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# **Social impact of COVID-19 (Wave 3): Mobility, Migration, and Education in South Africa**

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**Social impact of COVID-19 (Wave 3): Mobility, Migration, and Education in South Africa / Statistics South Africa**

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## KEY FINDINGS

The key findings of the Wave 3 survey on the impact of COVID-19 on mobility, migration and education, conducted by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) between 17 June and 4 July 2020, were:

### MOBILITY

- **Change in residence:** About six per cent of respondents changed their provincial residence during the national lockdown. Of these respondents, the highest proportion moved during the few days between the announcement of the lockdown and the start of the lockdown. Regarding the reason for move, about one quarter of respondents indicated that they wanted to be closer to their family or friends.
- **Inter-provincial travel:** Approximately 12% of respondents indicated that they travelled across provincial boundaries since the start of the national lockdown. More than a quarter of these respondents indicated that they crossed provincial boundaries to attend funerals, while about 15% of respondents travelled to provide essential services, and approximately 13% travelled for non-essential work or business related travel. About 15% of respondents travelled to visit family or friends.

### INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

- **Migrant respondents:** About 90% of the respondents indicated that they were born in South Africa (non-migrants), whilst about nine per cent were international migrants (respondents indicated that they were born outside South Africa).
- **Remittances:** About 18% of migrants remitted during lockdown. About one-third of migrant respondents indicated that they remitted a smaller amount than they usually do. More than one-fifth of migrant respondents indicated that they did not remit during lockdown because they could not afford to send money.
- **Employment:** A much larger percentage of migrant respondents (22,5%) were unemployed as compared to non-migrants (9%). The report emphasizes the important role of mobility and migration in the South African economy.
- **Vulnerability:** Results from the vulnerability framework show that migrant respondents were generally more vulnerable than non-migrant respondents.

### EDUCATION

- **Education before lockdown:** Overall, more than nine-tenths of respondents indicated that their children were attending educational institutions before the start of the lockdown. The majority of the respondents (close to 73%) also said their children were participating in home schooling during the lockdown.
- **Technology:** Most of the children used educational material sent by the school through WhatsApp/email/D6 for home learning. More than three-quarters (75,9%) of respondents indicated that children had smart phones that could be used for home learning although many children had to share these devices with other users.

- **Children's wellbeing:** Only about one-quarter of respondents (25,7%) felt that it was safe for the children to return to school. Four-tenths (42,7%), however, felt that schools were ready to reopen after the lockdown.
- **Time use:** More than two-thirds (68,5%) of respondents strongly agreed that children spent more time watching television during the lockdown than usual, while close to 60% of respondents strongly agreed that children spent more time on the internet during the lockdown than usual. Furthermore, half of the respondents strongly agreed that children spent more time playing video games during the lockdown than usual.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact worldwide. The pandemic reached South Africa later than most of the world, but despite the delay, it has still had a wide-reaching impact on all South Africans. The president declared a state of national disaster on 23 March 2020. The lockdown, which was implemented on 26 March 2020 to prevent new infections, has influenced all residents and Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) has embarked on a series of three online surveys to measure the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on individuals in the country. Any person aged 18 years and older and who was present in South Africa during the national lockdown was able to participate and complete the survey.

The purpose of the surveys is to provide information that could be used by government and other service providers, to better understand the impact of the pandemic and to devise interventions to assist the population. This publication will be reporting on the third and final round of the survey (Wave 3), which focused on education, mobility and migration. Data collection for Wave 3 occurred during level 3 of the national lockdown between 17 June and 4 July 2020.

The first round (Wave 1) focused on health-related issues, specifically on behaviour, knowledge and perceptions around COVID-19 and the results were published on 30 April 2020 (download [http://www.statssa.gov.za/?page\\_id=1854&PPN=Report-00-80-02](http://www.statssa.gov.za/?page_id=1854&PPN=Report-00-80-02)). The second round (Wave 2) focused on employment and income around COVID-19 and the results were published on 20 May 2020 (download [http://www.statssa.gov.za/?page\\_id=1854&PPN=Report-00-80-03](http://www.statssa.gov.za/?page_id=1854&PPN=Report-00-80-03)).

### General survey information

Table 1.1 provides the general information about the Wave 3 survey, including details on the survey objectives, sample, selection criteria, the number of respondents, collection period and limitations.

**Table 1.1: General survey information**

Survey Information	
Survey objective	To provide information on the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on mobility, migration and education in South Africa
Sample	Non-probability, convenience sample
Selection criteria	Any person aged 18 years and older and who was present in South Africa during the national lockdown was able to participate and complete the survey
Number of respondents	1 323
Collection period	17 June–4 July 2020
Limitations	<p>This survey used a non-probability sample and respondents who chose to respond to this survey are not representative of the entire South African population. The results can, therefore, not be generalised to the entire South African population.</p> <p>Despite the limitations, convenience sampling was selected since it provides a quick, convenient and affordable way to gather data, particularly during a period where face-to-face visits are not possible.</p>

### Demographic characteristics of the respondents in the sample

The distribution and number of respondents by demographic characteristics (sex, population group, and age) are presented in Table 1.2. The survey sample largely consisted of females (56,2%), while six-tenths (61,3%) were black Africans, and one-quarter (25,1%) were white (25,1%). Coloureds (7,3%), Indian/Asians (4,2%) and unspecified population groups (2,1%) comprised the rest. The highest proportion of respondents were aged between 35 and 44 (36,0%), while 23,9% were younger than 35 years of age.

**Table 1.2: Distribution of the respondents in the sample, by demographic characteristics**

Demographic characteristic	Number of respondents	Percentage
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	572	43,2
Female	744	56,2
Other/ Unspecified	7	0,5
<b>Population group</b>		
Black African	811	61,3
Coloured	96	7,3
Indian/Asian	56	4,2
White	332	25,1
Other/ Unspecified	28	2,1
<b>Age cohort</b>		
18–34	316	23,9
35–44	476	36,0
45–54	375	28,3
55–64	128	9,7
65–74	22	1,7
75 and older	6	0,5
<b>South Africa</b>	<b>1 323</b>	<b>100,0</b>

### Spatial distribution of the respondents in the sample during the national lockdown

The number of respondents and their provincial distribution are presented in Table 1.3. The majority of respondents (53,4%) resided in Gauteng during the national lockdown, followed by 12,8% in Western Cape and 6,9% in Eastern Cape.

**Table 1.3: Spatial distribution of the respondents in the sample during lockdown**

Province	Number of respondents	Percentage
Western Cape	170	12,8
Eastern Cape	91	6,9
Northern Cape	26	2,0
Free State	54	4,1
KwaZulu-Natal	58	4,4
North West	53	4,0
Gauteng	706	53,4
Mpumalanga	45	3,4
Limpopo	46	3,5
Unspecified	74	5,6
<b>South Africa</b>	<b>1 323</b>	<b>100,0</b>

## 2. FINDINGS ON MOBILITY WITHIN SOUTH AFRICA

This section analyses the response from the respondents in the survey regarding mobility within South Africa during the national lockdown.

### Change of provincial residence during lockdown

Respondents were asked if they moved from one province to another after the national lockdown was announced, the timing of their move, as well as the reason for the move. Table 2.1 indicates that about six per cent of respondents changed their provincial residence during the national lockdown. Of these respondents, the highest proportion moved during the few days between the announcement of the lockdown and the start of the lockdown and more than a third of these respondents moved during May 2020. Regarding the reason for move, about one quarter of respondents indicated that they wanted to be closer to their family or friends. About twenty per cent of respondents attributed their move due to returning to their usual provinces of residence.

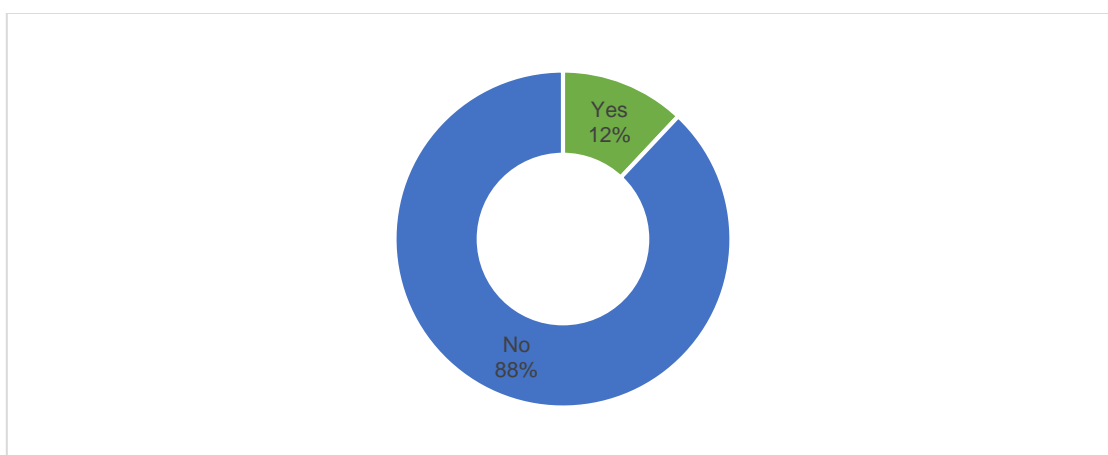
**Table 2.1: Percentage distribution of respondents who changed their provincial residence during lockdown**

Provincial residence during lockdown	Percentage
<b>Change of provincial residence during lockdown</b>	
Yes	5,9
No	94,1
<b>Period of move</b>	
In the few days between the announcement and the start of the lockdown	43,3
During April 2020	4,5
During May 2020	35,8
Since the beginning of June	16,4
<b>Reason for move</b>	
I returned to my usual province of residence after spending the initial lockdown period in another province	19,1
I wanted to be closer to family/friends	25,0
I did not feel safe in the province I usually live	4,4
It is cheaper to live here	1,5
Healthcare is better here	2,9
Other	47,1

**Inter-provincial travel during the national lockdown**

Respondents were asked if they travelled across provincial boundaries during the national lockdown. This question is different to the one discussed in Table 2.1 as that question involves a change in residence. This question deals with traveling across the province for purposes other than a change in residence. Figure 2.1 indicates that twelve per cent of respondents indicated that they did travel across provincial boundaries since the inception of the national lockdown.

