# Indonesia High-frequency Monitoring of Covid-19 Impacts

August 10th, 2020





### Highlights (I)

### **Food Security**

- Using food shortage as a measure of food security, there has been a significant improvement from R1 (early May) to R2 (end of May/early June).
- Food shortages decreased from 32% to 26%.
   Faster improvements are observed among wealthier and female headed households.
- However, there is still high churn with 14% of households experiencing worsening food shortages, most of them in the bottom 40% and outside Java.

#### **Access to Health Services**

- Most households could get medicine and access medical treatments when needed.
- Lower educated households experienced more difficulty in accessing medical treatment.
- Within the period of May-June, 14% of households experienced fevers and sore throats, 60% of them sought medical treatment and about one-third of them were tested for COVID-19.

### Highlights (II)

#### **Education**

- Almost all students continued to engage in learning activities at home; 83% of them still communicated with their teachers through chat applications (WhatsApp).
- However, only 42% of students used mobile learning apps and/or online schooling in their learning activities from home.
- Students outside DKI Jakarta and in the bottom 40% are less likely to use mobile learning apps and/or online schooling.
- No/limited access to internet and lack of supporting devices are the main constraints faced by students who are not engaged in online learning activities.

### **Use of Digital Transactions**

- Cash is still king: 96% of respondents still used cash in most transactions, with very few households reporting switching to digital transactions.
- The very few who switched to digital transactions were mostly in DKI Jakarta.

### Highlights (III)

### **Coping Mechanisms**

- Most households coped with shocks by reducing their non-food and food expenditure.
- While reducing non-food expenditure is a general phenomenon across households, reducing food expenditure is more likely done by low educated households, in the bottom 40%, and outside Java.
- 55% of households relied on government assistance, and nearly half of households counted on social capital.

#### Concerns

- Most households are very worried about their health (getting infected by COVID-19) and their immediate financial situation.
- Concerns regarding health issues are cited more among younger and poorer households; while financial concerns are more prevalent among low educated households, in the bottom 40%, outside Java and those experienced income shocks.

### Survey



### Design

**Method**: Panel survey, 15-20 minutes phone interviews to about 4,000 households, every 3-4 weeks for the first three months and every 6-8 weeks for the following three months

**Sampling Frame:** sampled households were drawn from Urban Perception Survey (2018), Rural Poverty Survey (2019), and Digital Economy Survey (2020) across 40 districts and 35 cities in 27 provinces.

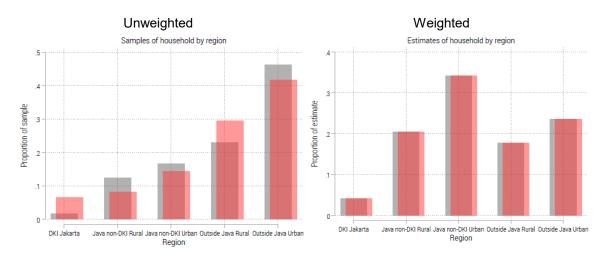
#### Stratification:

Explicit: 5 Regions

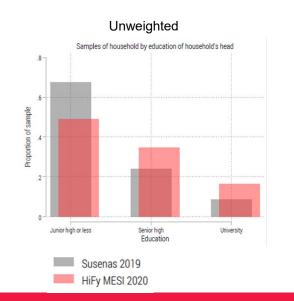
Implicit: Sex & education of household's head

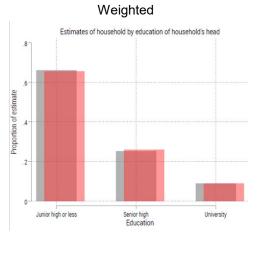
Sample distribution of HiFy & Indonesia's National Socioeconomic Survey (Susenas) is very similar in each stratification of interest, confirming confidence in representativeness of HiFy sample hence the level of estimates produced.

#### Households by Region



#### Education of Household's Head





### **Implementation**

**Baseline (Round 1)** 

4,338 respondents

1-17 May 2020

Module: Knowledge/Behavior, Employment, Access to Food/Food Security, Safety Net Follow-up (Round 3)

4,067 respondents

20 July - 2 August 2020

Module: Knowledge/Behavior, Employment, Food Security, Access to Health, Safety Net



4,119 respondents

26 May - 5 June 2020

Module: Food Security, Access to Health, Education, Finance, Coping Mechanisms, Concerns Follow-up

(Rounds 4, 5)

**TBD** 

### Response rate

95% of respondents in Round 1 (early May) were successfully re-interviewed in Round 2 (early June).

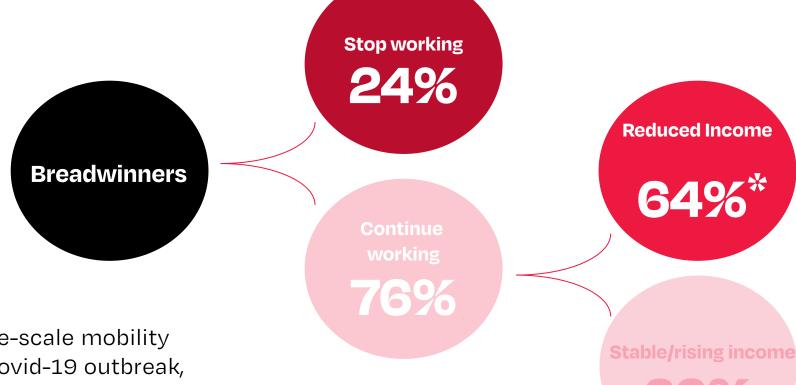
- Those who couldn't be interviewed were mostly because their phones were unreachable or unanswered.
- Attrition was random: response rates were similar across gender, age group, education, welfare distribution, urban/rural, and region.
- As a result, attrition bias is not a concern when interpreting changes between Rounds 1 and 2.



# Employment & Income

A recap of findings from Round 1

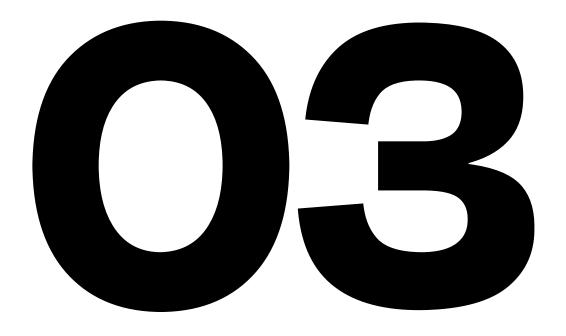
## Breadwinner's employment & income



With businesses closed and large-scale mobility restrictions imposed after the Covid-19 outbreak, 24% household's breadwinners had stopped working by early May-2020

Among households breadwinners who continued working, 64% of them experienced reduced income

### Food Security



Experienced Shortage of Food or Ate Less (%HH)

There are two measures used for food security, i.e. self reported shortage of food and eating less than should due to lack of money or other resources.

