GEORGIA

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

WHY A RAPID GENDER ASSESSMENT?

The Government of Georgia introduced various restrictive measures to stop the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, including a lockdown period between 24 March and 22 May. In response to the pandemic and the relatively limited data available, UN Women Georgia, with support from Norway and Joint SDG Fund, 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 1,069 respondents (18+ years), was conducted through computer-assisted telephone interviews between 4 and 8 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 (43% vs. 37%) 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:

- 31% of men lost their jobs compared to 26% of women
- 31% of the population faced a decrease in paid work hours, but they were still employed during the outbreak period

Women and men anticipate difficulties paying essential outgoings if restrictive measures continue.

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Employed women and self-employed men were the most affected by lockdown measures.
Every second person experienced some challenges in accessing medical supplies for personal protection.

Women faced greater difficulties in accessing hygiene products and medical supplies for personal protection.

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MEN</th>
<th>WOMEN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hygiene and Sanitary Products</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>22%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Supplies for Personal Protection (Masks, Gloves, etc.)</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
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