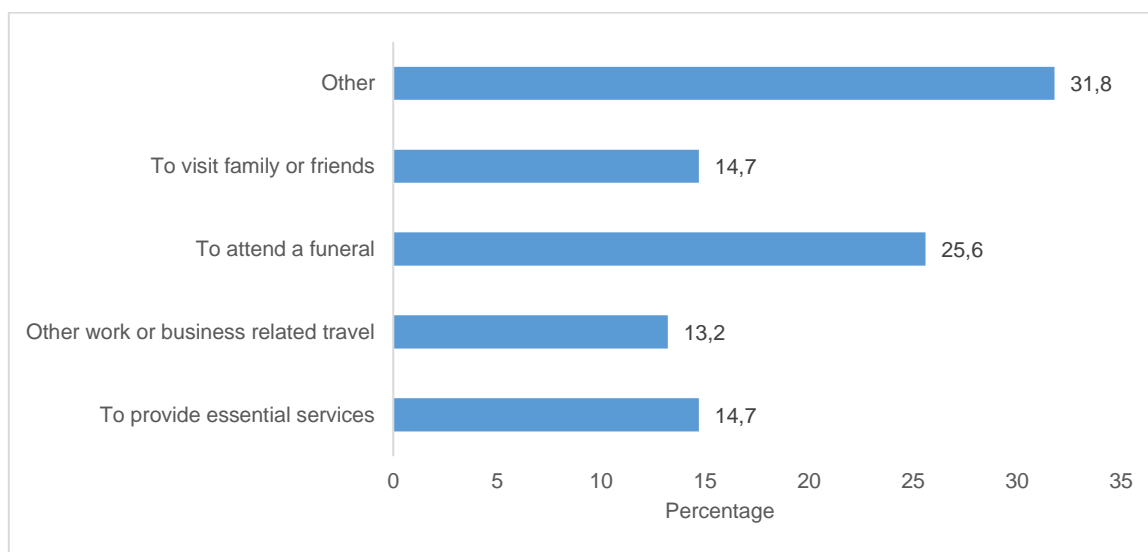
**Figure 2.1: Percentage distribution of respondents who travelled across provincial boundaries during lockdown**



### Reason for inter-provincial travel

Figure 2.2 illustrates that more than one-quarter (25,6%) of respondents that travelled across provincial boundaries did so to attend a funeral. An equal percentage (about 15% each) of respondents travelled to provide essential services, or to visit family or friends, whilst about 13% travelled for non-essential work or business related travel.

**Figure 2.2: Percentage distribution of respondents by reason for inter-provincial travel during lockdown**



## 3. FINDINGS ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

This section focuses on international migration, and provides results on employment, remittances and vulnerability. During a pandemic, livelihoods are affected and income-generating activities are reduced. As migrants are already a vulnerable group, therefore the COVID-19 lockdown could further impede migrants. This impact is far-reaching and goes beyond simply disrupting migrants’ earnings. It would also have a negative impact on the families and communities who depend on migrants’ support through remittances.

### Categorisation of migrant groups

In this section, lifetime migrants and non-migrants are compared. A lifetime international migrant is a person who was born in a different country than the one they reside in. While a non-migrant was born in South Africa, migrants are persons who resided in South Africa, but who were born in another country. This is presented in Figure 3.1.

**Figure 3.1: Categorisation of the population by migration status**

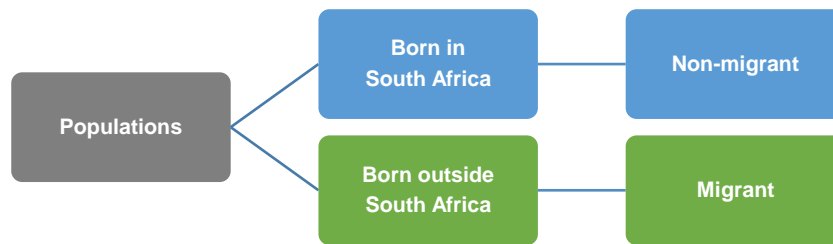


Table 3.1 shows that more than less than one-tenth (9,2%) of respondents were born outside South Africa.

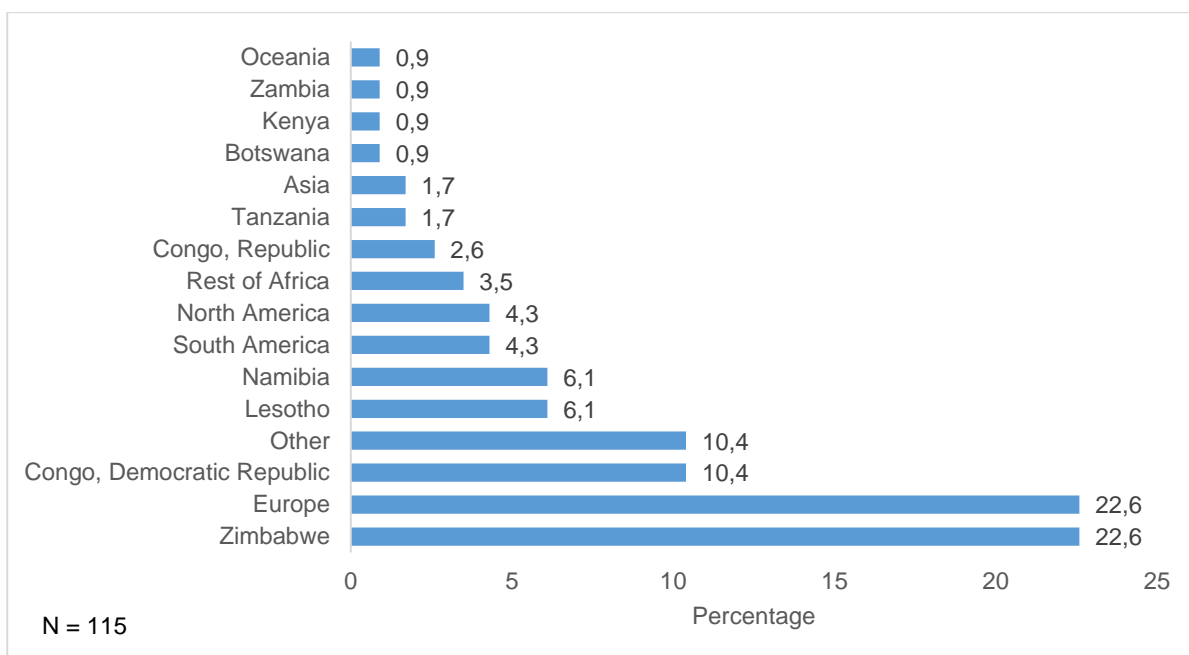
**Table 3.1: Distribution of the sample by migration status**

	Number of respondents	Percentage
Non-migrant	1 129	90,8
Migrant	115	9,2

**Country of birth**

The foreign born respondents’ countries of birth are presented in Figure 3.2. The figure shows that almost half of lifetime migrants were born in Zimbabwe (22,6%) and Europe (22,6%), while 10,4% were born in either the Democratic Republic of Congo and other countries. One-third of respondents were born in countries that are part of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. Other areas featured were South America, North America, the rest of Africa (outside the SADC region) and Asia.

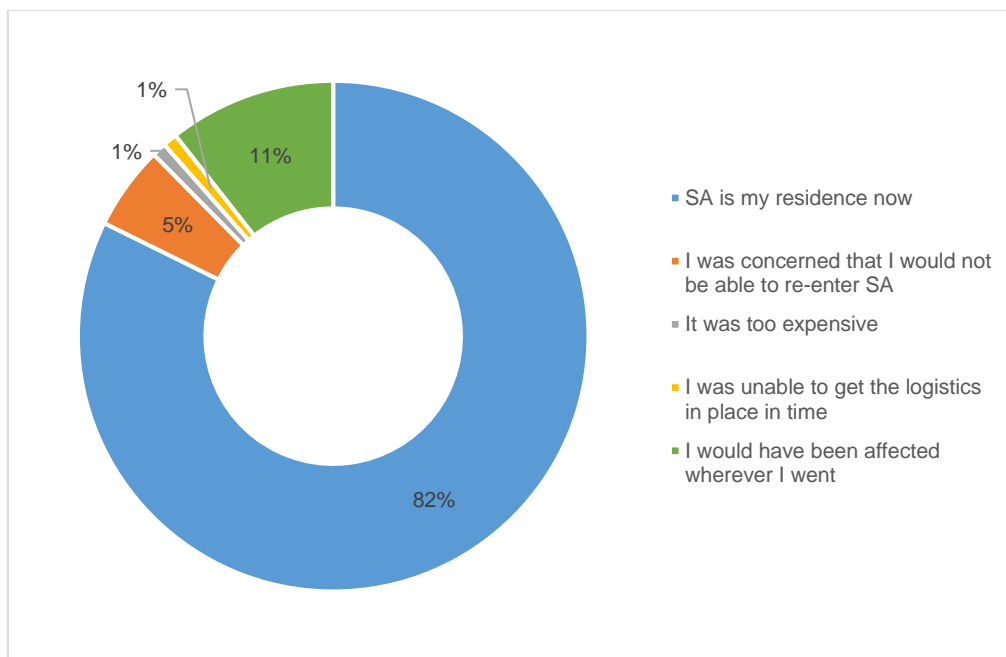
**Figure 3.2: Percentage distribution of the respondents who are migrants by country of birth**



### Reason for remaining in South Africa at the start of the lockdown

The reasons why migrant respondents remained in South Africa rather than return to their countries of birth when the lockdown was announced is presented in Figure 3.3. More than four-fifths (82%) of migrant respondents considered South Africa as their home, while 11% felt that the COVID-19 pandemic was global and that they would still be at risk, regardless of whether they moved. Five per cent of migrant respondents indicated that they were concerned that if they left South Africa they would be unable to re-enter South Africa, when they wanted to.

**Figure 3.3: Percentage distribution of migrant respondents by reason for remaining in SA during the lockdown**



### Remittances

Remittances are very often an important source of income for sending families, and any changes in the amount of remittances they receive will have a direct impact on the food security status, health and wellbeing of families in the countries of origin. The lockdown has, however, limited the amount of money migrants can remit while also preventing the sending of physical goods across borders due to the closure of the country’s borders. Less than one-fifth (18%) of migrant respondents continued to remit during the lockdown. This is presented in Figure 3.4.

**Figure 3.4: Percentage distribution of migrants who remitted during lockdown**

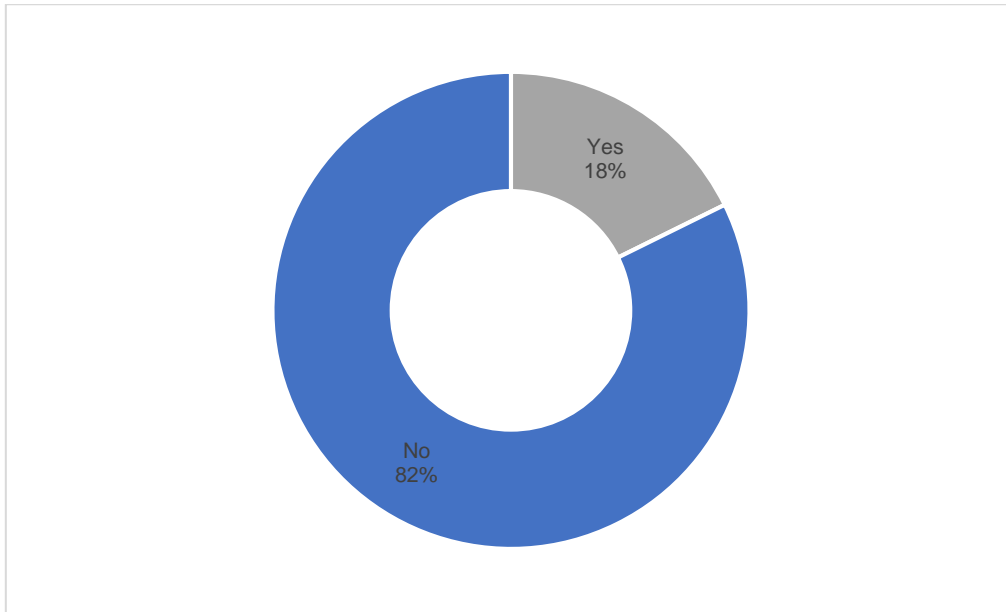


Figure 3.5 illustrates that very similar percentages of migrants remitted: a smaller amount (31%); the same amount (32%) and a larger amount (37%) than they usually did.

