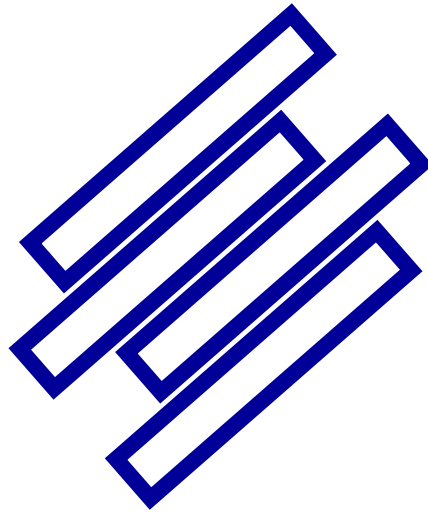# SURVEY ON THE USE OF FACE MASKS IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19 IN NORTH-WESTERN SYRIA

AUGUST 2020

UDER

Relief Experts Association

Prepared by

Dr. Mahmoud Jammoul - Dr. Hani Altaleb

Contents

1. Introduction and Objective

On the 9th July 2020, the first confirmed case of COVID-19 was reported in north-western Syria (NWS), and as of the 28th August 2020, a total of 65 cases were reported[1] with one covid-19 associated death. However, in NWS, the laboratory diagnostic capacity to confirm cases of COVID-19 is limited, the health system is disrupted and fragile, the populations exposed to poor living conditions and shortage of medical professionals are vulnerable, so the risk of the spread of diseases is high and the prevention measures are very important.

According to WHO[2], the use of masks is part of a comprehensive package of the prevention and control measures that can limit the spread of certain respiratory viral diseases, including COVID-19. In June 2020, WHO updated its guidelines, providing recommendation that face masks should be worn in public areas where social distancing is not possible to help stop the spread of coronavirus.

The purpose of this survey was to investigate the knowledge, attitude, and practices of community members in north-western Syria in wearing face masks to limit the spread of COVID-19.

2. Methodology

This survey was conducted by interviewing community members using a questionnaire consisting of the basic demographic characteristics, and the knowledge, attitude, and practices regarding the use of face masks to limit the spread of COVID-19.

2.1. Sampling

According to HNAP's April 2020 figures, the population of north-western Syria is 4,154,454, distributed on 9 districts in Aleppo and Idleb governorates. The representative sample for this targeted population at a 99% confidence level and a 5% margin of error is 664. Taking into consideration a 10% increase, the target sample size is 730. The total number of surveys was distributed to 30 clusters (25 surveys each) based on the population of each district.

Probability proportional to size sampling was used with the aim of ensuring equal probability of selection of clusters across locations. The urban/rural location was taken into account. In 2018, the World Bank estimated[3] that 46% of the Syrian population was rural. As such, it was planned to allocate half of the total clusters to rural locations. Based on the World Bank estimates and the United Nation's Humanitarian Needs Assessment Programme (HNAP) population updates in April 2020, a threshold of

---

[1] The COVID-19 Response Tracking Dashboard for Northwest Syria:
https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiNTRiNjZlOGQtZTQxMi00N2FhLTg0ODctOWYwMjgzOWQyYTZlIiwidCI6ImY2MTBjMGI3LWJkMjQtNGIzOS04MTBiLTNkYzI4MGFmYjU5MCIsImMiOjh9&pageName=ReportSectionb57388c4c756b1036a93
[2]https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov)-outbreak
[3] https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.RUR.TOTL.ZS?locations=SY

14,000 was used to classify communities as urban or rural. While not an ideal approach, this was perceived as an acceptable method given the uncertainties of available population estimates. After calculating the number of clusters in each district, it was divided into rural and urban clusters according to the population size where a community with less than 14,000 was considered rural.

A cluster with 25 surveys to be conducted was randomly assigned to a single community. Households from four separate areas of the community were selected with regular intervals depending on the number and distribution of households to ensure a geographically representative sampling, and the first adult member met within the household was interviewed by each surveyor.

Table 1 shows the population figures and distribution of clusters over rural and urban districts:

Table 1: population figures and distribution of clusters over districts

District	Population	Clusters	Population of communities less than 14,000	Rural	Urban
Afrin	431,995	3	273,448	2	1
Al Bab	209,496	2	61,773	1	1
Ariha	121,458	1	97,842	1	0
A'zaz	596,590	4	260,114	2	2
Harim	1,638,461	12	640,448	5	7
Idleb	599,275	4	158,998	1	3
Jebel Saman	149,706	1	122,430	1	0
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	308,062	2	221,927	1	1
Total	4,055,043	30	1,836,980	15	15

In each district, the target communities were randomly selected using Excel's random formula. Table 2 shows the 30 selected communities:

Table 2: the randomly selected communities and their population and classification

#	Governorate	District	Subdistrict	Community	Population	Type
1	Idleb	Ariha	Ariha	Kafraziba	620	Rural
2	Aleppo	Azaz	Aghtrin	Aziziyeh (Aghtrin)	1,849	Rural
3	Aleppo	Jebel Saman	Atareb	Babka	3,072	Rural
4	Aleppo	Jebel Saman	Atareb	Abin Samaan	12,483	Rural
5	Idleb	Harim	Dana	Al Haneen camp	312	Rural
6	Idleb	Harim	Dana	Bani Omiyet camp	665	Rural

7	Idleb	Harim	Dana	Al Rayan (Qah) camp	1,232	Rural
8	Idleb	Harim	Dana	Al Wafa camp	1,549	Rural
9	Idleb	Harim	Dana	Al Faroq Omar camp	1,128	Rural
10	Idleb	Harim	Dana	Sarmada	104,189	Urban
11	Idleb	Harim	Dana	Selwa	29,391	Urban
12	Idleb	Harim	Dana	Kafr Kafaldin	18,866	Urban
13	Idleb	Harim	Dana	Termanin	30,012	Urban
14	Idleb	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	Badama	Kherbet Eljoz	21,378	Urban
15	Aleppo	Afrin	Jandairis	Jandairis	46,518	Urban
16	Idleb	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	Darkosh	Andnaniyeh - Farjein	2,402	Rural
17	Aleppo	Afrin	Raju	Koran Afrin	736	Rural
18	Idleb	Harim	Salqin	Eskat	27,974	Urban
19	Aleppo	Azaz	Suran - Aleppo	Kafrshush	288	Rural
20	Idleb	Harim	Qourqeena	Qourqeena	15,718	Urban
21	Idleb	Harim	Kafr Takharim	Kafr Takharim	30,454	Urban
22	Idleb	Idleb	Maaret Tamsrin	Kafr - Kafrehmul	16,521	Urban
23	Aleppo	Azaz	Mare	Mare'	36,789	Urban
24	Aleppo	Azaz	Azaz	Bab Alsalameh	33,300	Urban
25	Aleppo	Al Bab	Al Bab	Waqqah	580	Rural
26	Aleppo	Al Bab	Al Bab	Al Bab	98,601	Urban
27	Aleppo	Afrin	Mabtali	Ma'btali	4,588	Rural
28	Idleb	Idleb	Maaret Tamsrin	Beeret Kaftin	1,812	Rural
29	Idleb	Idleb	Maaret Tamsrin	Kelly	34,333	Urban
30	Idleb	Idleb	Maaret Tamsrin	Ma'arrat Tamasrin	64,917	Urban