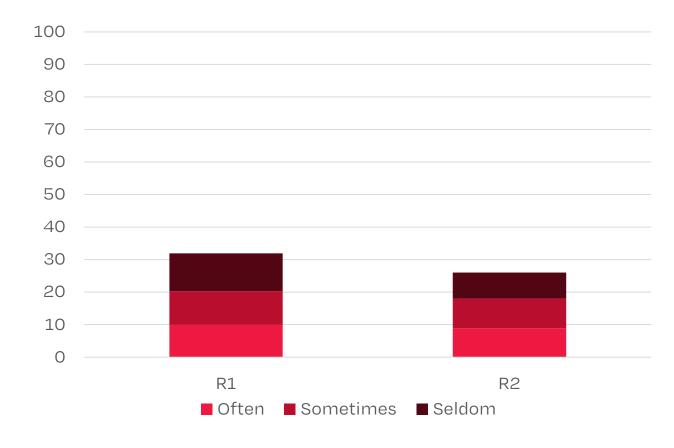
There has been a significant decrease from Round 1 to Round 2 in the proportion of households who experienced either food shortages or eating less than should.



Shortage of Food within the Last Week (% Households)

Using food shortage as a measure of food security\*, there has been a significant improvement from Round 1 to Round 2.

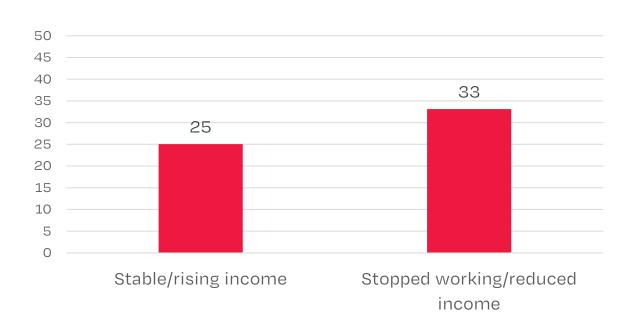
Within a month, the prevalence of food shortages decreased significantly from 32% to 26%.

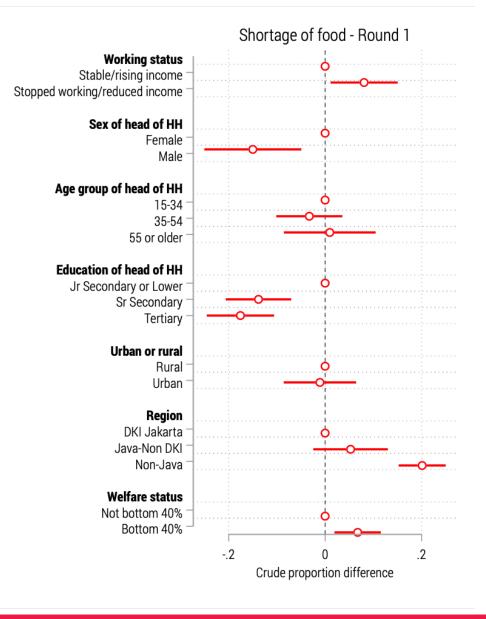


<sup>\*</sup> In this presentation, we focus on food shortage for two reasons: i) food shortages are deemed more severe than eating less (in general it is reported by a smaller number of households), ii) two measures are highly overlapping: 87% of households who experienced food shortages also ate less. Findings on households' experience in eating less is presented in the Annex.

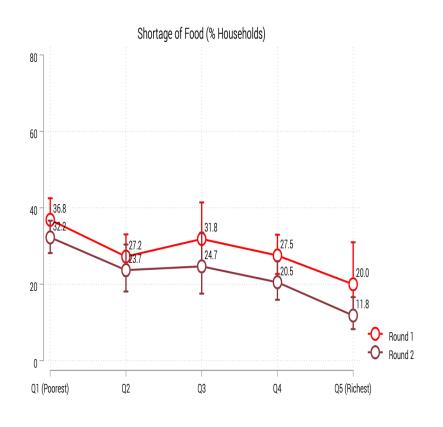
Recall in Round 1: Those who faced income shocks, female headed households, in the bottom 40% and outside Java were more likely to experience food shortages

Shortage of Food in Round 1 (% HH)

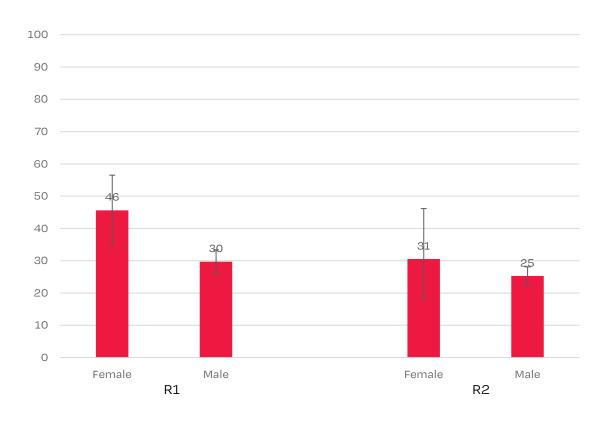




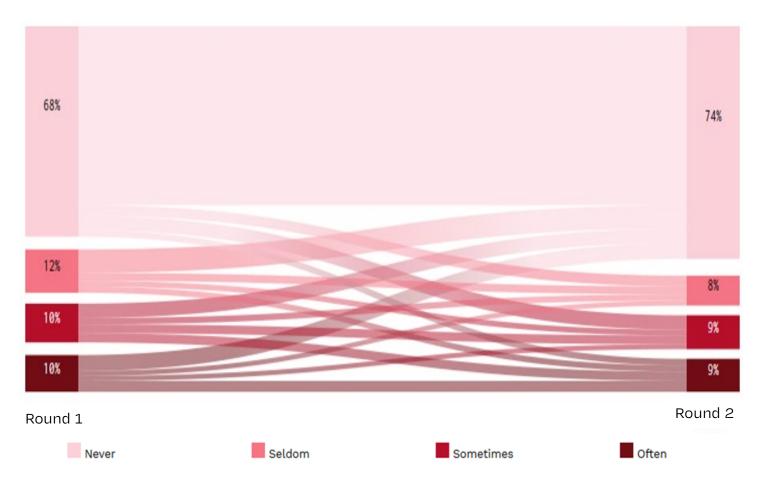
With food shortages reduced faster among the wealthier and female headed households ... there is no more significant difference in food shortages between female- and male-headed households in Round 2

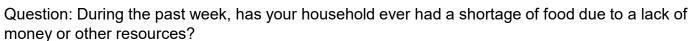


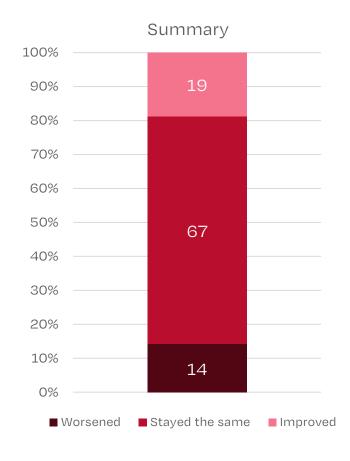




### Underlying the significant improvement in food shortages overall, there is high churn. Moreover, 14% of households experienced worsening food shortages