**Figure 3.5: Percentage distribution of migrants by amount remitted during lockdown compared to amount remitted before lockdown**

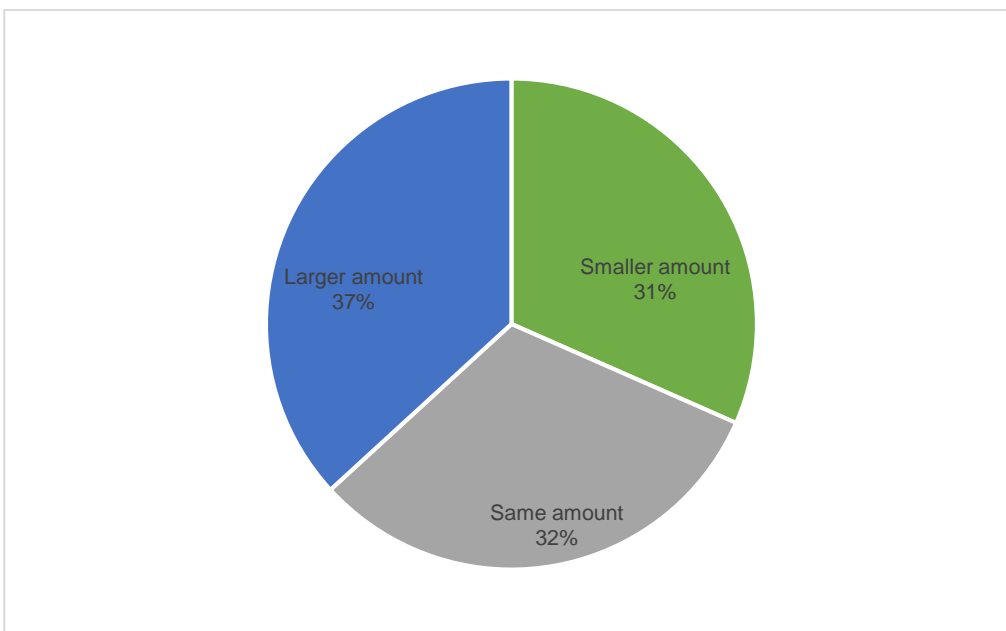
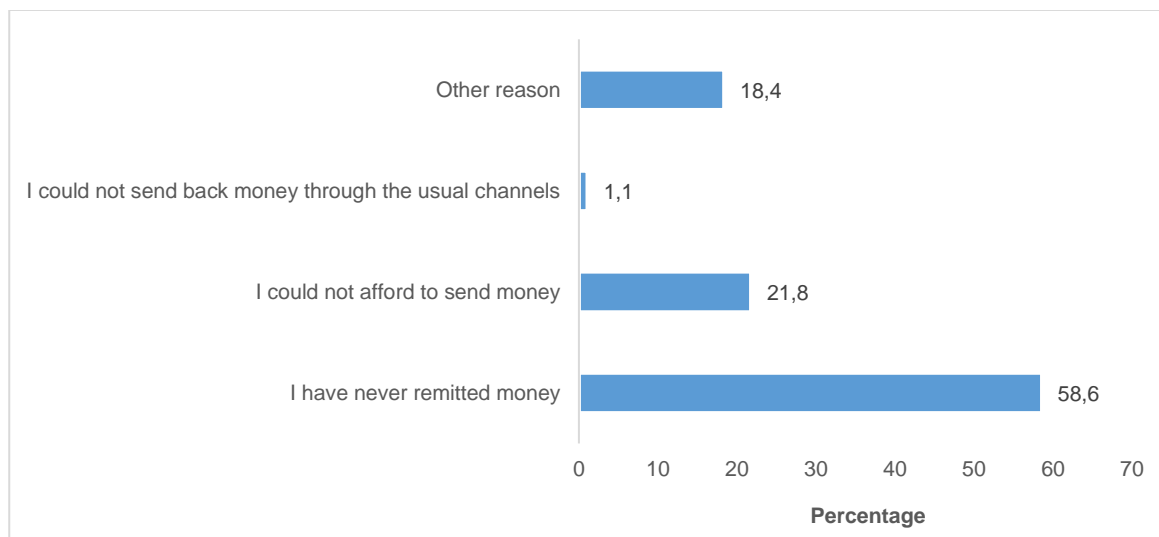




Figure 3.6 shows that 58,6% of migrants who did not remit money have never done so, while 21,8% could not afford to do so during lockdown. A small proportion of migrants indicated that they did not remit money because they could not use the usual channels through which they used to remit.

**Figure 3.6: Percentage distribution of migrants by reason for not remitting during lockdown compared to amount remitted before lockdown**

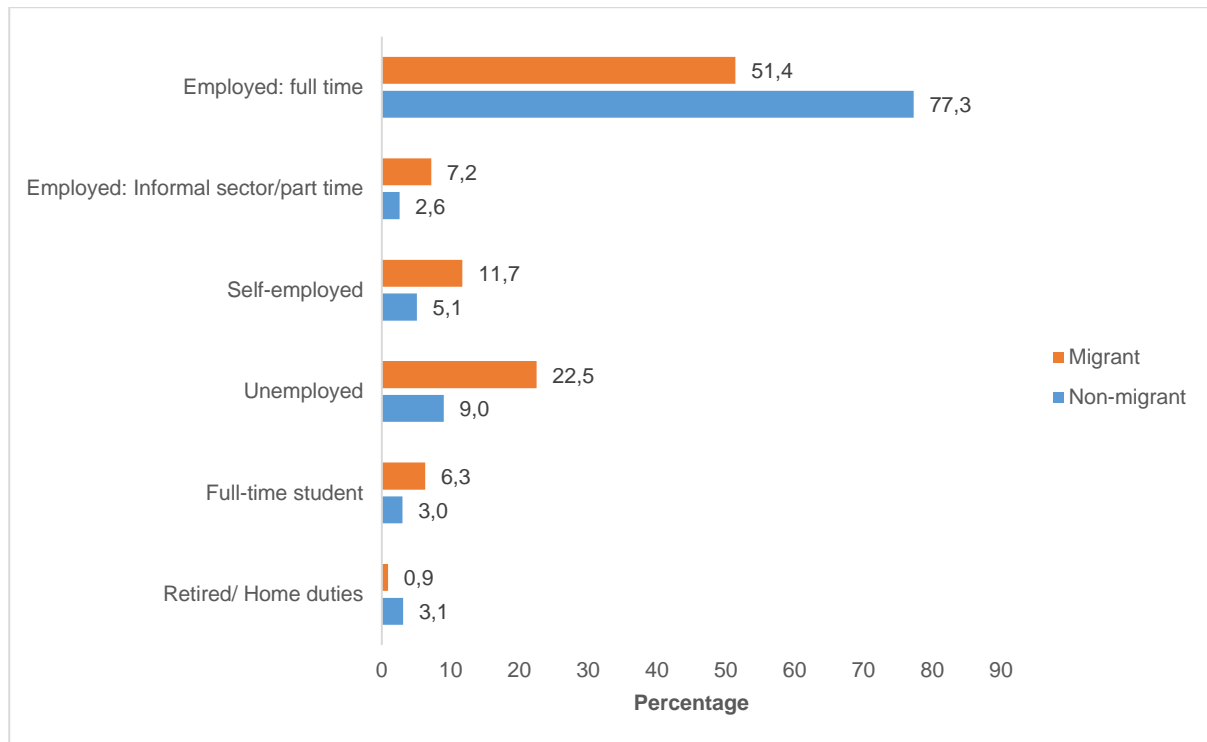


### Employment status

While the COVID-19 pandemic is having a far-reaching impact on the health of individuals, the national lockdown is also affecting the economy and the labour market. The impact of the pandemic on the economy and the labour market is likely to continue for some time into the future. South Africa was already in a technical recession before the national lockdown and the lockdown will lead to further contraction and job losses. While many businesses were, and remain closed, some had to cut back on their hours of operation leading to layoffs and a reduction of working hours and wages for many individuals. By contrast, some individuals continue to work as usual, either physically or remotely. The aim of this section is to assess the impact of COVID-19 on some aspects of the labour market. It should be noted that the sample is not representative of the larger population as it is a non-probability sample.

Figure 3.7 compares the employment status of migrant and non-migrant respondents. A higher percentage of non-migrants (77,3%) than migrants (51,4%) were employed on a full time basis. Inversely, 22,5% of migrants were unemployed compared to 9% of non-migrants. A higher proportion of migrants were employed in the informal sector, or were self-employed. Employment in the informal sector is largely an unprotected sector, with little or no safety nets. In a time such as any pandemic, those involved in the informal sector may be left more vulnerable without access to Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF), and may operate on the “no work, no pay” basis.

**Figure 3.7: Percentage distribution of employment status of the respondents, aged 18–64**



**Vulnerability framework**

Identifying and targeting those most vulnerable to contracting COVID-19, as well as those most likely to be affected by the pandemic, is key to slowing the spread of the virus. The questionnaire included six variables relevant to vulnerability and was used to create a vulnerability framework for respondents. Vulnerability was considered in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. Indicators included population aged sixty years and older, unemployment, participation in the informal sector/ working part-time, living in an informal dwelling/ shack, a household member with a chronic condition and living in a crowded household (a household with six people or more); or settlement. Table 3.2 provides the rationale for the selection of the vulnerability indicators.

**Table 3.2: Rationale for selection of vulnerability indicators**

Vulnerability indicator	Rationale
i. Population aged sixty years and older	All age cohorts are at risk of contracting COVID-19. However, older people face substantial risk of developing severe illness if they contract the virus. This is due to physiological reasons that are associated with ageing, such as increased morbidity and underlying health conditions.
ii. Unemployed	Persons who are unemployed may have limited finances to be able to eat nutritious meals, buy medication and access healthcare.
iii. Informal sector/ part time	Persons who are working in the informal sector or part time may be unable to work during the lockdown. They may have limited finances to be able to eat nutritious meals, buy medication and access healthcare.
iv. Informal dwelling/ shack	Persons living in informal dwellings may have to share water points and sanitation facilities with others, which may make them more vulnerable to contracting COVID-19.
v. Household member with a chronic condition	Persons with chronic conditions may be more at risk with developing more serious symptoms.
vi. Crowded households (6+)	Persons living in crowded households may not be able to self-isolate where necessary. They may also not be able to keep the necessary distance from each other.

Table 3.3 indicates that migrant respondents were generally more vulnerable than non-migrant respondents in four areas. These four areas were age, issues related to employment such as being unemployed, or participation in the informal sector as well as living in informal dwellings or shacks. Non-migrants (or those born in South Africa) were more vulnerable in one indicator (respondents indicating that a household member had a chronic condition). Responses were similar with migrants and non-migrants with regards to living in crowded households.

