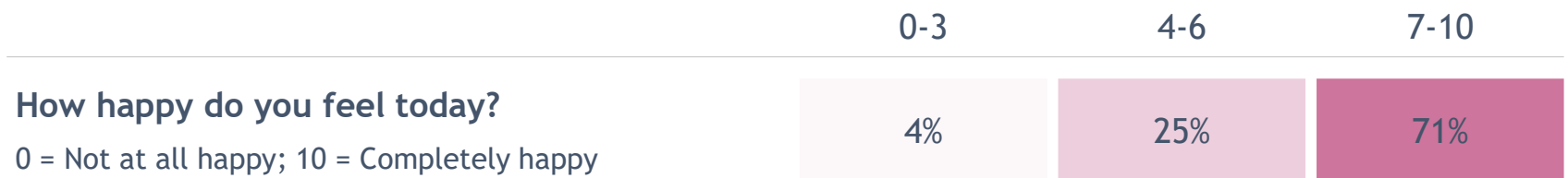




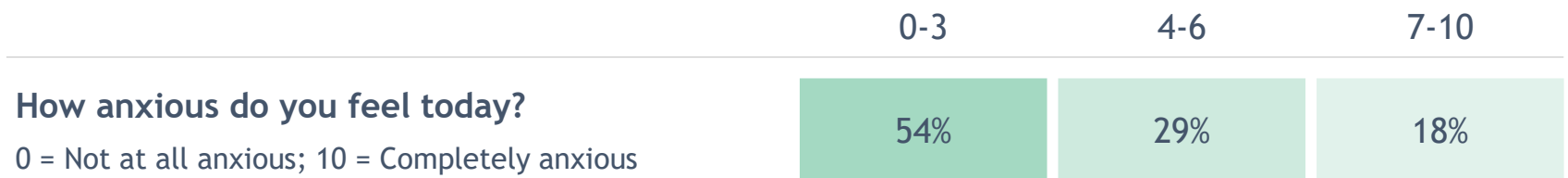
## Feeling healthy



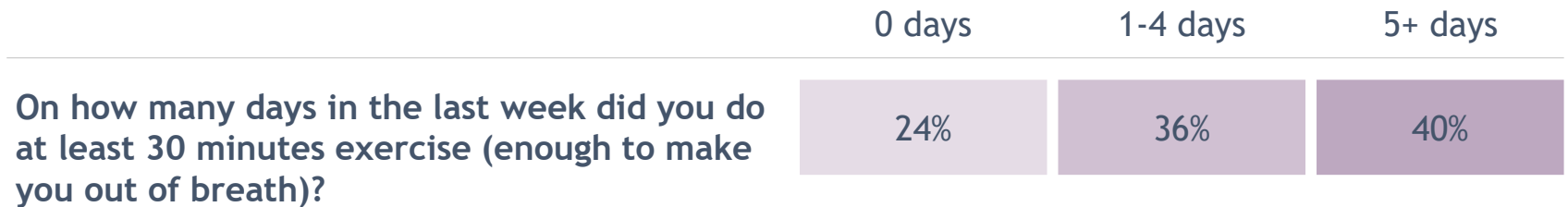
## Feeling happy



## Feeling anxious



## Exercise



In the last week, how often have you felt...

	Lonely	Isolated
Never	65%	59%
Occasionally	25%	29%
Often	8%	8%
Always	2%	4%

Over the past week, how much have the following been worrying you?

Your mental health and wellbeing

Not at all	54%
A little	32%
A lot	13%

## The survey

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A national telephone survey conducted with adults (>18 years old) currently resident in Wales.

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Data collection began at the beginning of **April 2020** and is ongoing.

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So far, over 6,000 people have told us about how the virus and the lockdown is impacting them.

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## Our analyses

These analyses consider how experiences of coronavirus may be different for different groups in society. Some demographic measures are not analysed here due to small sample size (e.g. those not identifying as male or female), or because they are examined in specific themed reports (e.g. ethnicity).

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A **generalized linear model** function was used to explore independent relationships between outcomes of interest and demographic variables (age, gender, deprivation).

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Analyses were also corrected for time (i.e. week of survey). However, trends over time are not the focus of this report and are reported elsewhere.