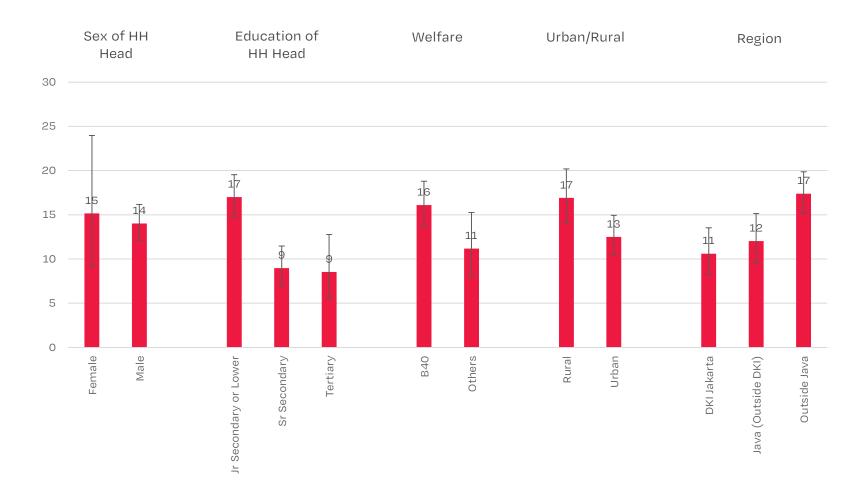


#### Note:

Improved: often -> sometimes -> seldom -> never Worsened: never -> seldom -> sometimes -> often

#### Worsened Shortage of Food from R1 to R2

The prevalence of worsening food shortages is significantly higher among households in the bottom 40%, living in rural areas and outside Java.



### Hungry but did not eat because there was not enough money or other resources in the last month (%HH)

4% of households had an adult member who experienced hunger but did not eat in the past month (May/June).

Lower educated households and those outside Java were more likely to experience it.



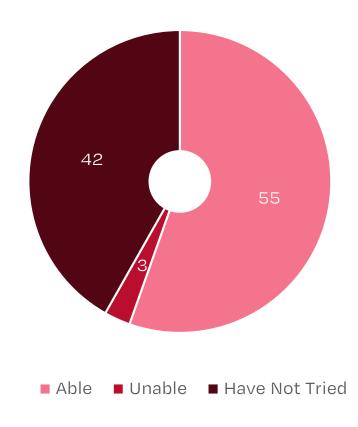
# Access to Health

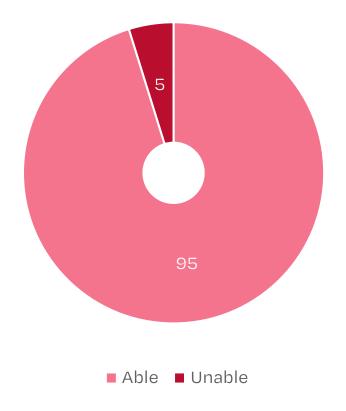


Able to buy medicine within the last week (% Households)

Able to buy medicine within the last week when needed (of % households who tried to buy)

Most households were able to access medicine when needed.





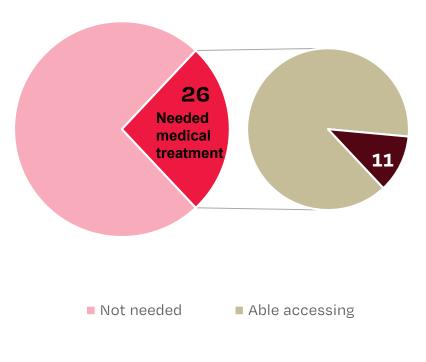
As of early June, about a quarter of households needed medical treatment in the previous month.

**89%** were able to access it.

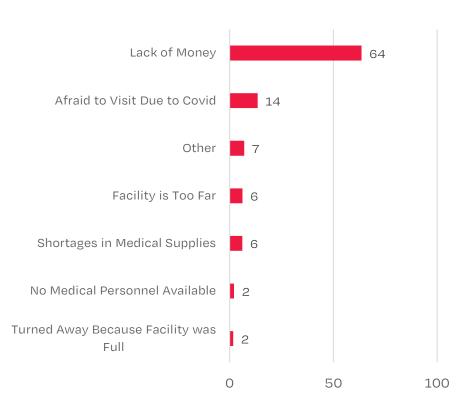
Those who needed medical treatment but were unable to access it cited lack of money as the main issue.

Lower educated households experience more difficulty in accessing medical treatment.

Medical treatment (if needed and could be accessed)

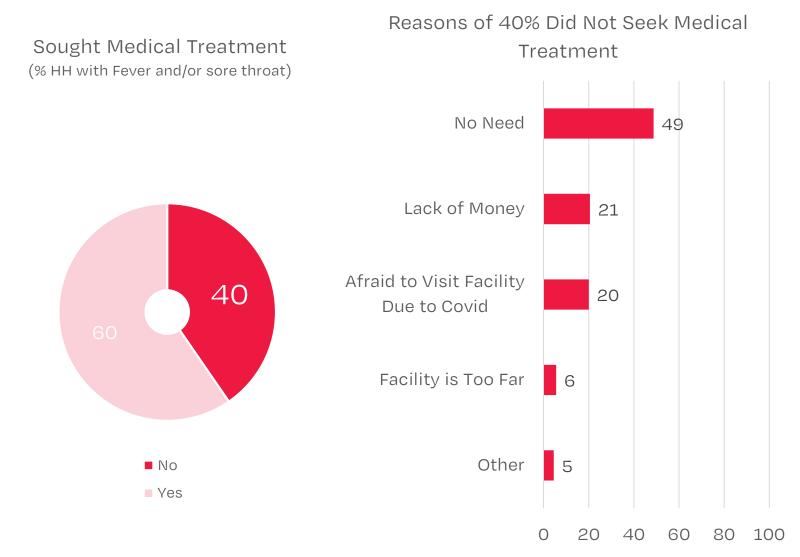


Reasons for not being able to access medical treatment for 11% of HHs



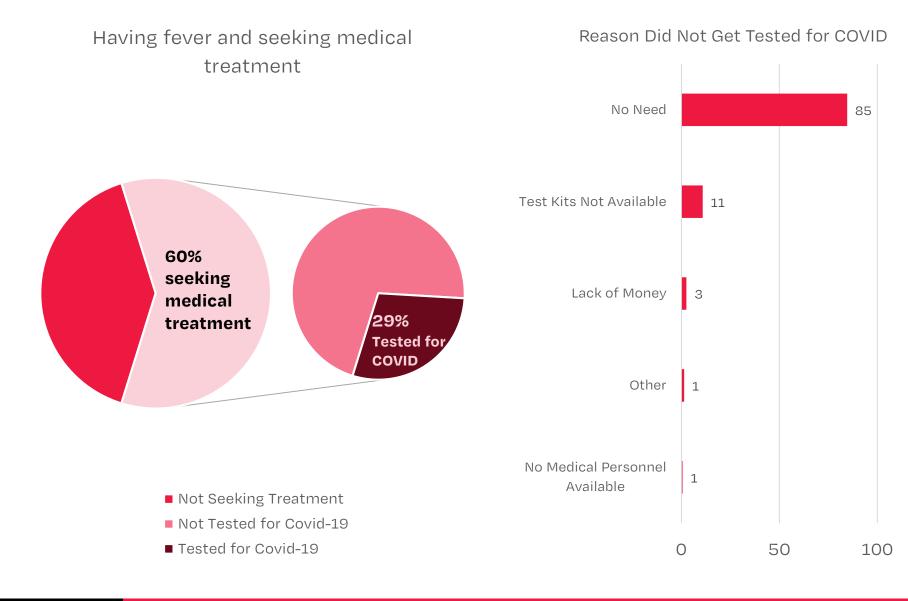
Within the period of May-June, 14% of households had member(s) who had fever and/or sore throat. Most of them sought medical treatment.