**Table 3.3: Percentage distribution of respondents by migration status and vulnerability indicators**

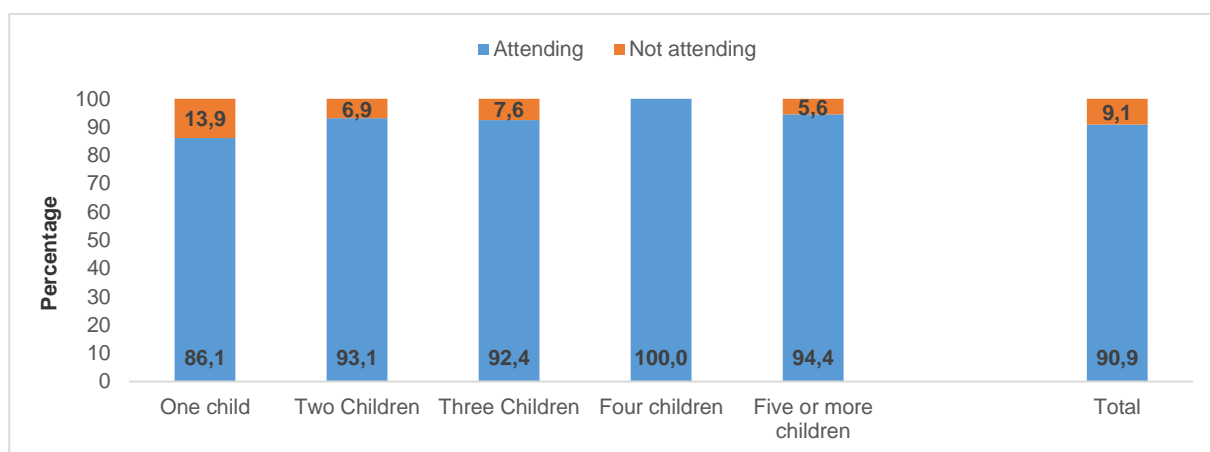
	Non-migrant	Migrant
i. Population aged 60 and older	5,7	7,8
ii. Unemployed	9,0	22,5
iii. Informal sector/ part time	2,6	7,2
iv. Informal dwelling/ shack	3,0	4,5
v. Household member with chronic condition	47,4	28,9
vi. Crowded household (6+)	16,1	15,2

## 4. EDUCATION

### Education before lockdown

Figure 4.1 indicates that the majority of respondents (90,9%) had children who were attending educational institutions before the start of the lockdown period. Among households that only had one child, 86,1% were attending school while 94,4% of households with five children and more were attending school before the start of the lockdown.

**Figure 4.1: Percentage distribution of respondents by number of children in the household who were attending educational institutions before the start of the lockdown**



Approximately 45% of respondents had children who were attending primary school before the start of the lockdown, while approximately one-third (32,3%) attended secondary schools. This is presented in Figure 4.2.

**Figure 4.2: Percentage distribution of respondents by the number of children in the household and educational institutions attended before the start of the lockdown**

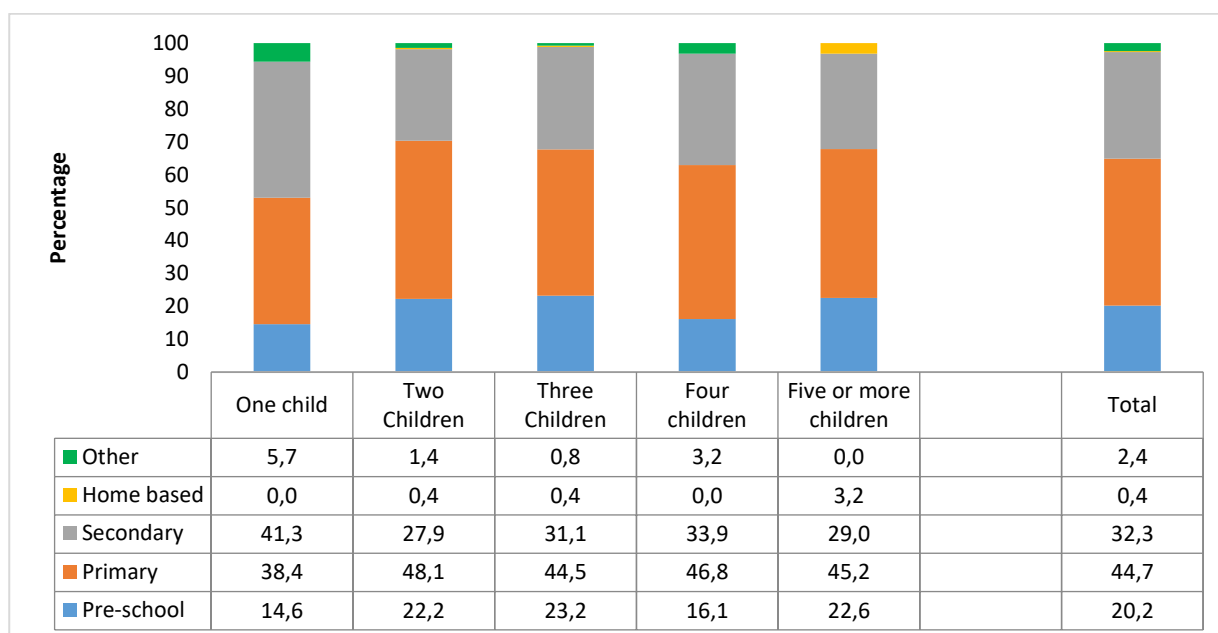
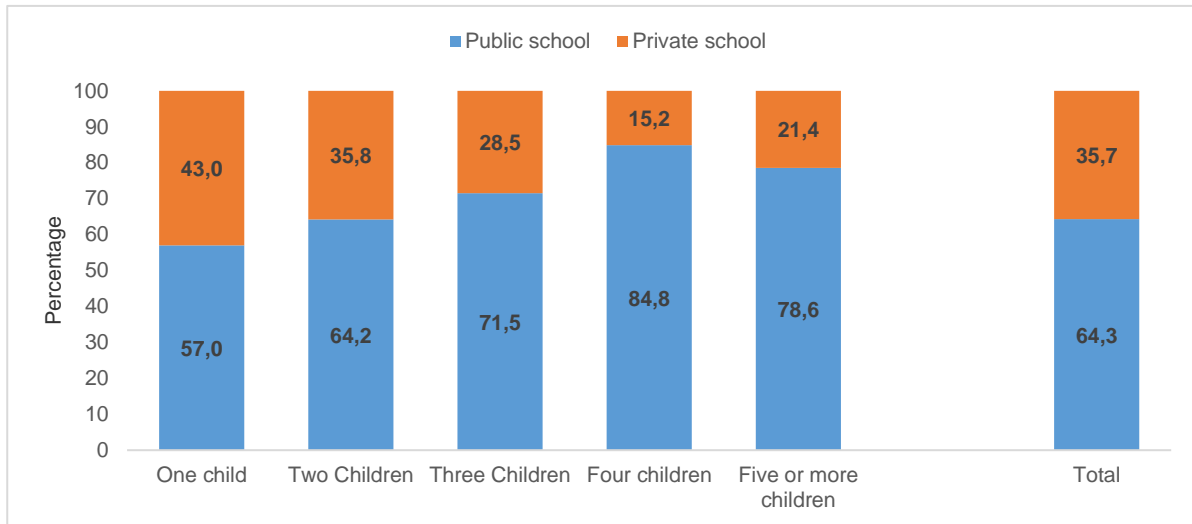


Figure 4.3 shows that close to two-thirds (64,3%) of respondents had children who attended public schools while 35,7% had children who attended private schools. Five out seven of respondents (71,5%) in a household had three children who attended public schools.

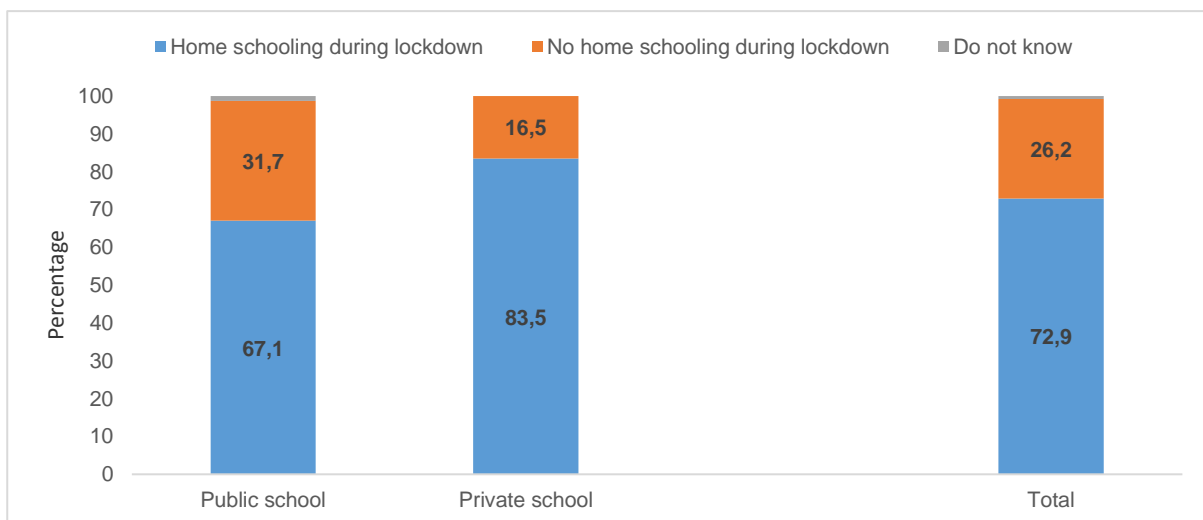
**Figure 4.3: Percentage distribution of respondents by the number of children in the household and type of educational institution attended before the start of the lockdown**



### Education during lockdown

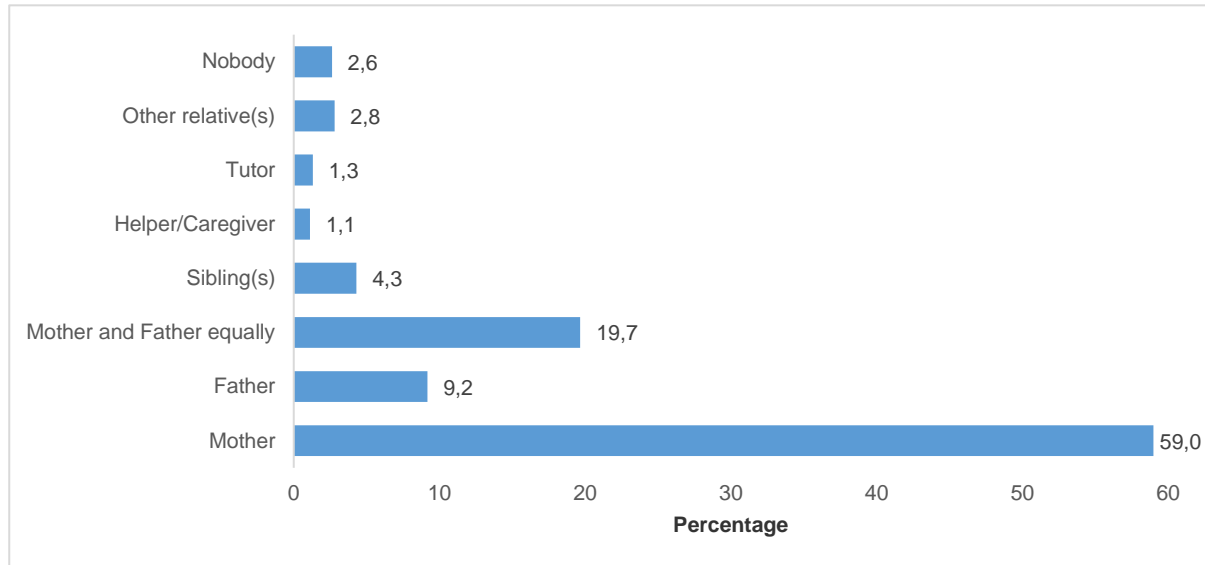
Figure 4.4 shows that the majority of respondents (72,9%) said that their children were participating in home schooling during the lockdown. Among respondents whose children attended public schools, 67,1% reported that their children participated in home schooling compared to 83,5% of those with children in private schools.