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## Findings

Key differences are presented across 5 quintiles of deprivation (1=most deprived; 5=least deprived/most affluent) and for females vs males and the youngest (18-29) vs the oldest (70+) groups by age. Where important significant differences across other age categories are found, these are presented in graphs.

Unless highlighted, differences are statistically significant at  $p < .05$ .

## During coronavirus lockdown in Wales...

### Females are more likely to:

Be very worried about getting coronavirus

Think that people should be made to wear face coverings in public places

Frequently wash their hands (>10 times/day)

Females	Males
22%	16%
57%	52%
58%	42%

### Those aged 18-29 years are more likely to:

Prefer schools to remain closed until there is no chance of catching the virus

Be concerned about children getting ill from catching coronavirus at school

Be concerned about children catching coronavirus in schools and spreading this in their families and communities\*

18-29 years	70+ years
70%	58%
59%	41%
62%	46%

### Whilst those aged 70+ years are more likely to:

Be very worried about getting coronavirus  
**21%** (Aged 18-29; 6%)

### People in deprivation are more likely to:

Be very worried about getting coronavirus

Prefer to stay in lockdown until there is no chance of catching the virus

Prefer schools to remain closed until there is no chance of catching the virus

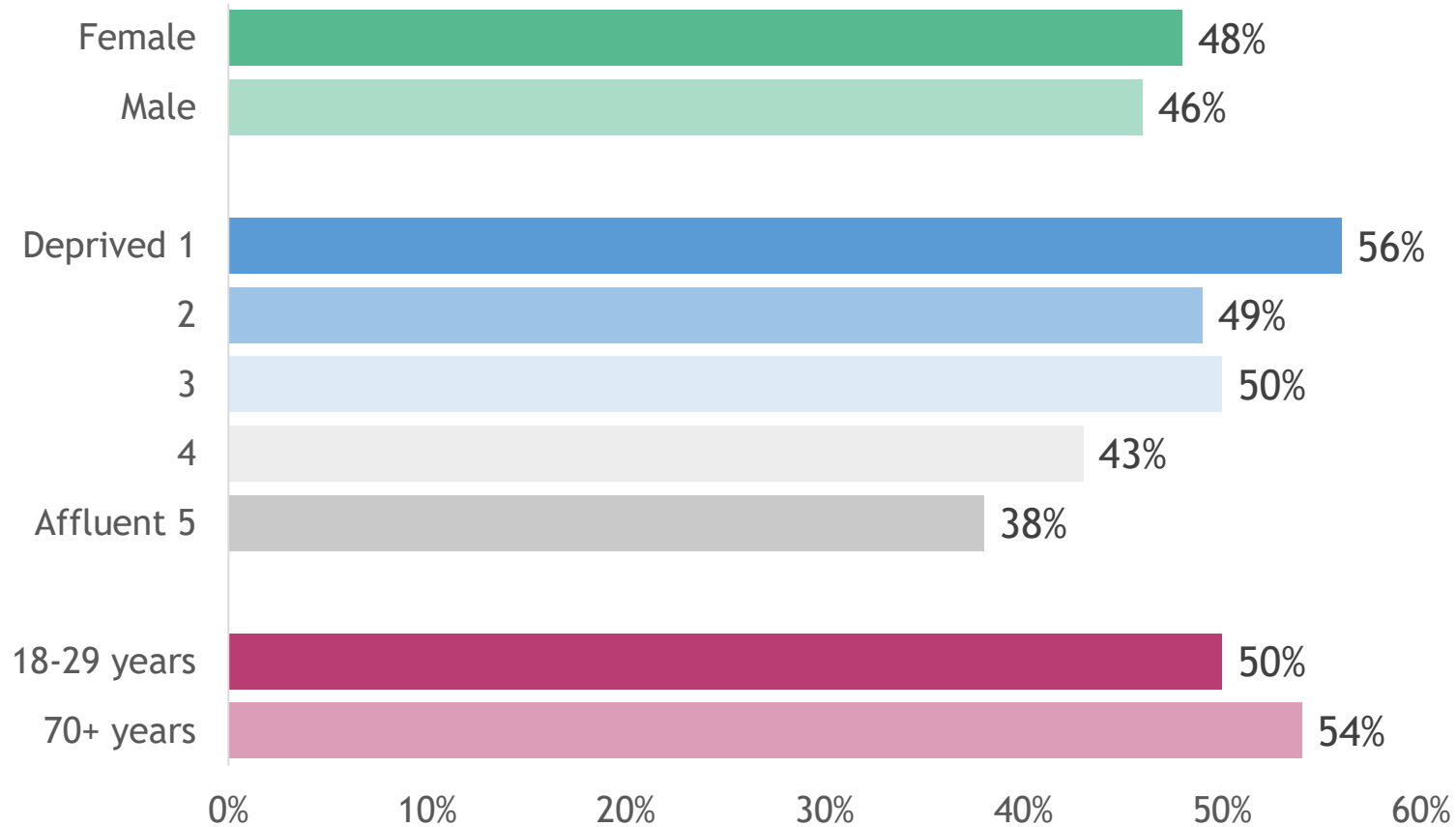
Be concerned about children getting ill from catching coronavirus at school