The data collection was conducted in July 2020 by 28 trained surveyors (of which 5 were male and 23 were female) assigned by Relief Experts Association (UDER). The surveyors were trained by the UDER Turkey team, and provided with a daily feedback and support to ensure that challenges in data collection were addressed as early as possible. A data collection guide was developed including the Arabic-translated questionnaire and used during the surveyor training. Each individual survey was completed by the surveyor who interviewed a household member of the community in their assigned clusters. The data was instantly uploaded to an online database eliminating the chances of data-entry errors. No survey data was stored at the data collection locations to ensure the privacy of the respondents and the secure storage of the collected data.

3. Findings

3.1. Characteristics of participants

A total of 767 respondents participated in the survey, including 485 (63.2%) in Idleb, and 282 (36.8%) in Aleppo. Demographic characteristics of the survey participants are presented in Table 3:

Table 3: demographic characteristics of the survey participants

	Value	Percentage
Sex of the respondents		
Female respondents (%)	351	45.8%
Male respondents (%)	416	54.2%
Age of the respondents		
Mean age in years (range)	37.9 (18-81)	
Residential status of the respondents		
Host (%)	354	46.2%
IDP (%)	413	53.8%
Educational Attainment (highest completed) of the respondents		
No education or no formal education (%)	49	6.4%
Some primary school (%)	82	10.7%
Primary school completed (%)	157	20.5%
Intermediate school completed (%)	228	39.7%
Secondary school completed (%)	130	16.9%
College/ University completed (%)	79	10.3%
Other/refused to answer (%)	42	5.5%
Health conditions of the respondents (self-reported)		
Is COVID-19 Positive (%)	0	0.0%
Has been in contact with someone who has COVID-19 (%)	0	0.0%
Has asthma (%)	24	3.1%
Has a compromised immune system	13	1.7%
Has a serious heart condition	13	1.7%
Has diabetes	69	9.0%
Has hypertension (High Blood Pressure)	96	12.5%
Has other chronic illness	36	4.7%
No known issues or refused to answer	565	73.7%

3.2. Knowledge among participants towards face masks

When the knowledge was assessed, 375 (48.9%) participants knew the benefit of wearing a face mask in protecting both the wearer and others from infection, 344 (44.9%) knew that there are specific requirements for a face mask, 339 (44.2%) knew that the mask should cover the nose, mouth and chin, and 487 (63.5%) knew that the purpose of the metal strip on surgical mask is to securely fit the face mask on the nose. When asked if they have heard of or seen a fabric face mask, 365 participants (47.6%) said yes, of whom only 45 (12.3%) responded correctly to all of the six statements describing fabric face masks, while 350 (95.9%) responded correctly to at least one statement out of the six.

Table 4 below shows the responses to knowledge questions:

Table 4: the survey participants' responses to knowledge questions

	Value	Percentage
The benefit of wearing a face mask in protecting self and others		
Correct	375	48.9%
Wrong	339	44.2%
Didn't know nor answer	53	6.9%
Are there specific requirements for a face mask?		
Correct	344	44.9%
Wrong	98	12.8%
Didn't know nor answer	325	42.4%
To which extent the mask should cover of the face?		
Correct	339	44.2%
Wrong	367	47.8%
Didn't know nor answer	61	8.0%
What is the purpose of the metal strip on a surgical mask?		
Correct	487	63.5%
Wrong	50	6.5%
Didn't know nor answer	230	30.0%
Have you heard of or seen a fabric face mask?		
Yes	365	47.6%
No	396	51.6%
Refused to answer	6	0.8%

What do you think that a fabric face mask means?		
Responded correctly to all 6 statements	45	12.3%
Responded correctly to least 1 statement	350	95.9%
Didn't respond correctly to any statement	15	4.1%

3.3. Attitude among participants towards face masks

567 participants (73.9%) expressed that they might get infected with COVID-19, with a slightly higher number (n=569, 74.2%) thought that wearing a face mask can protect them from COVID-19, either for certain or to some degree.

Table 5 below shows the responses to attitude questions:

Table 5: the survey participants' responses to attitude questions

	Value	Percentage
Do you think that you might get infected with COVID-19?		
Yes or maybe	567	73.9%
No	97	12.6%
Didn't know or refused to answer	103	13.4%
Do you think that wearing a face mask can protect you from COVID-19?		
Yes or to some degree	569	74.2%
No	85	11.1%
Didn't know or refused to answer	113	14.7%

3.4. Practice among participants towards face masks

When evaluating the correct practices, 259 respondents (33.8%) said they always or sometimes wore a face mask when they leave their home. Around two thirds of the participants (n=498, 64.9%) said they never wear a face mask outside. Female respondents reported wearing face masks at a lower rate compared to male respondents (62.0% vs 68.4% respectively), as a significant proportion of women (10.1%) reported wearing a niqab (a face covering worn by Muslim women) instead. One female participant said: "I wear a niqab, which is an alternative to the face mask".

When asked about the type of face mask the wearers used, 153 (59.1%) said they wore a surgical face mask, and 50 (38.6%) reported wearing fabric ones, either home-made or store-bought.

The most common reason for not wearing a face mask in the outside, either always or sometimes (681 respondents out of 767), was inability to afford buying one (n=299, 43.9%), followed by the perspective that face masks are uncomfortable (n=267, 39.2%).

