

Ugandan citizens' and Kampala residents' experience of stress during Covid-19

This factsheet presents the experiences of Ugandan citizens and Kampala residents on various forms of stress during Covid-19. The data comes from several different rounds of Twaweza's *Sauti za Wananchi* survey, a representative mobile phone panel survey of citizens' views and experiences. Further details are available from www.twaweza.org/sauti.

Insight 1. Kampala residents are worried about the current state of the Covid-19 pandemic in Uganda

Almost all Kampala residents (95%) say they are worried about the continued spread of Covid-19 in Uganda.

The main reason given for the worry is the high rate of death in the current wave, cited by over half (53%) of the city's residents. Other reasons include the high number of patients in the current wave (20%), loss of income (17%), the rapid spread (13%) and the introduction of new lockdown measures (11%).

Fewer than half the city's residents (42%) feel personally at risk of contracting the virus.

However, even fewer (36%) are confident that would quickly receive the care and treatment they need if they became sick with the Coronavirus.

The main reasons given for confidence are that health facilities (18%), treatments (6%) and medication (6%) are available to those who need it. The main reasons given for lacking confidence are that treatment is expensive (26%), that there is a shortage of medical facilities (14%) and that hospitals are full (10%).

Residents are uncertain about the government's ability to handle the pandemic. Two out of ten (19%) are very confident that the government can handle things, while three out of ten (32%) are not confident that the government can do so.

Insight 2. Personal concerns dominate Kampala residents' motivation to adhere to Standard Operating Practices (SOPs)

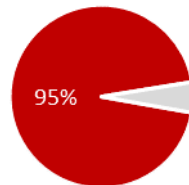
The main reason given by Kampala residents for adhering to SOPs is to prevent themselves from contracting Covid-19, cited by half of residents (51%). This is followed by fear of death (30%).

A significant number (13%) point to the need to slow the spread of the virus.

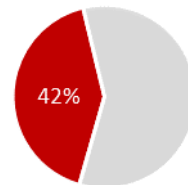
A small number (2%) point to security enforcement as their main reason for adhering to the SOPs.

Kampala: Residents worries about Covid-19

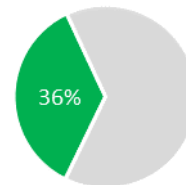
% who are worried about Covid-19 spreading in Uganda:



% who feel at risk of contracting the Coronavirus:



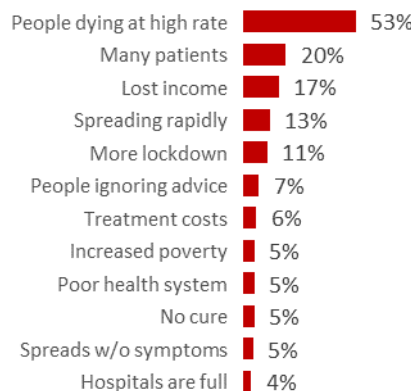
% confident would quickly receive treatment if needed



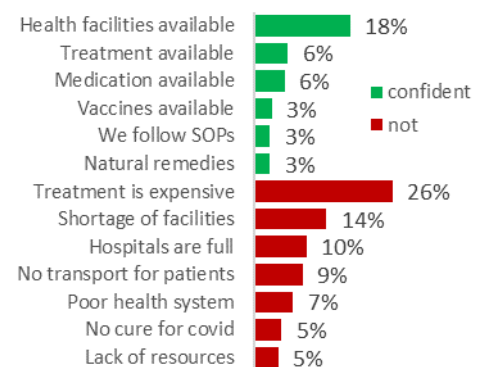
confidence in govt's ability to handle Covid-19:



Why worried?

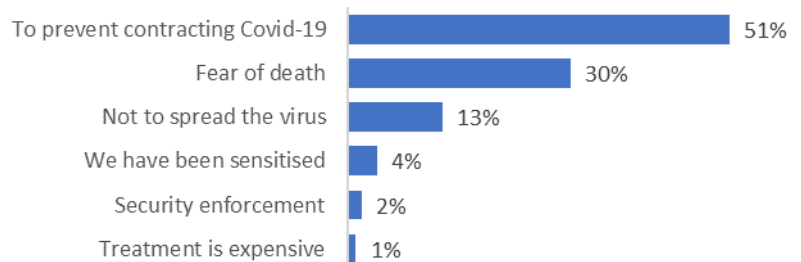


Why are you confident / not of getting treatment if needed?



Source: *Sauti za Wananchi, special Kampala round 3 (June 2021)*

Kampala: What motivates you to adhere to the SOPs?