Half of those who did not seek medical treatment considered it unnecessary.



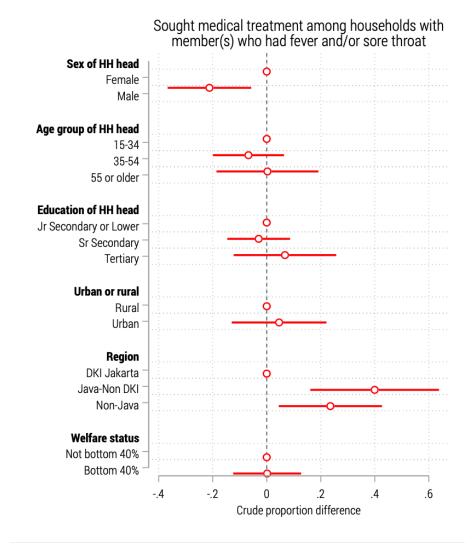
Among those who sought medical treatment,
29% of them were tested for COVID-19.

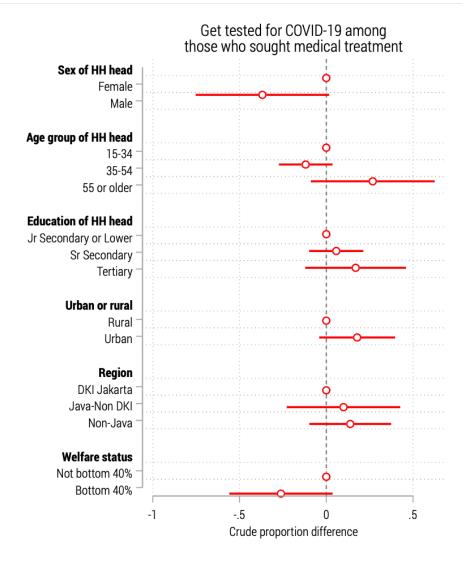
Most of those who were not tested considered it was unnecessary.



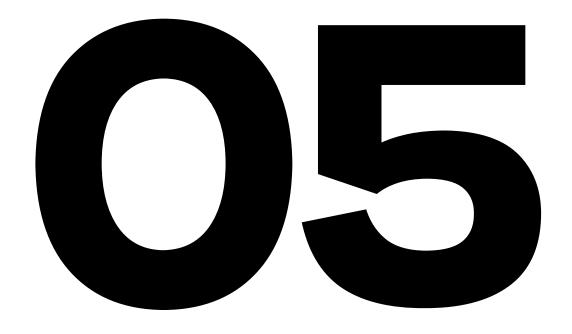
Female-headed households are more likely to seek medical treatment and be tested for COVID-19

Households outside DKI are more likely to seek treatment when experiencing fever/sore throat.





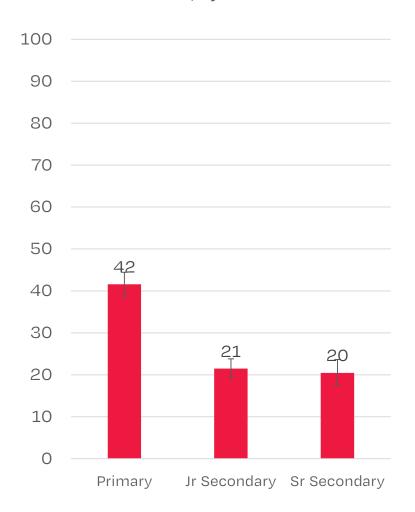
### Education



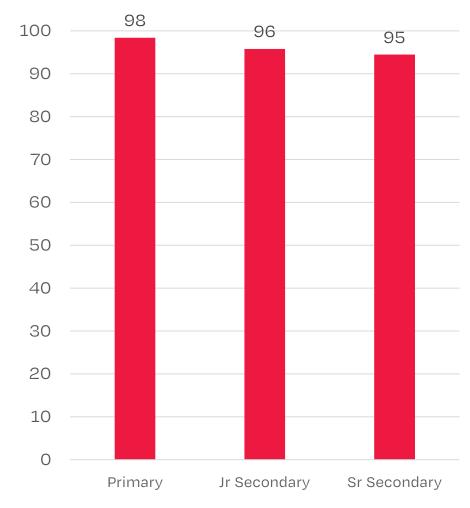
63% of households have members who are students.

As of early June 2020, almost all students (98%) were still engaged in learning activities at home since March 2020.

Share of households with student members, by school level



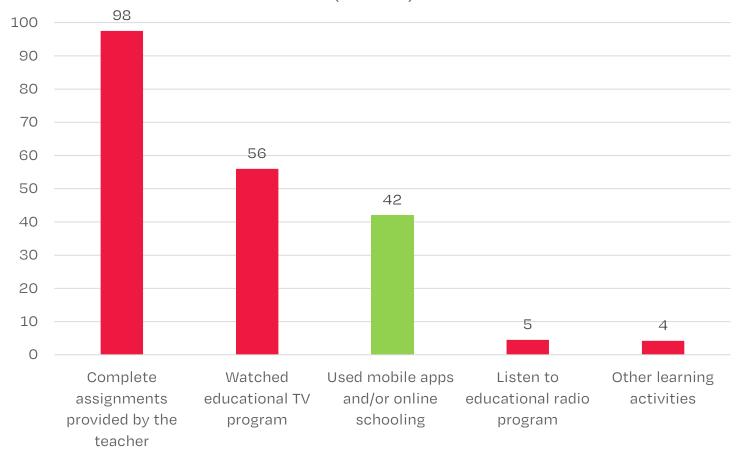
Share of households with students still engaged in learning activities at home, by school level



Note: Due to limited time, HiFy only collected information about the 12 years of compulsory education, thus did not include pre-school and tertiary education

Children learning at home used a range of activities, with only 42% using mobile learning apps and/or online schooling for their learning activities at home.