Less common reasons included fearing that people will laugh if the respondents wore a face mask (n=115, 16.9%), lack of knowledge about how to make a home-made mask (n=92, 13.5%), feeling that the respondents would look strange if they wear a face mask (n=91, 13.4%), and lack of belief that face masks are effective in preventing the spread of COVID-19 (n=51, 7.5%). 69 participants (10.1%) mentioned other reasons, including wearing a niqab instead, unavailability of face masks in some areas, absence of confirmed cases in some communities, limited contacts with people even when outside, and the desire to breathe fresh air. Competing living priorities also seem to play a role: "the price of a face mask is equal to the price of bread," said a male respondent from Aleppo.

Table 6 below shows the responses to practice questions:

Table 6: the survey participants' responses to practice questions

|	Value	Percentage
When you leave your home, do you typically wear a face mask?		
No, never	498	64.9%
Sometimes	183	23.9%
Yes, always	76	9.9%
Refused to answer	10	1.3%
What type of mask do you wear?		
Surgical	153	59.1%
Fabric store-bought	65	25.1%
Fabric home-made	35	13.5%
Other	4	1.5%
Didn't know nor answer	4	1.5%
Why do you not wear a mask when you leave your home?		
I can't afford to buy a face mask	299	43.9%
Face masks are uncomfortable	267	39.2%
People will laugh at me if I wear a face mask	115	16.9%
I don't know how to make a home-made mask	92	13.5%
I feel that I would look strange if I wear a face mask	91	13.4%
I don't believe that face masks are effective	51	7.5%
Other	69	10.1%
Didn't know nor answer	67	9.8%

4. Further analysis

An additional analysis was introduced after dividing the responses into two age groups to outline the difference in knowledge, attitude and practices between these two groups of participants. This comparison cannot be considered fully representative of the situation in NWS as the survey didn't aim at interviewing an equal number of participants from each group, nor a representative number of participants proportionate to the age groups in NWS. The proportion of above 50 in NWS is estimated at 7% according to the HNAP for Syria, while the survey included 17.6% of respondents (135 out of 767) from this group which resulted in an over representation of the above 50. This further analysis was done considering that age groups above 50 years can be more affected if they were infected with COVID-19 and it provides partially indicative results.

4.1. Knowledge:

While 53% of below 50 years of age reported that a face mask can protect both the wearer and others, only 32% reported the same from above 50, and 16% didn't know the answer compared to 5 % of the first group.

Figure 1: What is the benefit of wearing a face mask in your opinion?
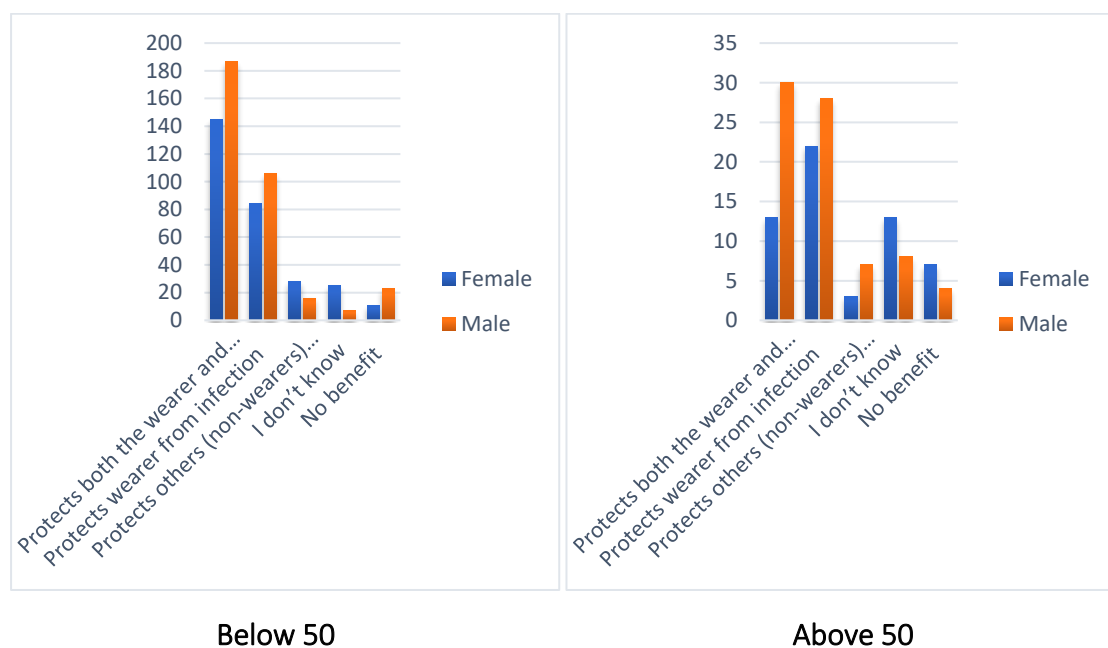
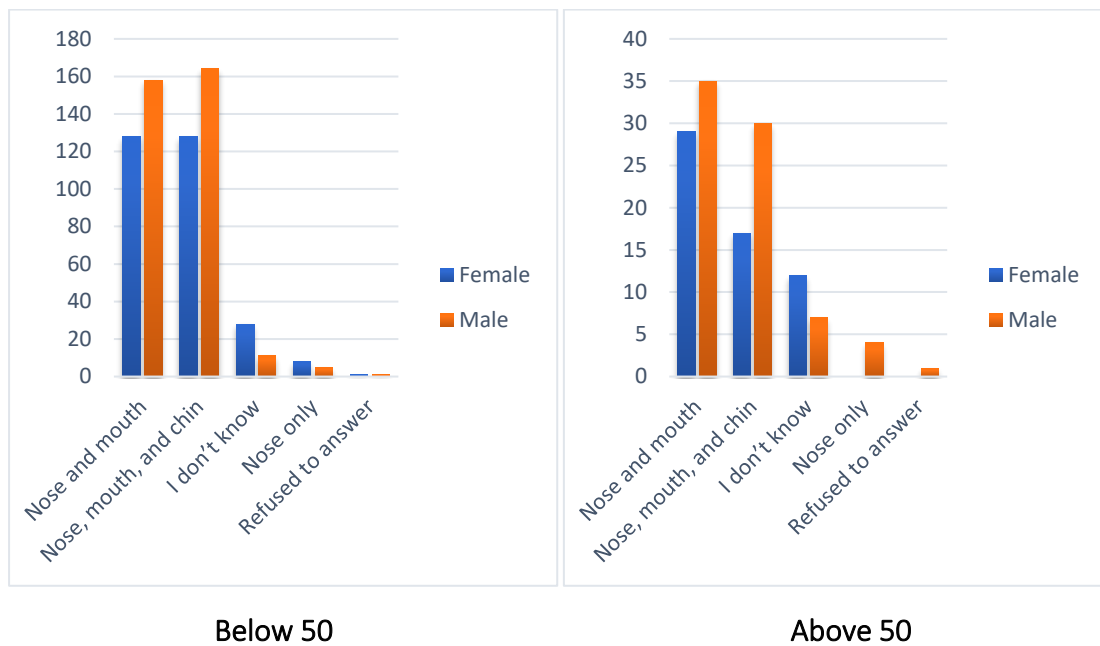Below 50   Above 50