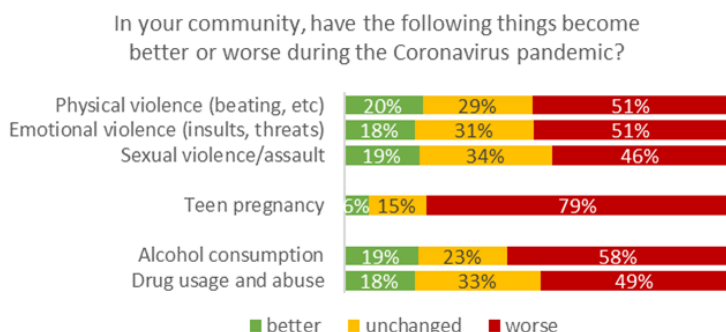
Source: *Sauti za Wananchi, special Kampala round 3 (June 2021)*

Insight 3. Citizens say violence, teen pregnancy and other social problems have increased in their community during the pandemic

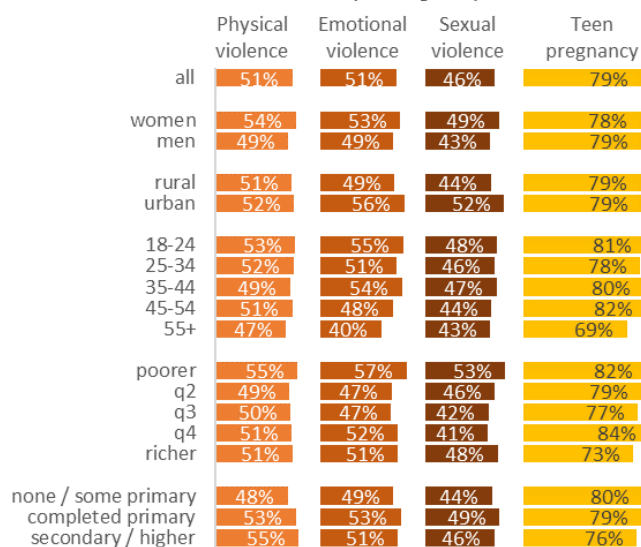
Across Uganda, eight out of ten citizens (79%) say teen pregnancy has become a bigger problem during the Coronavirus pandemic, and half say physical (51%), emotional (51%) and sexual (46%) violence has got worse. Citizens also mention an increase in problems related to alcohol consumption (58%) and drug abuse (49%).

Citizens' perception of changes in social problems – violence and teenage pregnancy – are largely consistent across key demographic groups.

Women and residents of urban areas are a little more likely to say violence has grown as a problem, and older citizens are a little less likely to say so.



Percent who say the following things have become worse in their community during the pandemic:



Source: Sauti za Wananchi Uganda, round 18, Oct-Dec 2020

Insight 4. 7 out of 10 citizens worried about running short of food during lockdown measures in May-June 2020

In May-June 2020, during lockdown measures, seven out of ten citizens (70%) reported having worried about running out of food at least once in the previous month due to a lack of money or other resources. A little under half (43%) reported having had such worries five or more times over the same period. A majority of citizens (58%) reported that over this period they have eaten less than they thought they should, including half (50%) who have done so three or more times.

Four out of ten citizens (41%) reported that their household ran out of food once or more in the previous month, and a similar number (41%) reported having been hungry but not eaten due to a lack of money or other resources. A quarter (25%) reported going for a whole day without food due to a lack of money or other resources.

In the past month, how many times did a lack of money or other resources mean that ...?

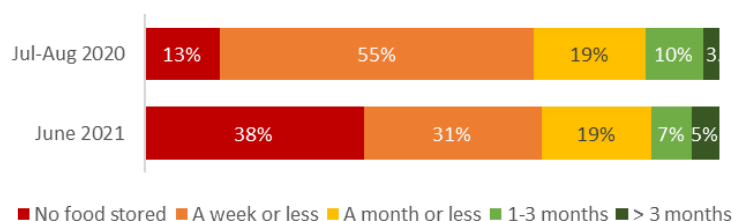


Source: Sauti za Wananchi Uganda, round 16, May-June 2020

Insight 5. Fewer Kampala households currently have food stocks available at home than in July-August 2020

Four out of ten Kampala households (38%) currently have no food stocks available at home. This is up sharply compared to a year earlier, also a period of lockdown in Uganda, when 13% of households had no food stocks available at home.

Kampala: How long could the food available at your household last before running out?



Source: Sauti za Wananchi, special Kampala rounds r1 (July-August 2020) and r3 (June 2021)