Types of learning activities conducted at home since March 2020\* (% of HH)

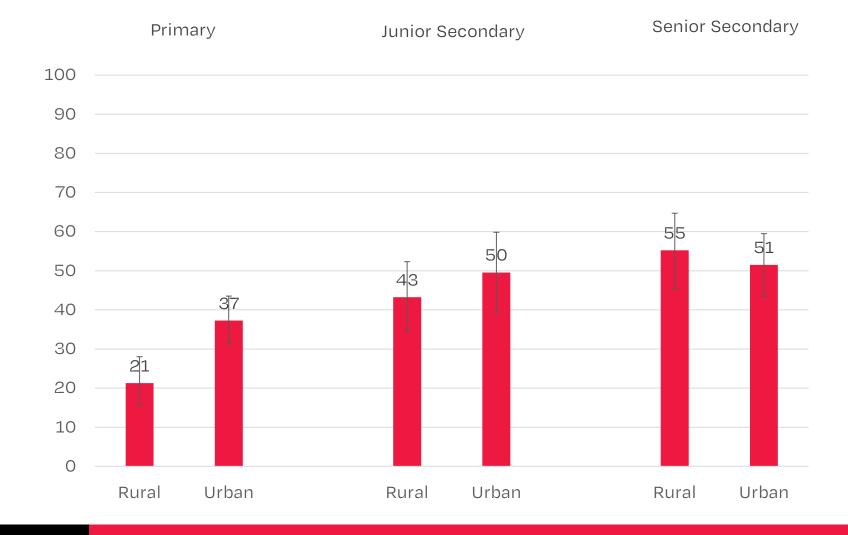


<sup>\*</sup> students could engage in more than one type of activities

Learning activities with mobile learning apps and/or online schooling by school level (% of HH\*)

Secondary school students were more likely to use mobile learning apps and online schooling in both urban and rural areas, however among primary students it is more an urban phenomenon.

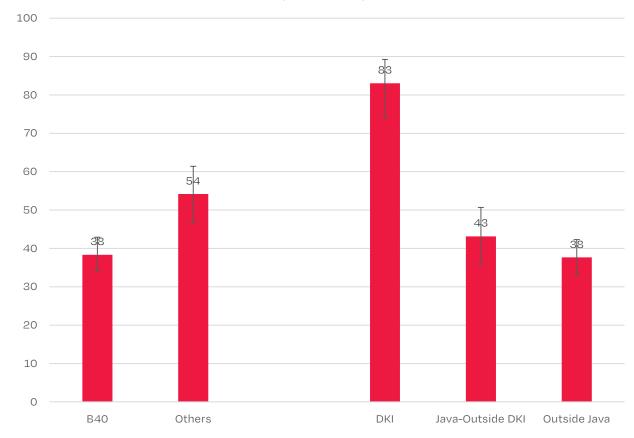
<sup>\*</sup>HH with students who had been engaged in learning activities at home since March 2020



Large gaps in online learning between students in DKI Jakarta and the rests of the country.

Moreover, students in the bottom 40% are less likely to use mobile learning apps and online schooling.

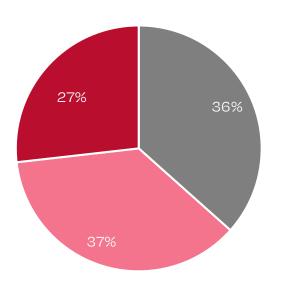
### Share of households engaged in learning activities with mobile learning apps and/or online schooling (% of HH\*)



<sup>\*</sup>HH with students who had ever been engaged in learning activities at home since March 2020

64% of students faced constraints in their learning activities at home, most of them who engaged in offline learning.

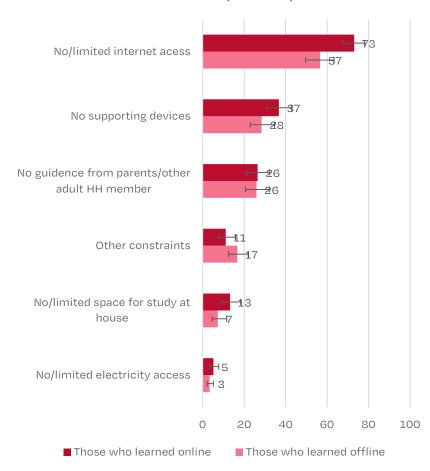
Lack of internet access, supporting device and guidance from parents are the main constraints for students studying both offline and online, but the underlying dynamics are different. Face constraints in learning activities at home (% HH\*)





- Yes and engaged in offline activities
- Yes and engaged in online activities

### Constraints Faced in Learning Activities at Home (%HH\*\*)



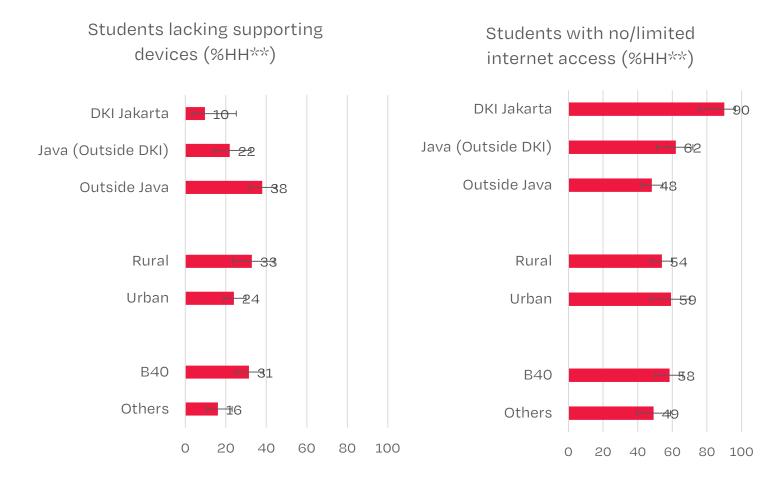
 $<sup>{}^{\</sup>star}\text{HH with students who had ever been engaged in learning activities at home since March 2020}$ 

<sup>\*\*</sup> HH with students who had been engaged in [online/offline] learning activities at home who faced constraints

#### Constraints faced by students who did not engage in online learning

Lack of a supporting device affects significantly more students in the bottom 40% and outside Java, preventing them from engaging in online learning.

While online learning has been a common practice in Jakarta, there are students who could not participate in online learning because of no/limited internet access.

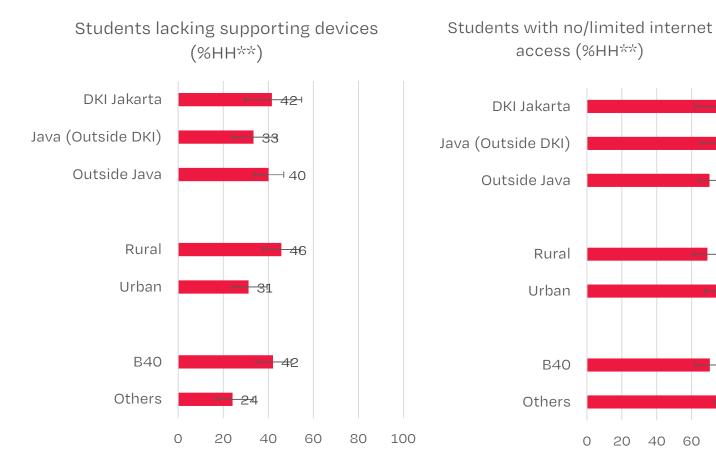


\*\*\* \*\*\* HH with students who had been engaged in offline learning activities at home who faced constraints

#### Constraints faced by students who engaged in online learning

Despite engaging in online learning, students in the bottom 40 and rural areas tend to lack of supporting device...

... while limited internet access is still a constraint for students in general.