**Figure 4.4: Percentage distribution of respondents by participation in home schooling during the lockdown**



The majority of the respondents indicated that mothers were the primary supervisors who were guiding the learners during home education while approximately 20% of respondents indicated that fathers and mothers were involved equally in the supervision of learners. About 2,6% of respondents indicated that nobody supervised the learners during home education. This is presented in Figure 4.5.

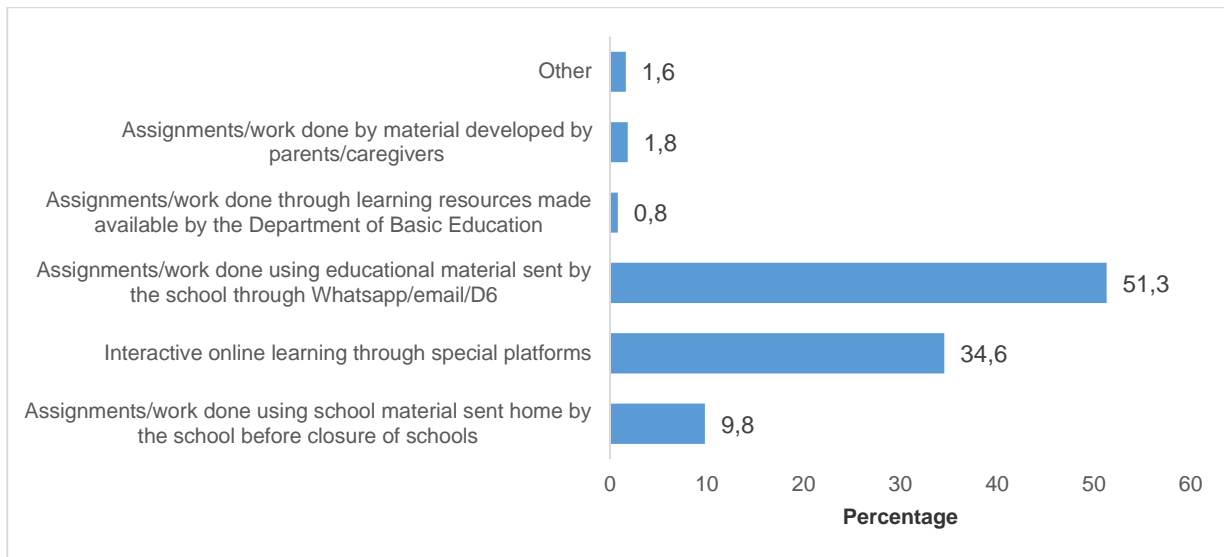
**Figure 4.5: Percentage distribution of respondents by primary person who supervises home learning during the lockdown**



### Structured programmes and support

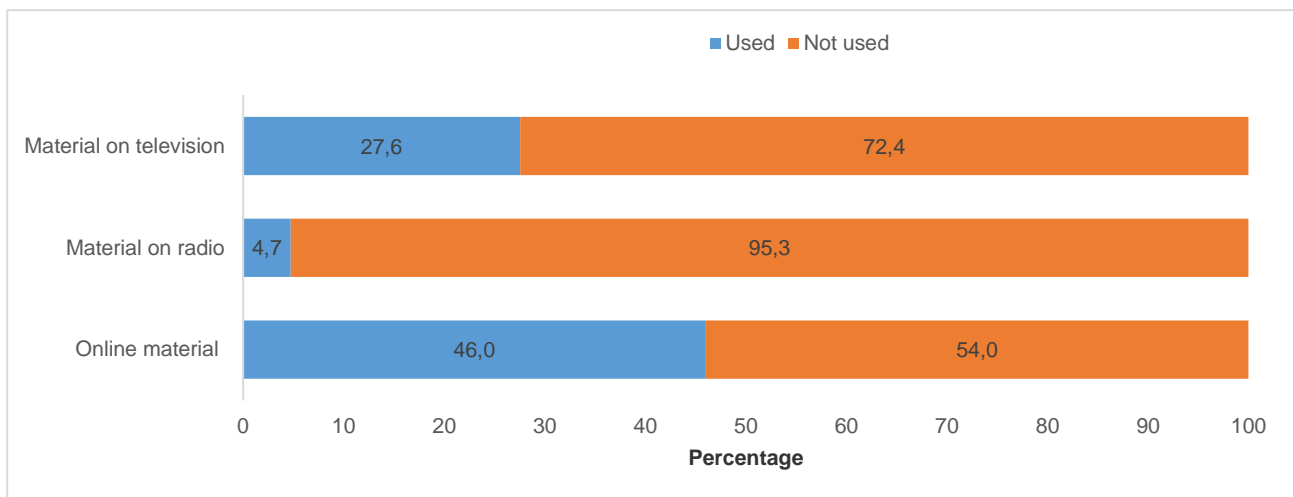
More than half of respondents (51,3%) said that they used educational material sent by the school through WhatsApp/email/D6, while more than one-third (34,6%) used interactive online learning through special platforms. About 10% of respondents used materials sent home by the schools before they were closed. This is presented in Figure 4.6.

**Figure 4.6: Percentage distribution of respondents by school activities during the lockdown**



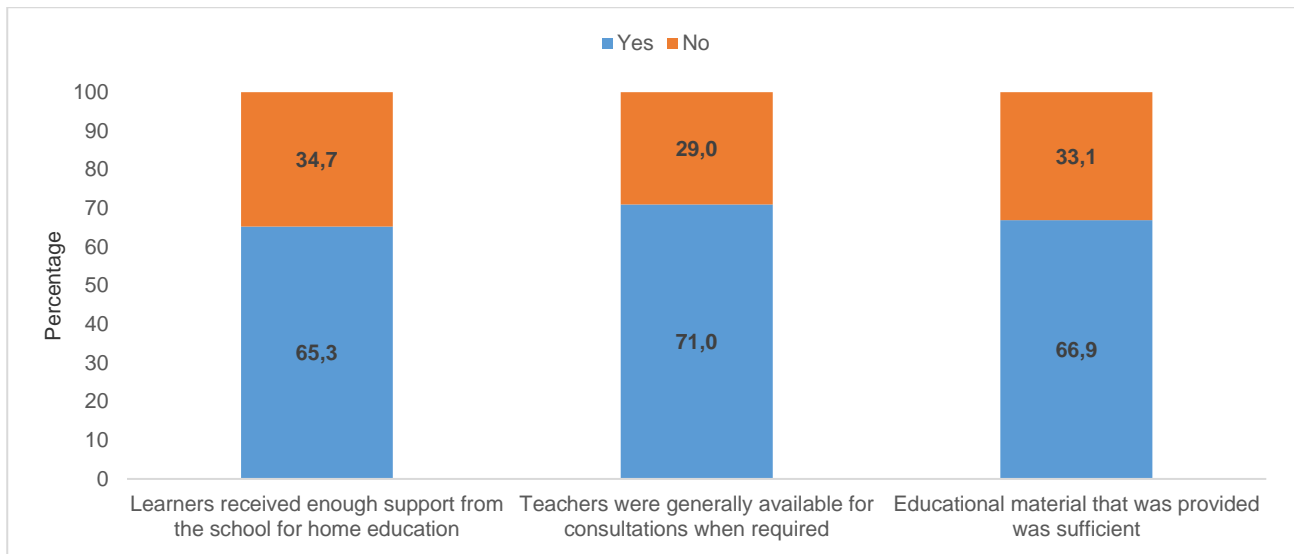
Respondents' responses indicated that they made little use of educational material made available by the Department of Basic Education on radio and television. Only approximately 5% of respondents said they used material on radio, while about 28% made use of the material on television. By comparison, 46% of respondents indicated that they used online material made available by the by the Department of Basic Education (Figure 4.7).

**Figure 4.7: Percentage distribution of respondents by type of the Department of Basic Education educational materials used during the lockdown**



By and large, the majority of respondents were satisfied by the support and material they received from the schools for home school education. Almost two-thirds (65,3%) indicated that they received enough support from the school for home school education while 71% said teachers were generally available for consultations when required. More than two-thirds of respondents (66,9%) also specified that the educational material provided by the schools were sufficient. This is presented in Figure 4.8.

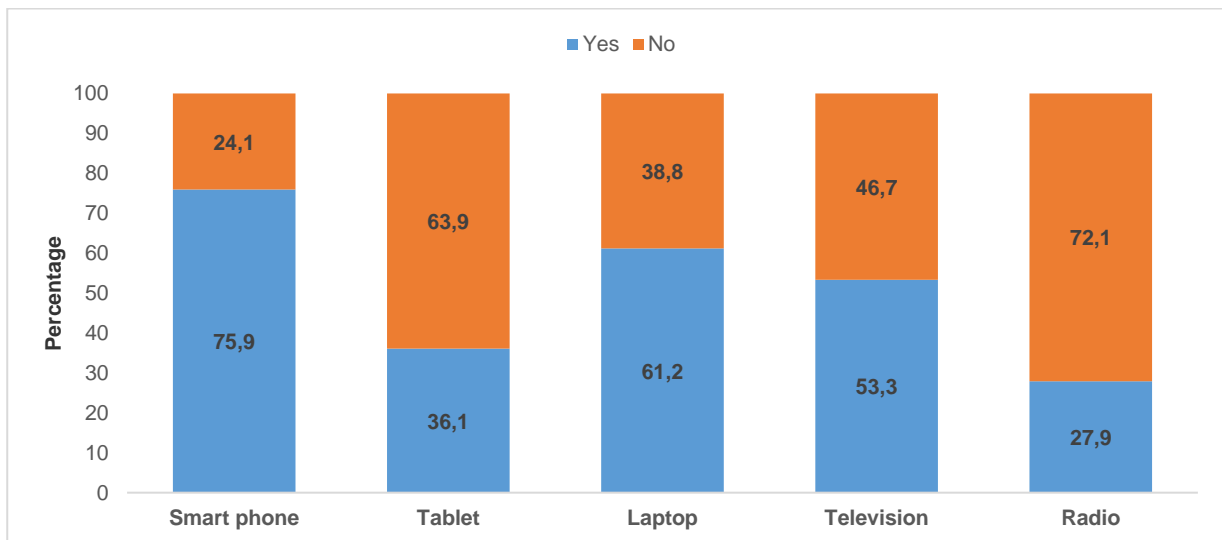
**Figure 4.8: Percentage distribution of respondents by assistance received during the lockdown**



**Technology**

More than three-quarters of respondents (75,9%) indicated that they had smart phones that could be used for home learning. More than a third (36,1%) had access to tablets while 61,2% could use laptops to support home learning. A surprisingly small percentage of respondents indicated that learners could access and use television (53,3%) and radio (27,9%) to support home learning (Figure 4.9).