Be concerned about children catching coronavirus in schools and spreading this in their families and communities

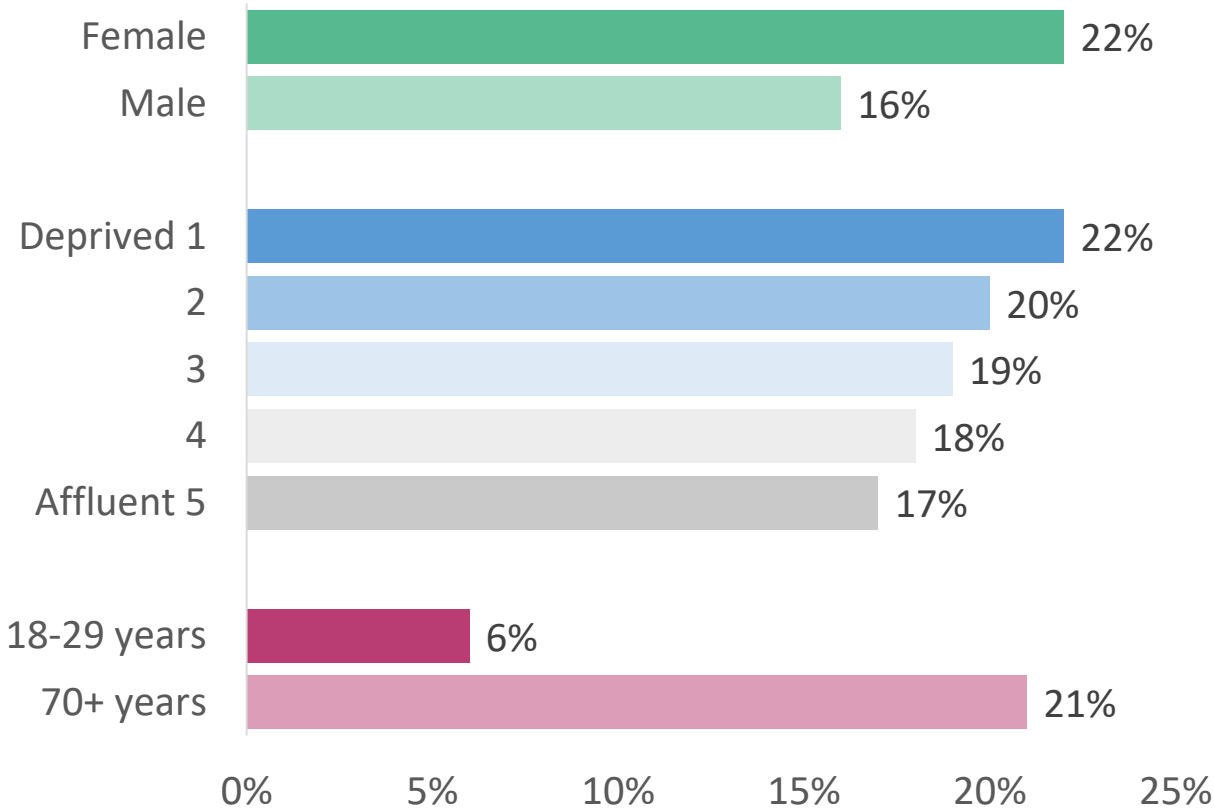
Most deprived fifth of population	Least deprived fifth of population
22%	17%
56%	38%
70%	50%
53%	30%
52%	38%

\*Difference not statistically significant.