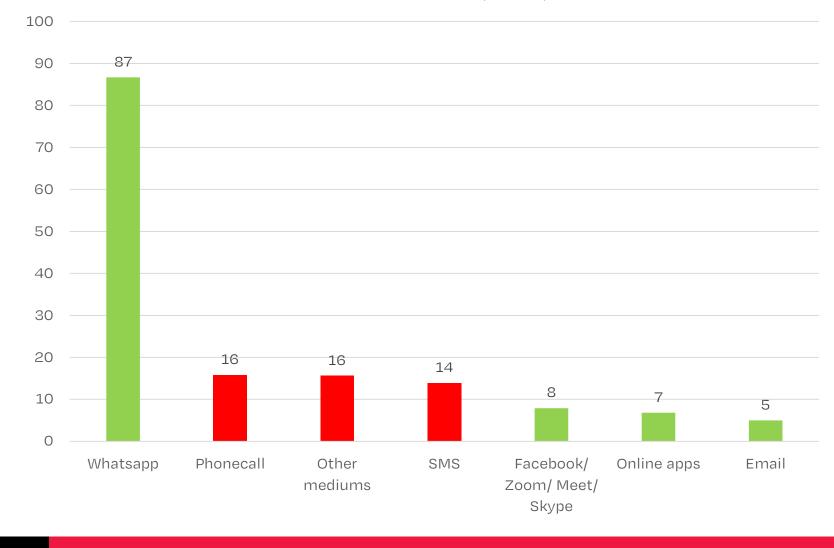
\*\* \*\* HH with students who had been engaged in online learning activities at home who faced constraints

80 100

Regardless of the type of learning activities at home, the majority of students were still in contact with their teachers.

WhatsApp was the most common means of communication used by students across different school levels.

### Means to communicate with teachers when conducting learning activities at home (%HH\*)

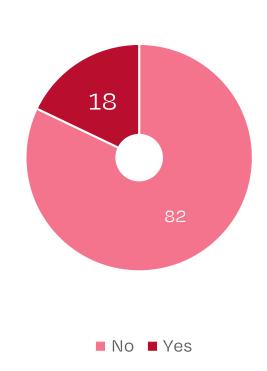


<sup>\*</sup>HH with students who had ever engaged in learning activities at home carried out with school teachers

Who was the person? (Out of 18% HH)

Meanwhile, 18% of households reported that a household member had to stop working or reduce working hours to take care of children at home because schools were closed.

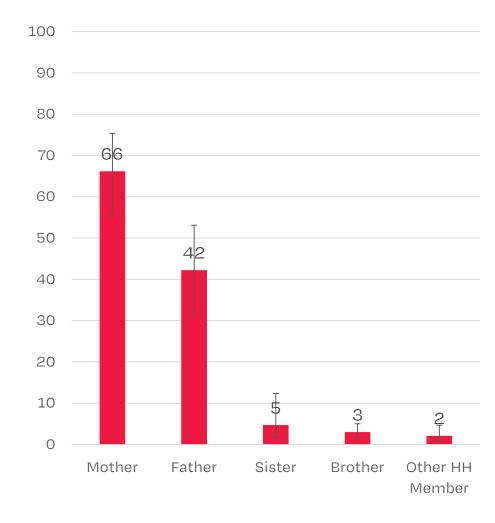
Among them, two in three households relied on mothers for this



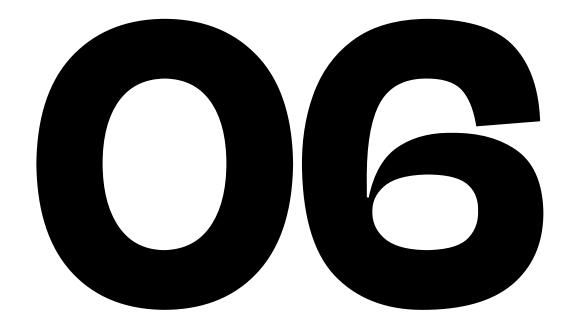
Share of households with

adult member stopping

work/ reducing hours



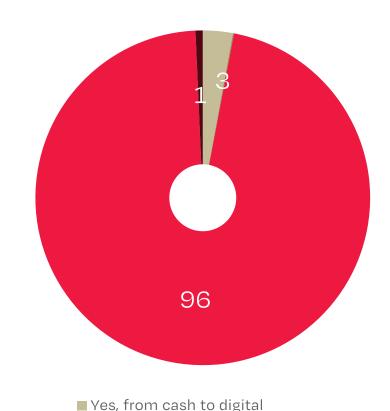
# Use of Digital Transactions



Cash has remained the primary mode for transactions, with a negligible share of households reporting a switch to digital transactions.

WB's Digital Economy Household Survey (DEHS) 2020 shows that only 9% of households used digital platforms for financial activities.

### Change in transaction method - last week (% Households)



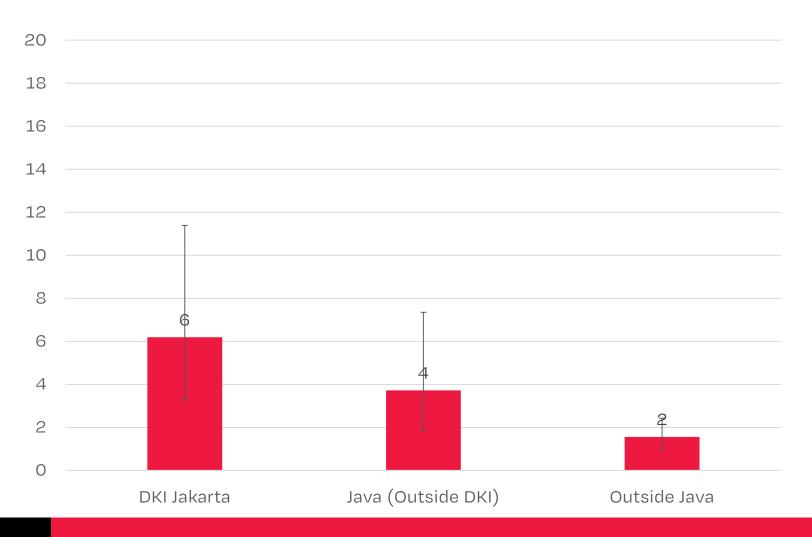
■ Yes, from digital to cash

■ No, kept using mostly cash

■ No, kept using mostly digital payments

Convert transactions from cash to digital, by region (%HH)

Households in DKI
Jakarta, although few
in number, are more
likely to have
converted to digital
transactions than
those outside Java.