A general lack of knowledge of the conditions that a face mask must meet with 13% of below 50 and 11% of above 50 reporting that the mask has to meet specific conditions. At the same time 39% of below 50 didn't know the answer compared to 56% of above 50.

Figure 2: Are there specific requirements for a face mask?
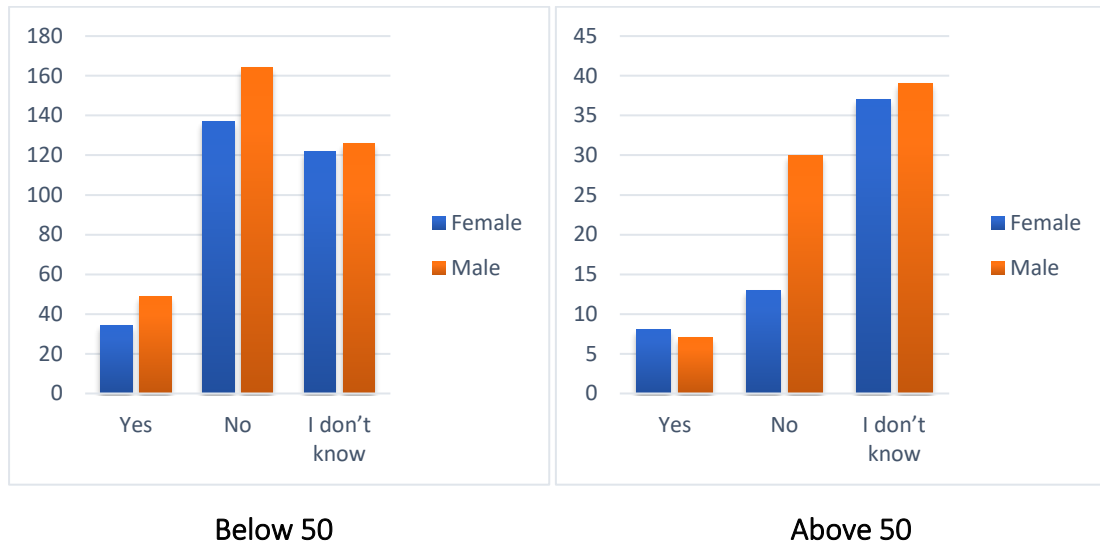
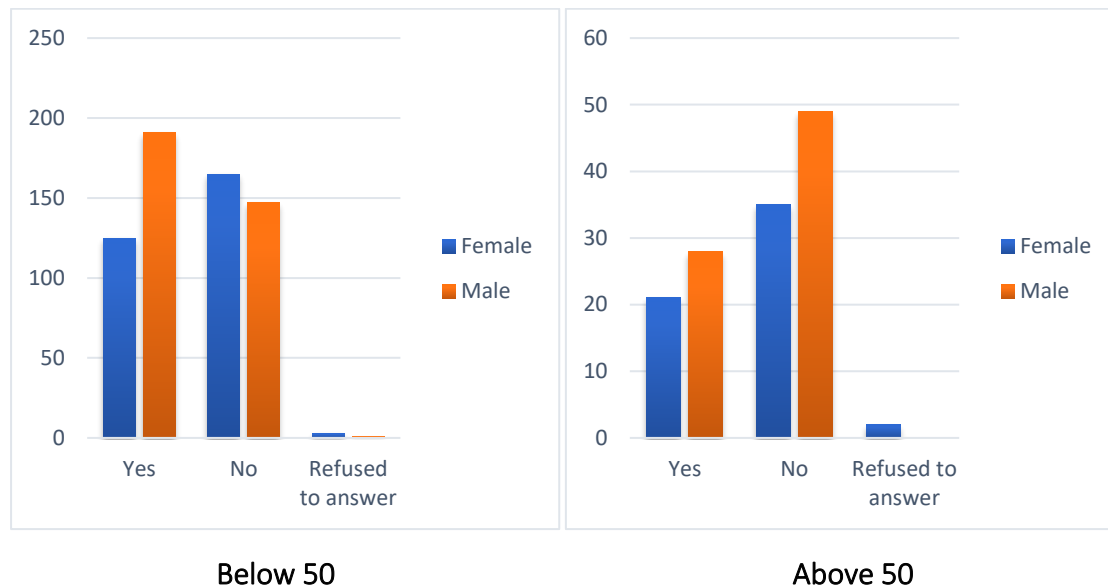Below 50   Above 50

When asked about the area of the face that a face mask must cover to ensure the wearer's protection, only 46% of below 50 and 35% of above 50 reported the correct answer. Not being able to provide an answer was also present for this question with 14% of above 50 and 6% of below 50 with a slightly higher proportion for female respondents in both groups.

Figure 3: For proper wearing, to which extent the face mask should cover?