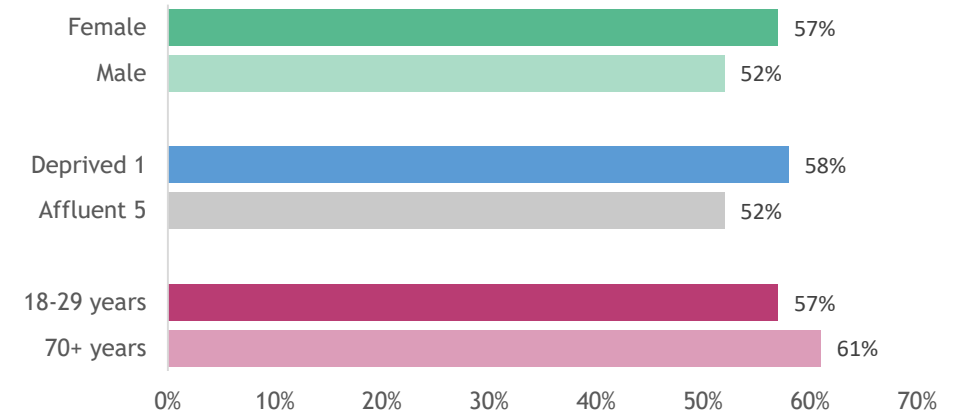
Adjusted proportion that would prefer to stay in lockdown until there is no chance of catching the virus



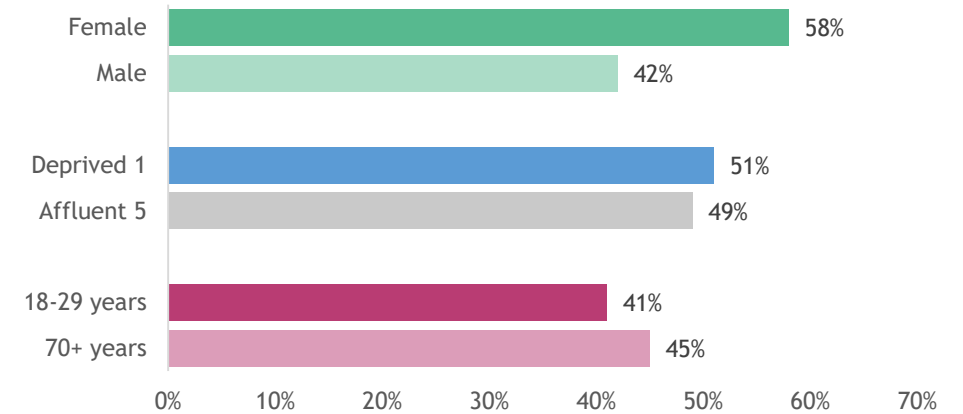
Adjusted proportion very worried about getting coronavirus<sup>#~</sup>



Adjusted proportion thinking people should be made to wear face coverings in public places\*