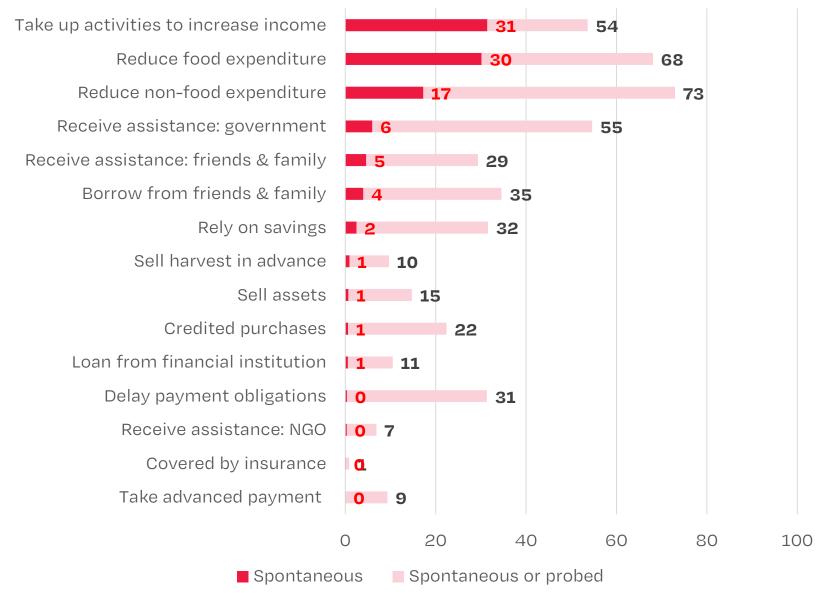
# Coping Mechanisms



Coping Mechanisms (spontaneous or probed; % Households)

Taking up activities to increase income and reducing food expenditure are the highest mentioned spontaneously by households as strategies for meeting their daily needs.

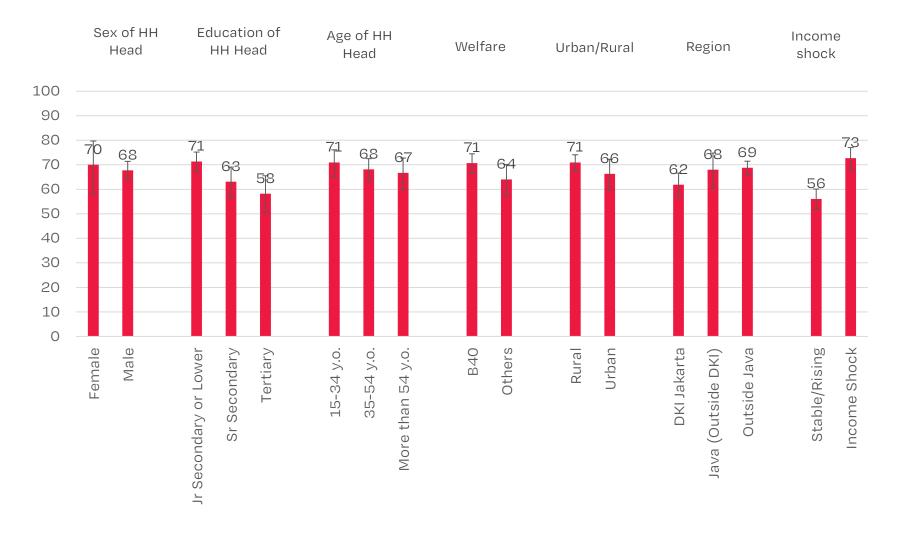
After probing, reducing non-food expenditure and relying on government assistance are among the top 4 answers.



### Reduce food expenditure (%HH)

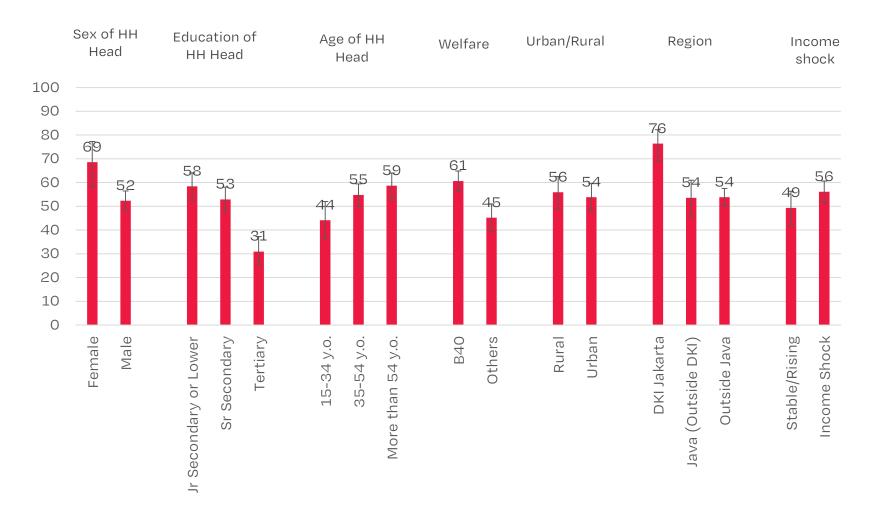
Reducing food
expenditure is more
likely among low
educated households,
in the bottom 40%,
outside Java, and those
experiencing income
shocks

Note: No significant difference was observed across households who reduced non-food expenditure



#### Relied on assistance from government (%HH)

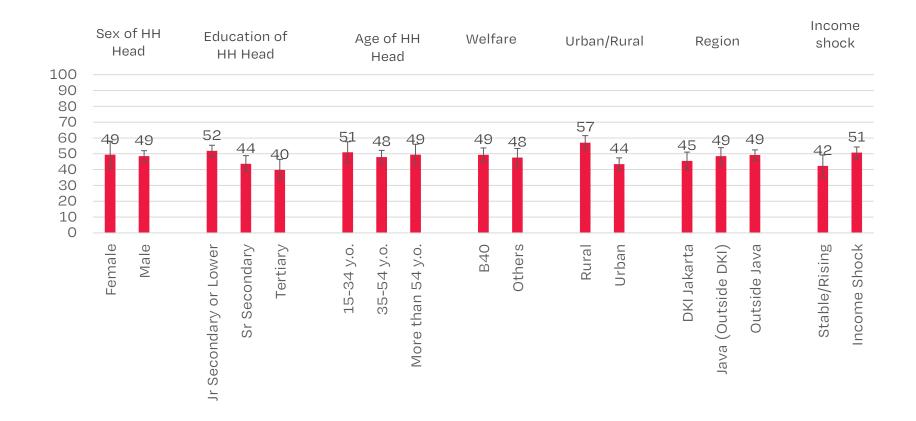
Overall, 55% of households relied on government assistance. This is significantly higher among households with female, older, lower educated heads and those in the bottom 40% and in DKI Jakarta.



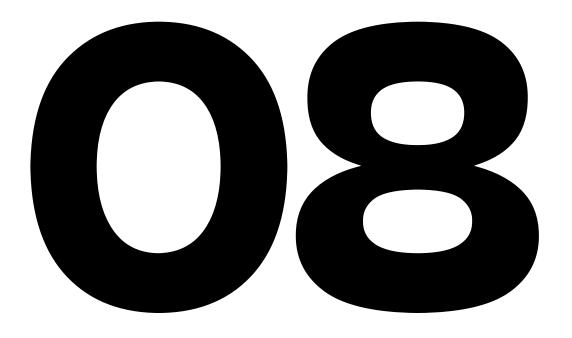
Reliance on social capital (%HH)

Meanwhile, nearly half of households have been counting on social capital, by receiving assistance or borrowing from friends/family.

This strategy is more prevalent in rural areas and among lower educated households.