Below 50   Above 50

And finally, 49% of below 50 reported that they haven't seen or heard of a fabric facemask, compared to 62% of above 50. It was observed that while men and women who didn't know of facemasks represented 64% and 60% respectively of all men and women above 50, the results of below 50 were less consistent with women who didn't know of facemasks representing 56% of all of the women in this age group compared to 43% of all the men in the same group.
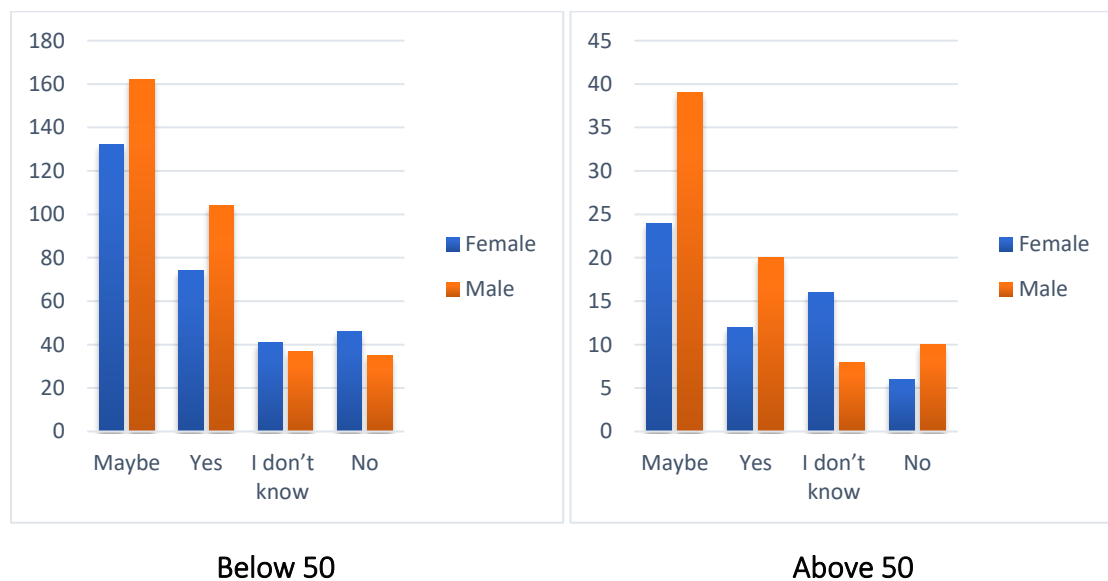
Figure 4: Have you heard of, or seen a fabric facemask?

Below 50   Above 50

4.2. Attitude:

75% of all of the below 50 respondents and 70% of the above 50 reported that they might get infected with COVID-19. This was reported by 70% of women and 78% of men below 50 compared to 62% of women and 77% of men above 50.

Figure 5: Do you think that you might get infected with COVID-19?

Below 50   Above 50

When asked if a face mask can provide protection from COVID-19 to the respondents, 76% of below 50 and 67% of below 50 reported that a face mask can provide a degree of protection, compared to 11% of each group who reported that it wouldn't provide protection, while 13% and 22% didn't have an answer from each group. It was observed that the proportion of female who didn't have an answer to all women was higher in the above 50 with 29% compared to 15% in below 50, while men didn't present with a significant difference (17% of above 50 compared to 11% in below 50).

Figure 6: Do you think that wearing a face mask can protect you from COVID-19?
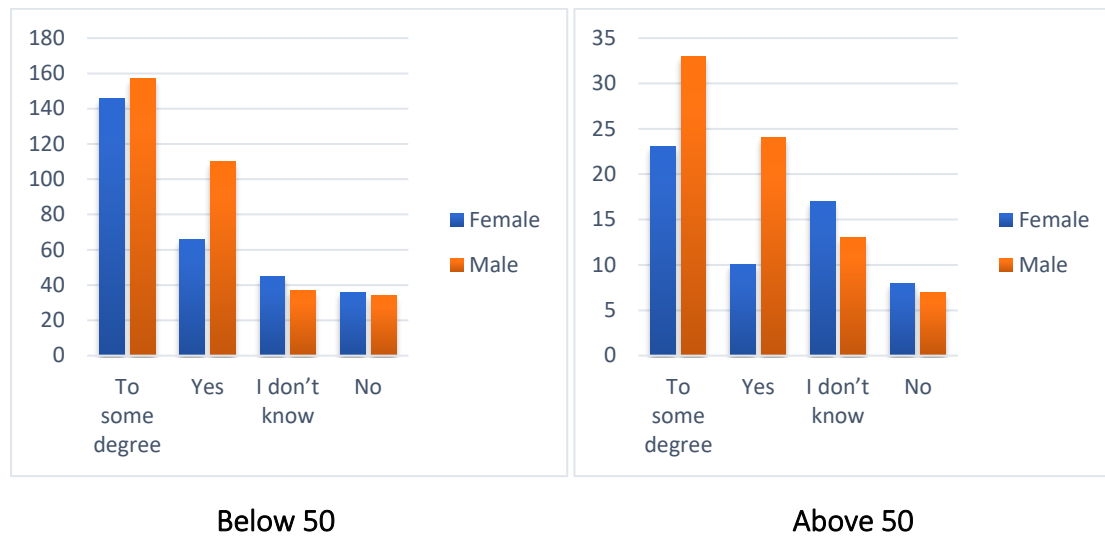
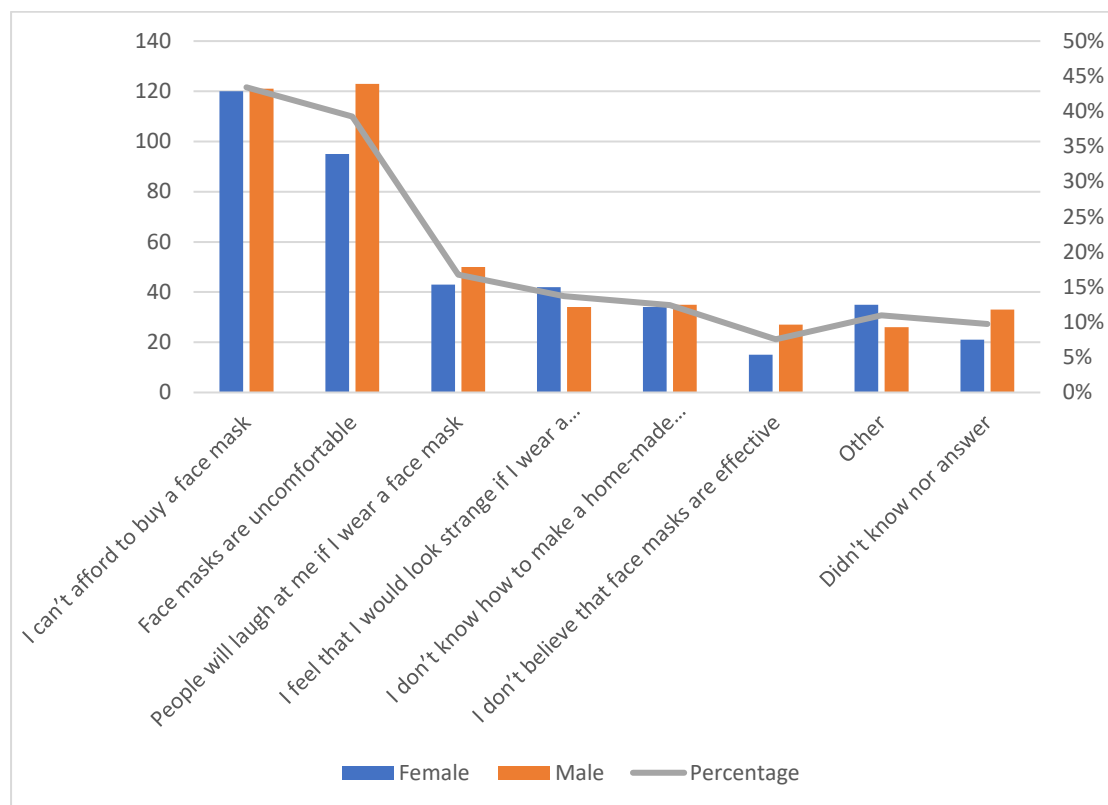Below 50   Above 50

