AZERBAIJAN
The impact of COVID-19 on women’s and men’s lives and livelihoods

WHY A RAPID GENDER ASSESSMENT?

The Government of Azerbaijan introduced various restrictive measures to stop the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, including a lockdown period between 24 March and 31 May. In response to the pandemic and the relatively limited data available, UN Women and UNFPA Azerbaijan, with support from the European Union, conducted a nationwide survey to assess the social and economic impact of COVID-19 on women’s and men’s lives and livelihoods. The data collection, which covered 1,512 respondents (18+ years), was conducted through computer-assisted telephone interviews between 26 April and 3 May 2020.

The coronavirus outbreak will have major consequences for the wealth of women, including the depletion of their spending power. The biggest losses in income for women and men were those generated from remittances, family businesses and farming.

Women faced more limitations than men when trying to access food (35% vs. 33%) due to market closures and the reduced opening hours of stores.

Women and men were not equally hit by job losses and reductions in paid working hours:
24% of men lost their jobs compared to 8% of women.
40% of the population faced a decrease in paid work hours, but they were still employed during the outbreak period.

In the framework of the “EU4Gender Equality: Together against gender stereotypes and gender-based violence” programme, funded by the European Union, implemented jointly by UN Women and UNFPA.
Every second person experienced some challenges in accessing medical supplies for personal protection.

Women and men faced the same challenges in accessing hygiene products and medical supplies for personal protection.

Gender discrepancies became more evident as the number of reported unpaid domestic activities increased:
- 9% of women reported increased time spent on at least three unpaid domestic activities
- 5% of men reported increased time spent on at least three unpaid domestic activities

Respondents faced greater difficulties in accessing health services and personal protective equipment, which may negatively affect women's and men's future health.

As women's economic security was shaken, their share of unpaid care and domestic work increased:
- 47% of women reported increased time spent on unpaid care work
- 46% of women reported increased time spent on unpaid domestic work
- 39% of men reported increased time spent on unpaid care work
- 35% of men reported increased time spent on unpaid domestic work

Women's psychological and mental health was more affected.

Women experienced more challenges seeking health services.

More women than men switched to home-based working

More women (47%) than men (16%) worked from home instead of their usual place of work during the outbreak.

Proportion of the population that experienced difficulties in accessing medical supplies and hygiene products

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<th>MEN</th>
<th>WOMEN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hygiene and Sanitary Products</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Supplies for Personal Protection (Masks, Gloves, Etc.)</td>
<td>47%</td>
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