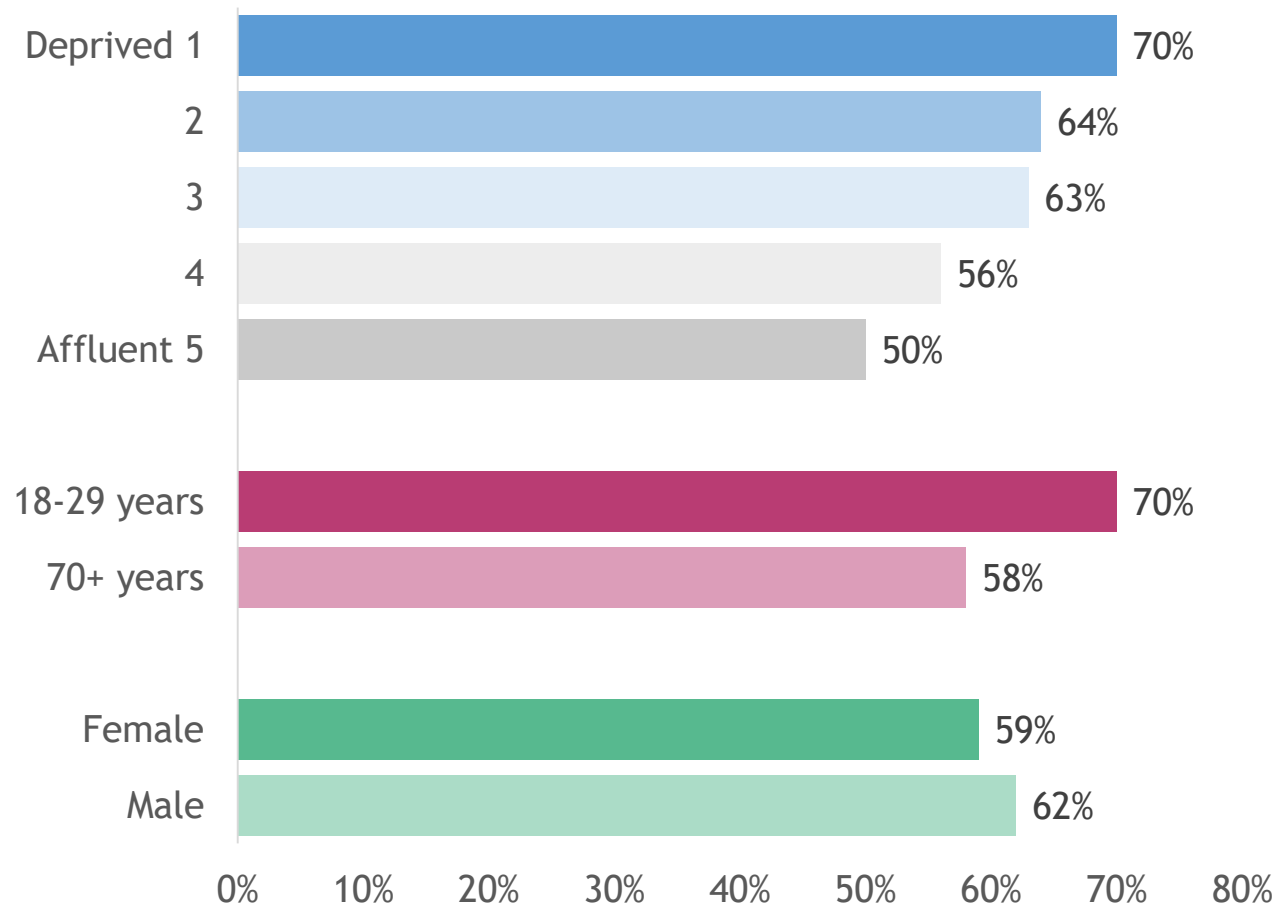
Adjusted proportion that wash hands or use hand sanitiser frequently (>10 times/day)<sup>+</sup>



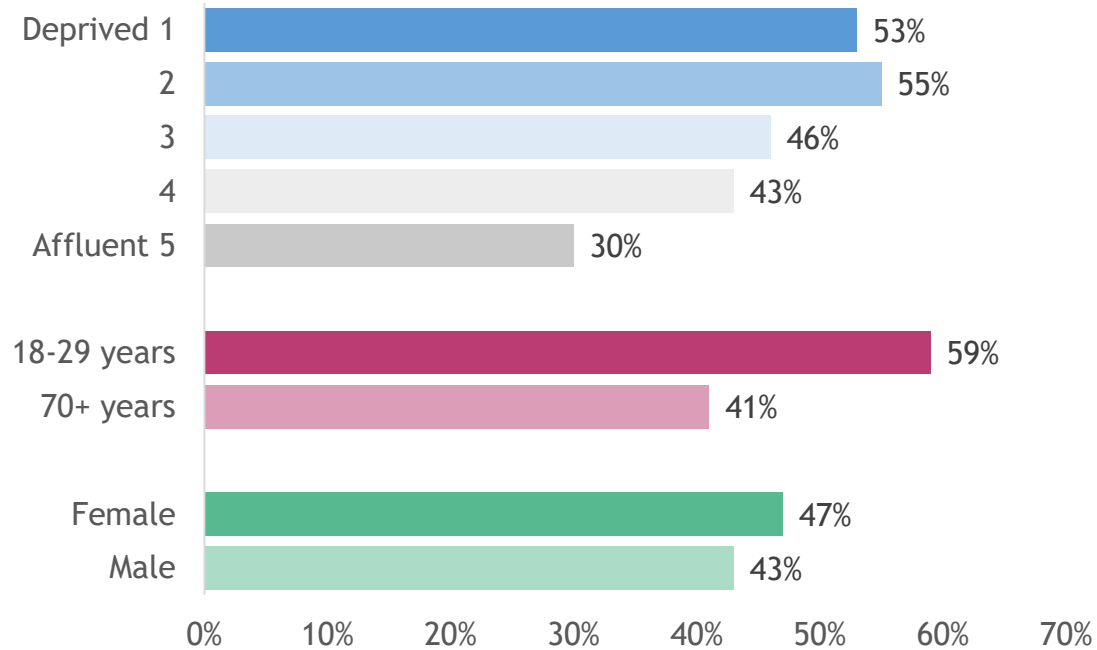
Females are more worried than males about getting coronavirus and report greater support for use of face coverings and more frequent hand washing practices.