4.3. Practices:

80% of the above 50 reported that they never use facemasks outside their homes compared to 62% of below 50. This was reported by women below and above 50 at 65% and 86% of the women in their groups, compared to men at 59% of below 50 and 75% of above 50. The observation that the above 50 reported not wearing face masks at a much lower rate compared to the below 50 comes with a particular importance knowing that 26% and 15% of above 50 reported having diabetes and hypertension compared to 4% and 7% respectively for each disease in the below 50 group.

Figure 7: When you leave home, do you typically wear a face mask?

Below 50   Above 50
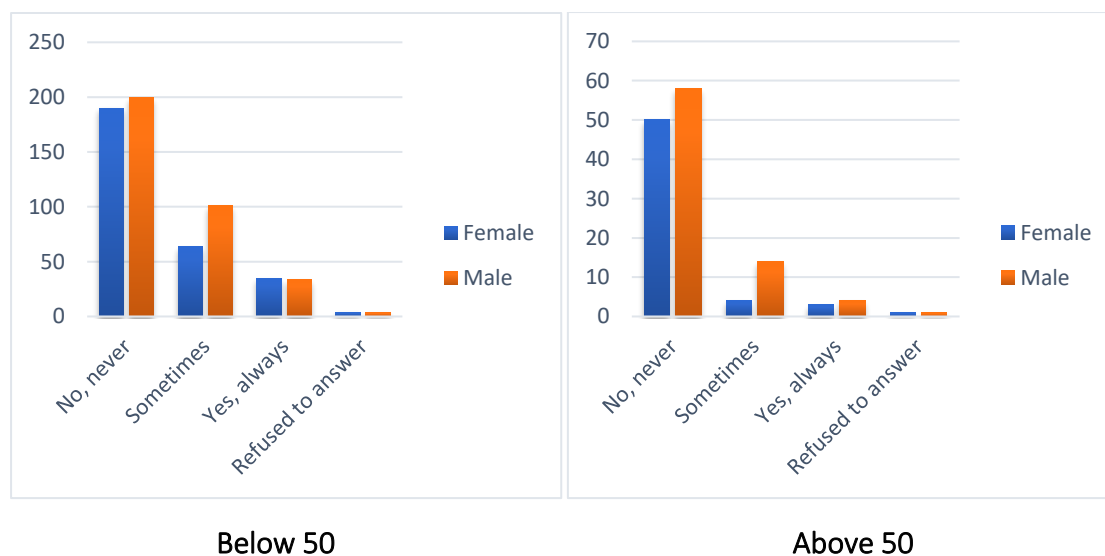
Out of the below 50 respondents, 555 (301 male and 254 female) reported that they sometimes or always do not wear face masks outside their homes. Male and female participants showed close proportions for the different reasons for not wearing facemasks, however the perception of discomfort was more reported by male below 50.

Figure 7: Why do you not wear a mask when you leave home? (answers by the below 50 years of age)

Below 50

Figure 8: Why do you not wear a mask when you leave home? (answers by the above 50 years of age)
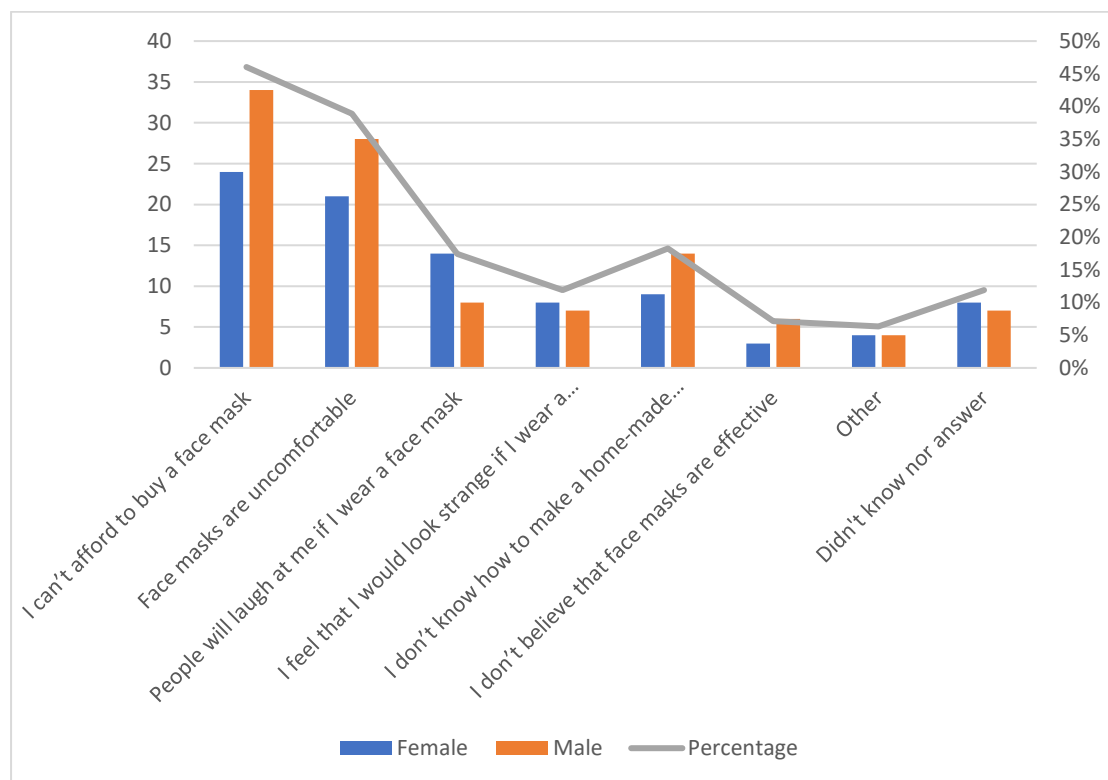

Above 50

In the above 50 group, economical reasons, discomfort, and the lack of knowledge of making a home-made mask were more visible at men above 50 compared to women, while women reported the concern of community acceptance at a higher proportion compared to men.