**Figure 4.9: Percentage distribution of respondents by tools available for home learning**



Four-tenths of respondents who had access to a smart phone for home learning had to share their devices with others from time to time, while 23,8% had to continuously share their smart phones. By comparison, 36,1% of smart phone users did not have to share their devices. Among those who had access to tablets for home learning, 42% did not have to share the use of the devices. Figure 4.10 also shows that 38% of laptop users never had to share their devices, while about one-fifth (21,7%) continuously had to share the devices.



**Figure 4.10: Percentage distribution of respondents who share tools available for home learning**

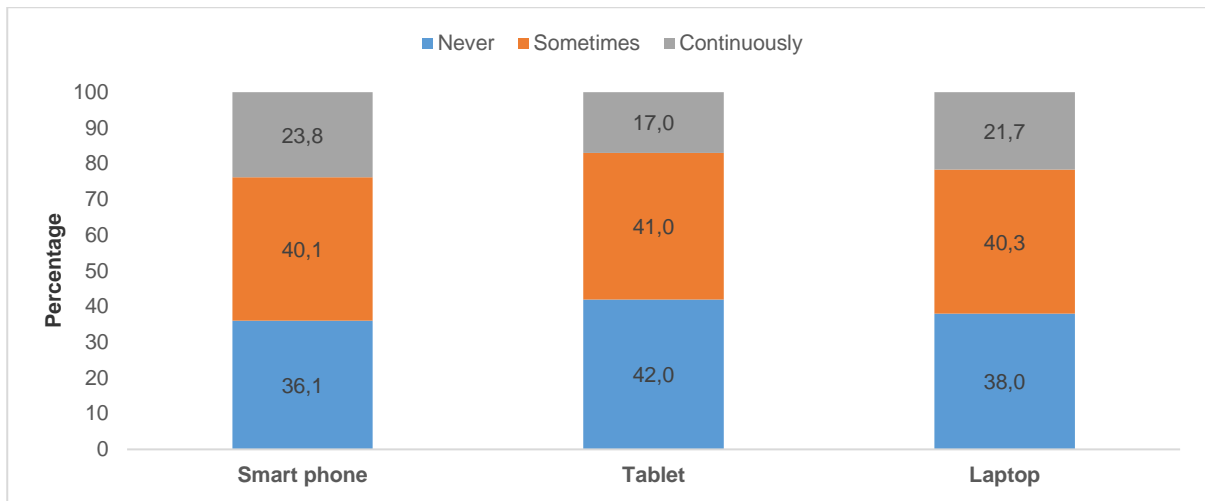
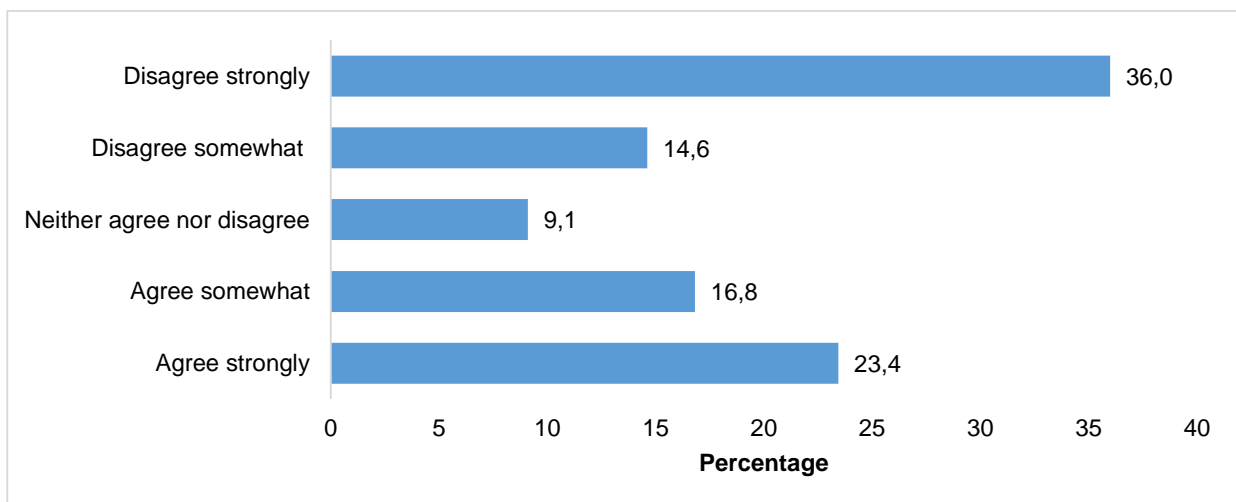


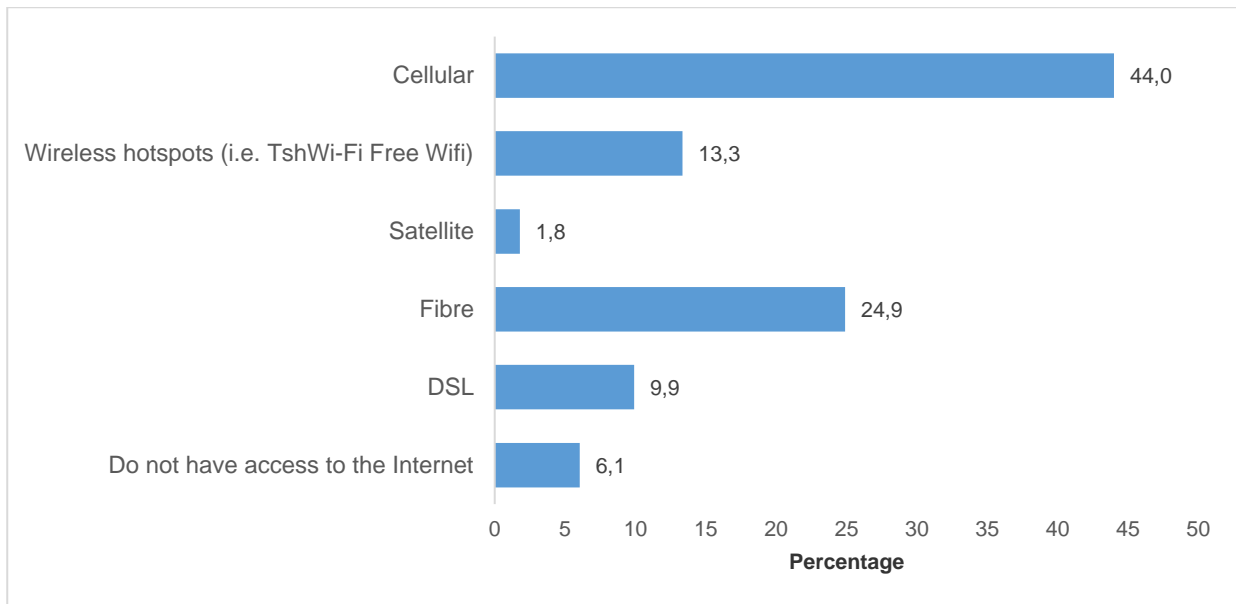
Figure 4.11 shows that approximately 23% of respondents strongly agreed that they had limited access to a computer or tablet at home to do school work while close to 17% agreed that they somewhat had. On the other hand, 36% of respondents strongly agreed that they had adequate access to a computer or tablet at home to do school work.

**Figure 4.11: Percentage distribution of respondents with children in households with limited access to a computer or tablet at home to do school work**



The type of internet access used by learners is presented in Figure 4.12. The figure shows that 44% of respondent households used cellular devices (44%) while one-quarter (24,9%) had access to fibre. Free Wifi hotspots accounted for 13,3% of access while 9,9% used DSL access. It is noticeable that 6,1% of respondent households did not have access to any internet for educational purposes.

**Figure 4.12: Percentage distribution of respondents with access to internet for educational purposes**



According to Figure 4.13, 61,8% of respondents indicated that their internet was fast enough to stream videos, while about one-third (34,4%) reported that their internet connection was not fast enough to do so. Adequate speed to stream videos was highest for fibre connections (93,4%), DSL (84,7%) and satellite connections (84,6%), and worst for cellular connections (38,8%).