<sup>#</sup>Among those who think they have not already had the virus; <sup>~</sup>Data from weeks 2-12; \*Data from weeks 6-12; <sup>+</sup>Data from weeks 11-12.

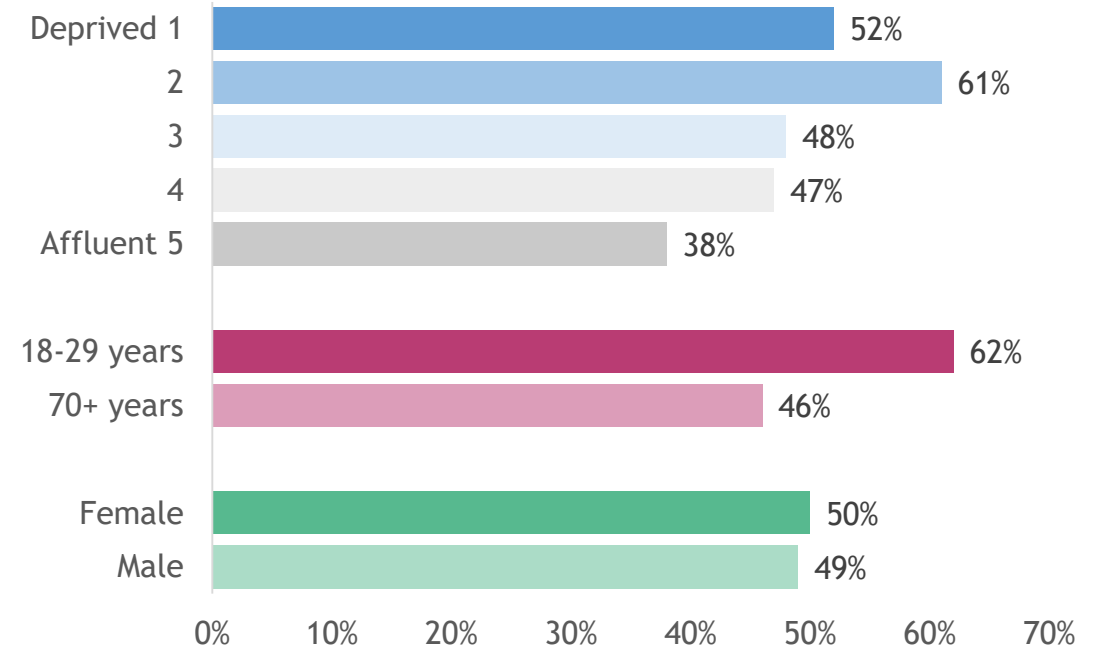
Adjusted proportion that would prefer schools to remain closed until there is no chance of catching the virus



Adjusted proportion very or extremely concerned about children becoming ill from catching coronavirus at school<sup>+</sup>