Below is a comparison of the proportion of responses for each age/sex group out of the total responders in each group who reported that they sometimes or always not wear face masks in the outside.

The comparison (although the size of each group is different), shows almost consistent proportions in each response category between different age/sex groups. However, it seems that community acceptance (people will laugh at me if I wear a face mask) was more reported by female above 50 compared to the other groups. Male above 50 were the highest to report not knowing how to make a facemask. Male below 50 were the least to report economical factors (cannot afford to buy) as a reason not to wear a facemask while female below 50 were the highest to report other reasons (mainly wearing Niqab).

Figure 9: Why do you not wear a mask when you leave home? (proportion of responders in each age/sex group)
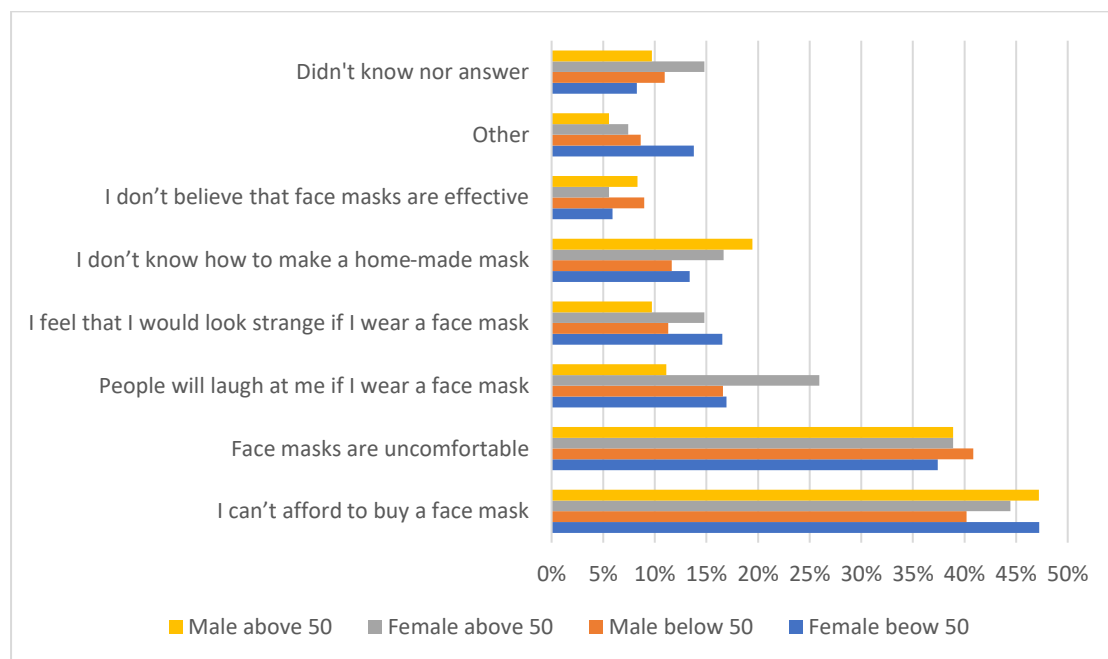
6. Limitations

While the survey can provide a snapshot of the knowledge and attitude of the people in northwest Syria towards facemasks and other areas related to COVID-19, the results

of the survey depend on self-reported practices, which have been reported to be less adhered to in actual similar practices such as handwashing.[4]

Based on the availability of trained researchers in NW Syria during the execution of the survey, only one fifth of the researchers were female 5 out of 28. More female researches can be trained for similar surveys to ensure that female respondents are more encouraged to participate in similar surveys. The survey didn't intentionally consider equal age groups which can limit the comparison of responses received from different age groups.

7. Conclusions and Recommendations

While the attitude among survey participants towards face masks was good, as around three-quarters thought that wearing a face mask can protect them from COVID-19, either for certain or to some degree, knowledge and practice of the participants regarding the use of face masks were found to be inadequate. Four knowledge-related questions out of five were responded to correctly by only less than half of the respondents, and around two thirds of the participants said they never wore a face mask outside their homes. In short, the survey participants had a positive attitude but moderate-to-poor level of knowledge and practice regarding the use of face masks.

Key recommendations from the survey include:

1. As the knowledge among survey participants about face masks was inadequate, increasing the public awareness-raising campaigns and activities promoting the proper use of non-medical (fabric) face masks by the community could be helpful during this pandemic. The campaign may have more focus on people (particularly women) above 50 years of age due to the higher gaps in their knowledge compared to the below 50. In many areas, women above 50 showed lower levels of knowledge compared to men, while in the Syrian context, their role in raising children is more important.

2. Since the most common reason for participants' who didn't wear face masks outside their homes was inability to afford buying one, providing face masks and distributing them to the population for free is expected to increase the practice significantly, especially that people seem to have a positive attitude towards wearing them. This can be combined with a campaign to educate the population on making home-made facemasks to overcome supply limitations.

3. Wearing a niqab by Muslim women in NW Syria is a common practice and perceived by many participants as an alternative to face masks, although there is no proof that niqabs are effective as face masks. Specific guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention[5] recommend that cloth masks must fit "snugly" on the sides of the face, but not all niqabs are tight-fitting. The

---

[4]
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/255722722_Actual_vs_Reported_Behavior_Increasing_Handwashing_in_Public_Restrooms
[5] https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-wear-cloth-face-coverings.html

resources of Corona Awareness Team of NW Syria don't currently include any specific instructions about niqabs, although they include a broader document named "Public advisory on the use of fabric facemasks[6]", therefore a clear set of guidelines should be developed for the use of niqabs as facemasks and included in CAT NW Syria resources.