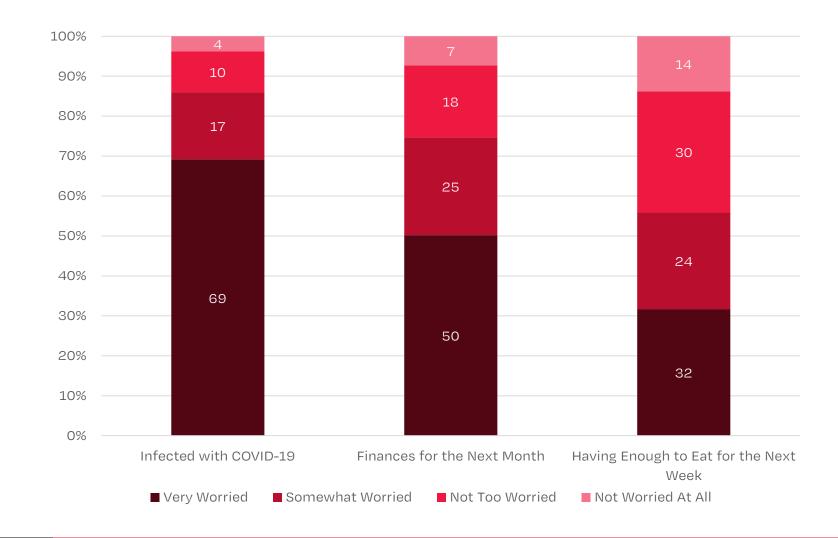
## Concerns



#### Concerns (% of households)

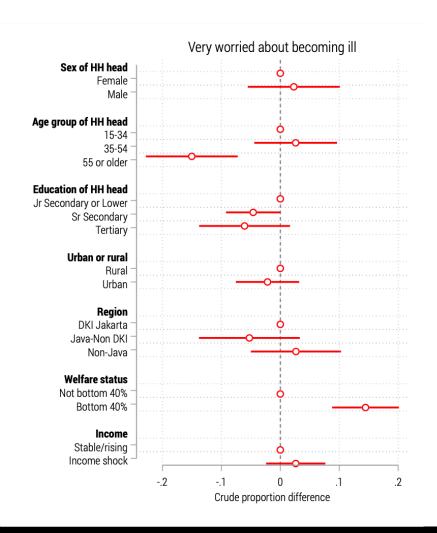
Most households are very worried about being infected with COVID-19 and their financial condition in the immediate term ('in the next month').

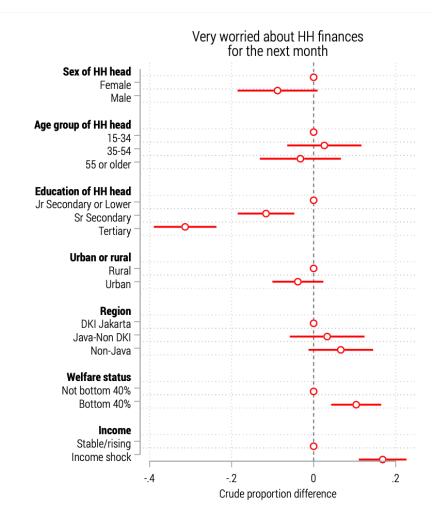
Around half of households are concerned about having enough to eat in the next week.

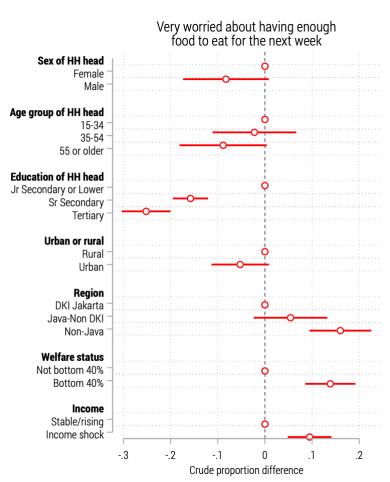


## Younger and poorer households are more likely to worry about being infected.

Households with lower educated heads, in the bottom 40%, outside Java, and experienced income shocks are more likely to worry about their finances and having enough food







## **Terima Kasih**

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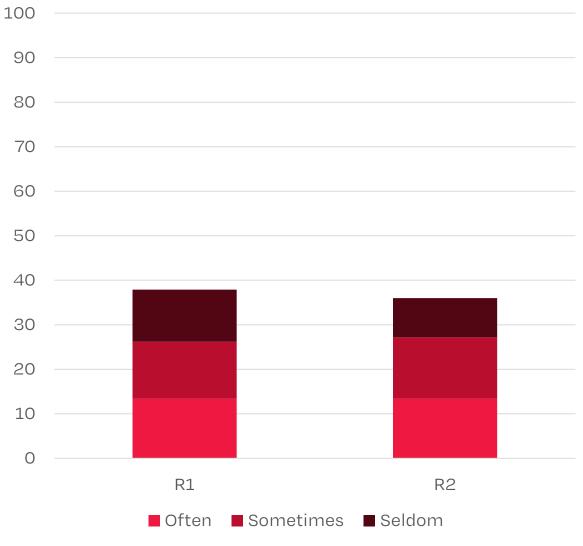


Round 2

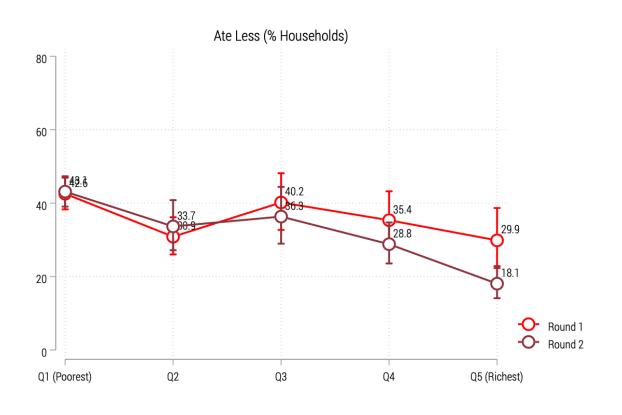
# Annex

Only looking at 'eating less than they should', there is no significant improvement from R1 to R2...
though slightly decreasing trend is observed

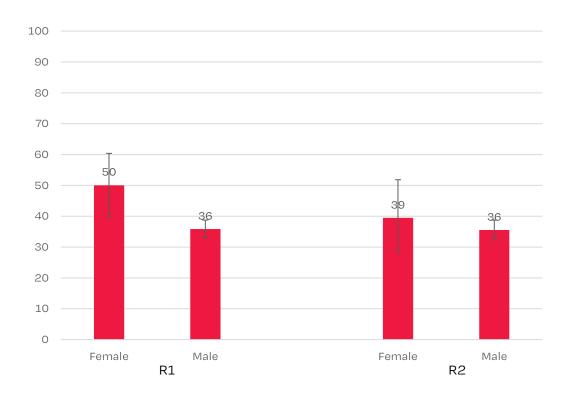




## 'Ate less' improved faster among the wealthier and female headed households



## Ate Less (% Households)



The prevalence of worsening 'eating less' is significantly higher among households in the bottom 40% and outside Java