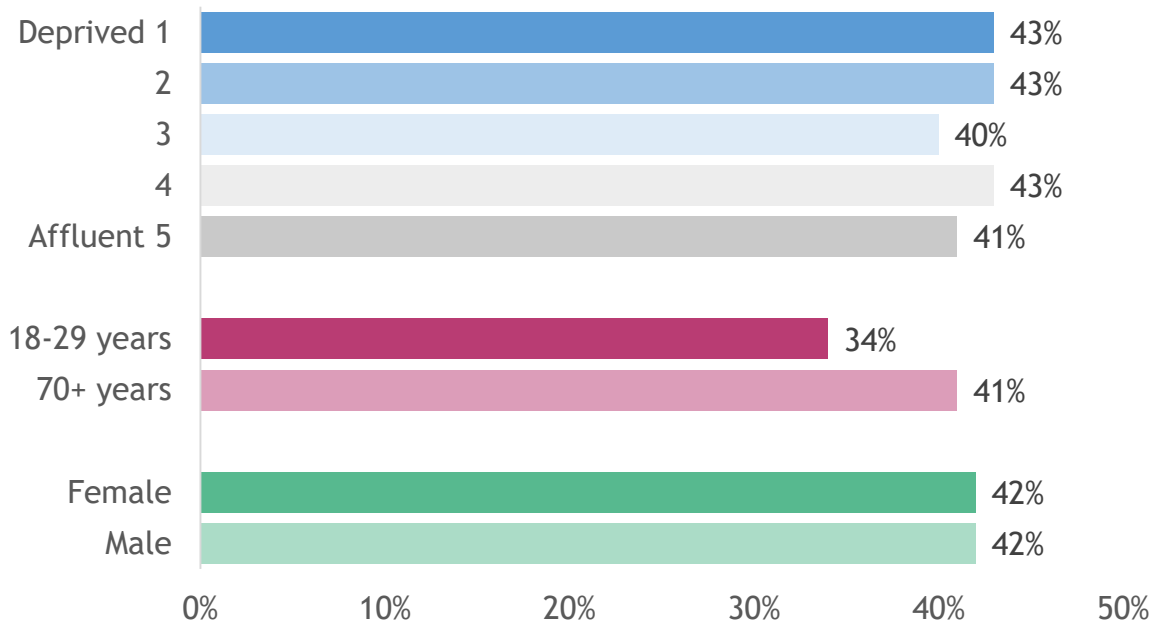
Adjusted proportion very or extremely concerned about children catching coronavirus in schools and spreading this in their families and communities<sup>+</sup>



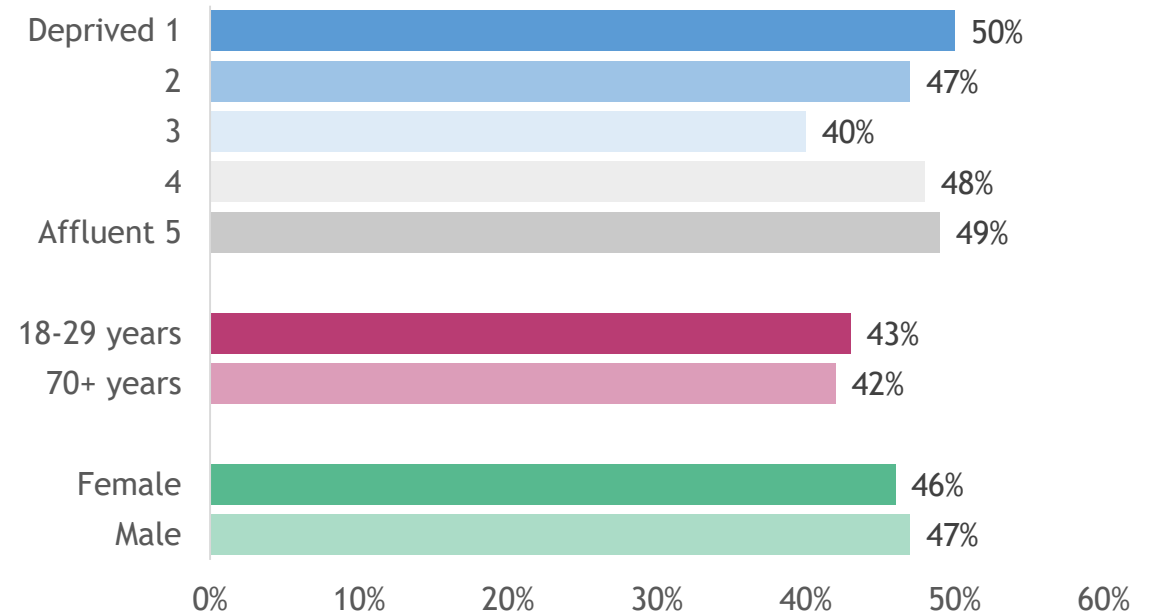
Respondents living in the more deprived areas of Wales are more concerned about children catching and spreading coronavirus at school than those living in more affluent areas.