**Figure 4.13: Percentage distribution of respondents with access to internet fast enough to stream videos**

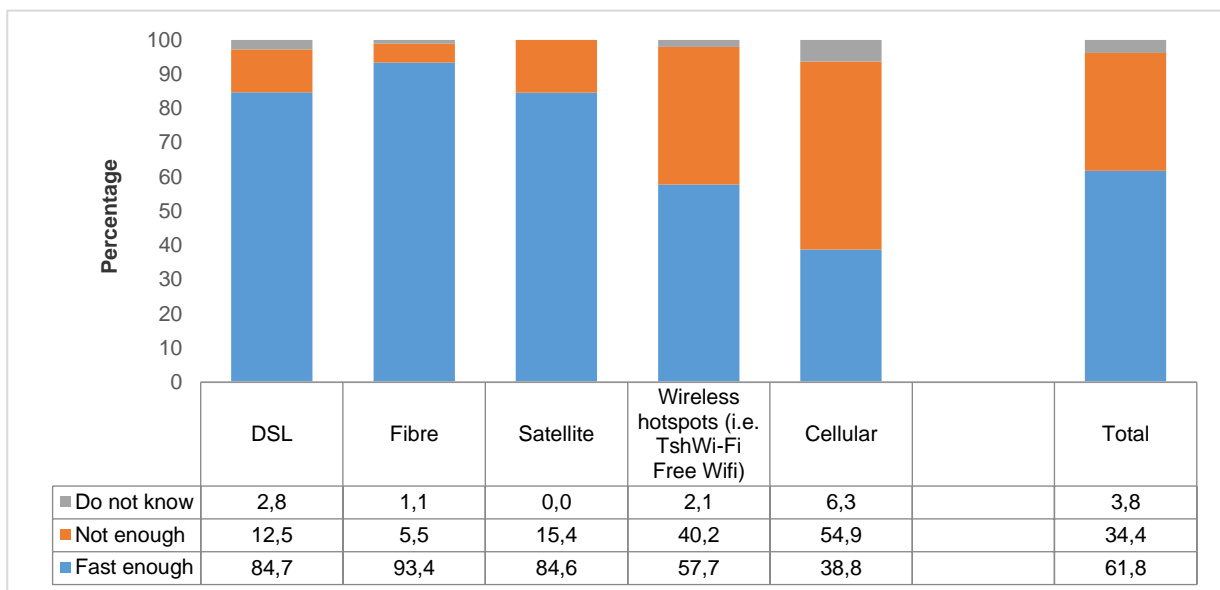
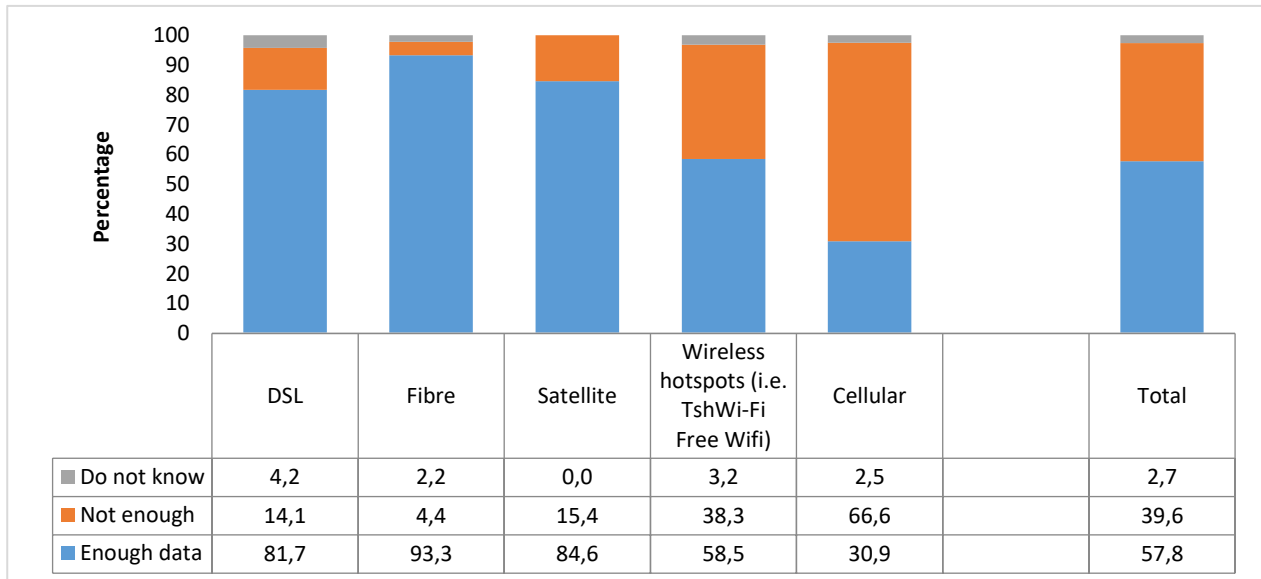


Figure 4.14 shows that almost 40% of respondent households did not have enough data to complete their online learning. Two-thirds of respondent households with cellular connections reported inadequate access to data, compared to 15,4% with satellite access, 14,1% with DSL access, and only 4,4% with fibre.

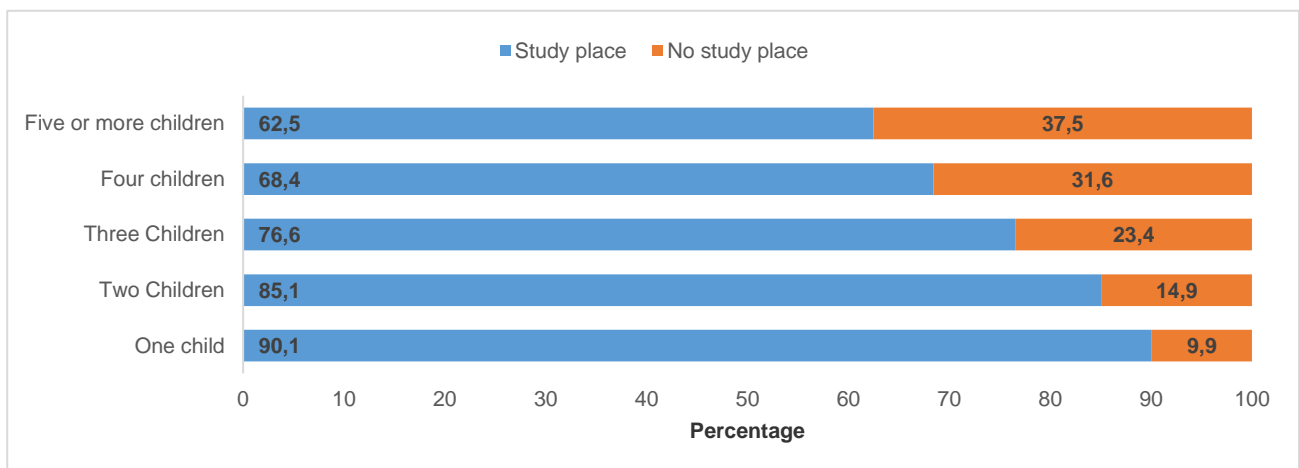
**Figure 4.14: Percentage distribution of respondents with access to enough data to complete their online learning**



## 5. CHILDREN’S WELLBEING

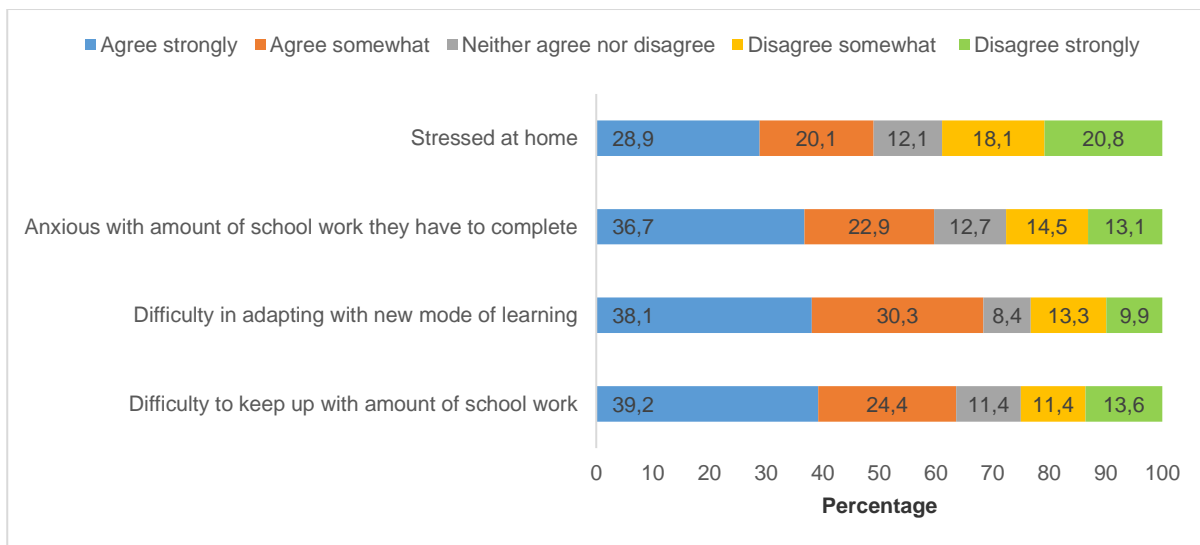
The majority of respondents indicated that the children had a quiet area to focus on school work. The availability of a quiet area to focus on school work was highest for respondents with one child (90,1%), and lowest for respondents with five children or more (37,5%). This is presented in Figure 5.1.

**Figure 5.1: Percentage distribution of respondents with access to a quiet area where they can focus on school work**



Almost two-thirds (63,6%) of respondents reported that learners in their households had experienced difficulty to keep up with the amount of school work during the lockdown period, while 68,4% of respondents said that learners in their households were struggling to adapt to the new mode of learning. About 59,4% of respondents reported that learners were anxious about the amount of school work they had to complete. While about one-half (49%) of respondents reported that children were stressed at home, 20,8% disagree very strongly with the statement. This is presented in Figure 5.2.

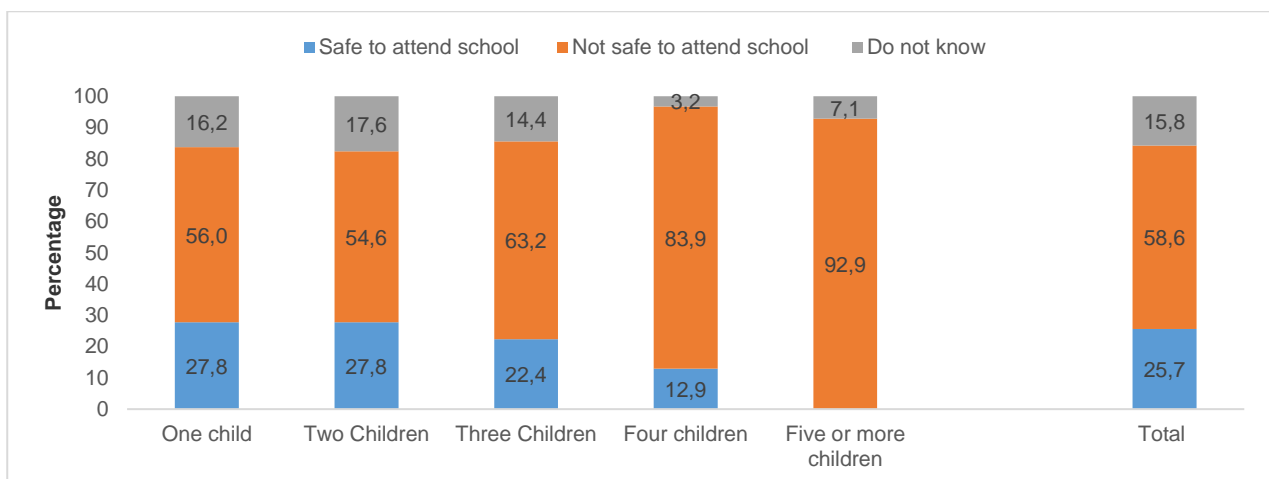
**Figure 5.2: Percentage distribution of respondents with children who experienced difficulty with the amount of school work and who felt anxious at home**



**Return to school**

Although one-quarter (25,7%) of respondents agreed that it was safe for their children to attend school, 58,6% deemed it unsafe. Figure 5.3 shows that the feeling that it was not safe for children to attend school was highest for respondents with five children or more (92,9%) and lowest for those with only one child (56,6%).