4. In some areas, female participants reported less adherence to optimal practices or lower levels of knowledge. This may not necessarily translate in better practices applied by male respondents, but could also be associated with social norms and the desire to report self-adherence to best practices. These results are best interpreted when practices are observed in daily life.

5. The stigma around wearing face masks in public seem to be preventing a significant part of the population in NWS from wearing face masks, and could even be a reason for not following other preventive measures. More effort by educational campaigns and the media can be dedicated to reducing this stigma and this can be supported by public figures who present themselves wearing masks and following preventive precautions.

---

[6] https://drive.google.com/drive/u/4/folders/17XNDy81Y4xS_rA7pWTeP8sgSW5_lxkJ4

Annex 1. Questionnaire

Introduction and Consent

[Read as it is written]

Good [morning/afternoon], How are you?

My name is [facilitator name] and I am from UDER. I am here as part of the effort to assess the use of face masks in this area.

The purpose of our interview today is to gather your opinions about wearing face masks. I would like to go over a few logistical points before we begin:

The survey will last about 10 minutes. You can leave at any time, but it would be very helpful if you stay until the end.

You will not receive any compensation or payment for participating in this survey. This survey will not be used to gather information about any person specifically. Please be assured that everything we discuss during this survey will be kept in strict confidence and your real name will not appear in any of our results. As such, please make every effort to be open and honest when responding to the questions.

Nothing you say will have an impact whatsoever on your inclusion or exclusion to any programs that are currently being implemented or will be implemented in the future. Participation is completely voluntarily and you have the freedom to withdraw at any time and the freedom not to answer one or more questions. In case you refuse, it will not involve any loss of benefits or penalty and your participation does not involve giving up any legal rights.

Do you have any questions?

Do you agree to participate?
_____ Yes
_____ No

May I begin?

A. **Date of Interview: _____**

B. **Interview Start Time: _____**

Collected by the enumerator before the survey

1. **Name of surveyor: _____**

2. **Governorate:** *(Select one from the list)*

3. **District:** *(Select one from the list)*

---

4. **Subdistrict:** *(Select one from the list)*

5. **Community:** *(Select one from the list)*

6. **Type of the community:** *(Select one from the list)*
1. Urban
2. Rural
3. Camp

Respondent information

7. Sex *(Select one; Do not ask aloud)*
1. Male
2. Female

8. How old are you? *(Enter Number)* _____

9. What's your residential status? *(Select one)*
1. Host
2. IDP
3. Other (Please specify: _____)

10. How long have you lived in this location? *(Enter response in years; use decimal point to indicate partial years)* (Only if Q9 = 2)

11. What is the highest level of education you have completed? *(Select one)*
1. Some primary school
2. Primary school completed
3. Intermediate school completed
4. Secondary school completed
5. College/ University completed
6. Other (Please specify: _____)
7. Refused to respond

12. Do you have or are you one of the following: *(Select many)*
1. COVID-19 Positive
2. COVID-19 Symptoms (dry cough and fever)
3. Been in contact with someone who has COVID-19
4. Asthma
5. Chronic kidney disease being treated with dialysis
6. Chronic liver disease
7. Compromised immune system
8. Serious heart condition
9. Chronic lung disease
10. Diabetes
11. Hypertension (High Blood Pressure)
12. Other chronic illness

13. I don't know

14. Refused to answer

13. Are you a healthcare worker? *(Select one)*
1. Yes
2. No
3. Refused to answer

Face mask questions

Knowledge

14. What is the benefit of wearing a face mask in your opinion? *(Select one)*
1. Protects wearer from infection
2. Protects others (non-wearers) from infection
3. Protects both the wearer and others from infection (correct)
4. No benefit
5. I don't know
6. Refused to answer

15. Are there specific requirements for a facemask? *(Select one)*
1. No
2. Yes
3. I don't know
4. Refused to answer

16. For proper wearing, to which extent the mask should cover? *(Select one)*
1. Nose only
2. Nose and mouth
3. Nose, mouth, and chin (correct)
4. I don't know
5. Refused to answer

17. What is the purpose of the metal strip on a surgical mask? *(Select one)*
1. No purpose
2. To fit on the nose (correct)
3. To fit on the chin
4. I don't know
5. Refused to answer

18. Have you heard of or seen a fabric face mask? *(Select one)*

1. Yes
2. No
3. I don't know
4. Refused to answer

18a. If yes, what do you think that a fabric face mask means? *(Select many)* (Only if Q18 = 1)
   1. The same face mask used by health workers
   2. Made from regular fabric
   3. Sewed at home
   4. Different from face masks used by health workers
   5. Can be washed or disinfected and reused
   6. Should be used by all people other than health workers
   7. I don't know
   8. Refused to answer

Practices

19. When you leave your home, do you typically wear a face mask?
   1. Yes, always
   2. Yes, sometimes
   3. No, never
   4. I don't know
   5. Refused to answer

19a. If yes, what type of mask do you wear? *(Select many)* (Only if Q19 = 1 or 2)
   9. Fabric home-made
   10. Fabric store-bought
   11. Surgical
   12. Other, please identify:
   13. I don't know
   14. Refused to answer

19b. If no, why do you not wear a mask when you leave your home? *(Select many)* (Only if Q19 = 2 or 3)
   1. Face masks are uncomfortable (due to heat, irritation, hurts ears...)
   2. I can't afford to buy a face mask
   3. I don't know how to make a home-made mask
   4. I don't believe that face masks are effective in preventing the spread of DOVID-19
   5. I feel that I would look strange if I wear a face mask
   6. People will laugh at me if I wear a face mask
   7. Other (Please specify: _____)

8. I don't know
9. Refused to answer

Attitude

20. Do you think that you might get infected with COVID-19? *(Select one)*
1. Yes
2. No
3. Maybe
4. I don't know
5. Refused to answer

22. Do you think that wearing a face mask can protect you from COVID-19? *(Select one)*
1. Yes
2. No
3. To some degree
4. I don't know
5. Refused to answer

Survey Closing

"Thank you for your time and willingness to share your experiences with us. We have asked you a lot of questions and you have provided us with very valuable information. Please remember that all the information provided will be kept anonymous. We will use this information to help improve future programming. We will not share any of your personal information"

E. Survey End Time: _____

End of Survey