Adjusted proportion very or extremely concerned about children's education being damaged by schools returning to normal too slowly<sup>+</sup>

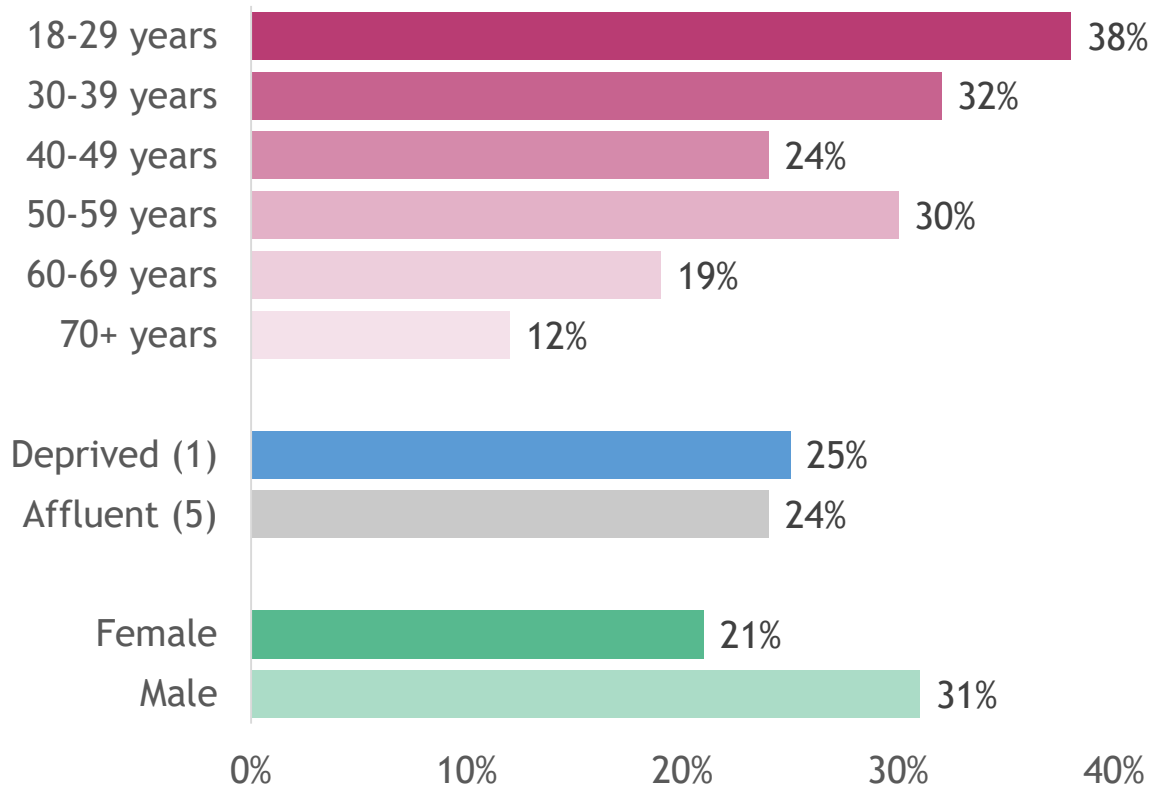


Adjusted proportion very or extremely concerned about children's social and emotional development being damaged through schools returning to normal too slowly<sup>+</sup>



Concerns about children's education and social and emotional development are more similar across all levels of deprivation.

## Adjusted proportion reporting their current financial situation is worse than normal due to coronavirus restrictions<sup>+</sup>



Young adults are most likely to report that their current financial situation is worse than normal due to coronavirus restrictions.

<sup>+</sup>Data from weeks 11-12.

Published 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020

## Enquiries

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## How are you doing?

For general information on how to look after yourself, your friends and family during the coronavirus restrictions visit: [phw.nhs.wales/howareyoudoing](https://phw.nhs.wales/howareyoudoing)