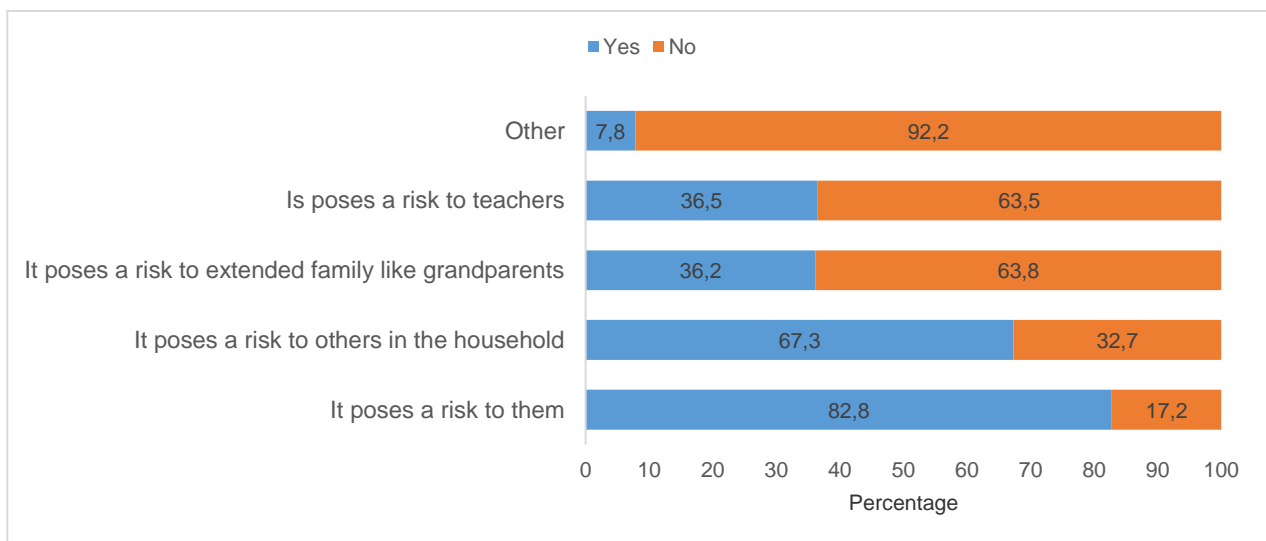
**Figure 5.3: Percentage distribution of respondents who think that it was not safe for their children to attend school**



### Safe for children to return to school

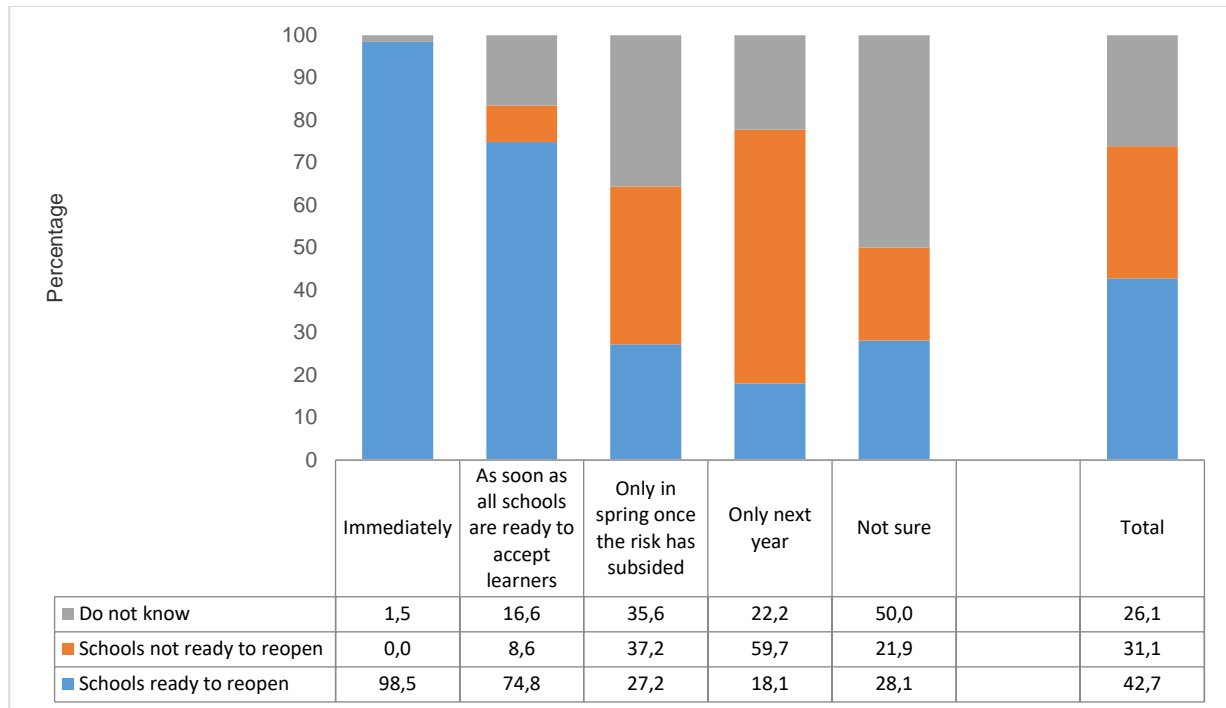
Figure 5.4 shows that, amongst respondents who felt it was unsafe to send children back to school, 82,8% were concerned that it would pose a risk to the children’s health, while two-thirds (67,3%) were concerned about the infection risk that the attendance of the children posed to others in the households. Compared to the other reasons, the risks to extended family like grandparents and teachers were perceived low by the majority of respondents (36,2% and 36,5% respectively).

**Figure 5.4: Percentage distribution of respondents by reasons given why it was not safe for children to attend school**



Three out of seven respondents (42,7%) were of the opinion that schools were ready to reopen after the lockdown, compared to 31,1% who thought that schools were not ready to reopen. Approximately one-quarter (26,1%) expressed no opinion about the readiness of the schools. Of the respondents who felt that schools were ready to reopen immediately, nearly all (close to 99%) said that children should return to school immediately. However, three-quarters (74,8%) of respondents who said that schools were ready to reopen also said that learners should only go to school as soon as all schools are ready to accept all learners back to schools. About 37% of respondents who were of the opinion that children should only be back at school in spring, once the risk of the disease has subsided, believed that schools were not ready to reopen. Close to 60% among respondents who were of the opinion that children should only be back at school during the next academic year, also believed that schools were not ready to reopen (Figure 5.5).

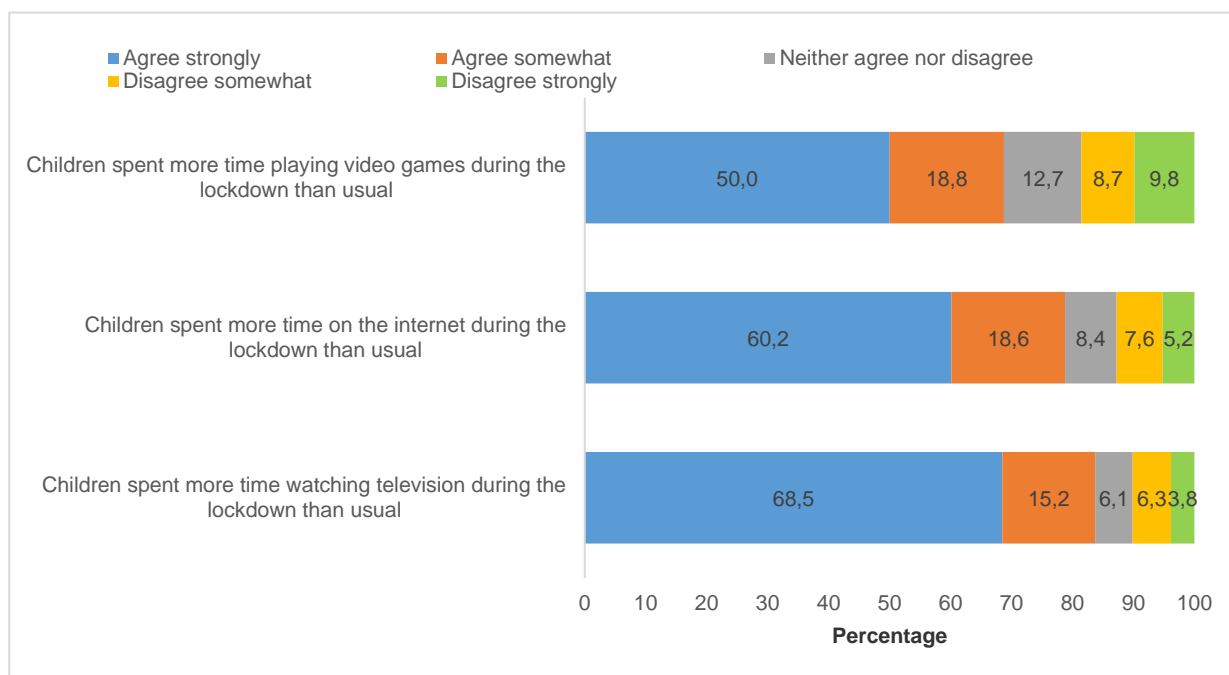
**Figure 5.5: Percentage distribution of respondents by return date to school and readiness of schools to receive children**



## 6. TIME USE

More than two-thirds (68,5%) of respondents strongly agreed that children spent more time watching television during the lockdown than usual. Close to 60% of respondents strongly agreed and close to 19% agreed somewhat that children spent more time on the internet during the lockdown than usual. Furthermore, half of the respondents strongly agreed that children spent more time playing video games during the lockdown than usual.

**Figure 6.1: Percentage distribution of respondents by type of activities spent by children during the lockdown**



## 7. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The Wave 3 survey aimed to measure the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on movement, migration, education, children’s well-being and time use of individuals living in South Africa. The survey is based on a non-probability, convenience sample and was implemented using a web-based collection method. Given the method of collection, respondents were required to have access to technology (e.g. smartphones or computers with access to the internet) to be able to participate in the survey. This makes the survey biased in the type of respondents that completed the survey. The number of valid responses obtained for the survey was 1 323 and are not representative of the general population of South Africa.

The survey found that about six per cent of respondents changed their provincial residence during the national lockdown. Of these respondents, the highest proportion moved during the few days between the announcement of the lockdown and the start of the lockdown. Regarding the reason for moving, about one-quarter of respondents indicated that they wanted to be closer to their family or friends. Twelve per cent of respondents indicated that they travelled across provincial boundaries since the start of the national lockdown.

More than a quarter of these respondents indicated that the interprovincial travel was due to attend a funeral. About fifteen per cent of respondents travelled to provide essential services whilst about thirteen per cent travelled for non-essential work or business-related travel, whilst about fifteen per cent of respondents travelled to visit family or friends.

About ninety per cent of the respondents indicated that they were born in South Africa (classifying them as non-migrants). About nine per cent were international migrants (respondents indicated that they were born outside South Africa). About 18% of migrants remitted during lockdown. About one-third of migrants indicated that they remitted smaller amounts than they usually do. More than twenty per cent of migrant respondents indicated that they did not remit during lockdown because they could not afford to send money. A much higher percentage of migrant respondents (22,5%) were unemployed as compared to non-migrants (9%). Results from the vulnerability framework showed that generally migrant respondents were more vulnerable than non-migrant respondents.

The survey shows that most households experienced a disruption in the education process. Not all learners were participating in home schooling during the lockdown. The percentage of learners who participated in home schooling was much higher among those who were attending private schools before the start of the lockdown.

Home schooling was mostly conducted through material sent by schools through WhatsApp/Email/D6 which require the use of internet. The most common method of internet access by households for educational purposes was through cellular devices while fibre internet access was also one of the most important means of access. Access to fast internet was an issue for close to one third of respondents while close to 40% of respondents indicated that children did not have enough data for online learning. Close to 59% of the respondents said it was not safe for the children to return to school because they were mostly concerned about the risk it poses to the children. The findings of the survey also show that children spent more time watching television, more time on the internet and more time playing video games during the lockdown than usual.