GeoPoll

THE ONGOING IMPACTS OF COVID-19 IN SIX AFRICAN NATIONS

A GeoPoll Report | May 2021

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INTRODUCTION

As the COVID-19 pandemic drags on into its second year, it continues to inflict unprecedented personal, societal and economic disruption around the world. Although the pandemic initially hit sub-Saharan Africa less severely than other areas, the consequences of the crisis on the region remain severe. Borders, schools and businesses were closed, trade and social gatherings were suspended, and many lives were lost.

In the first few months of 2021, just as the spread of COVID-19 appeared to be slowing and governments started loosening restrictions, a second wave of the virus fueled by more highly transmittable variants has led to a resurgence of the pandemic. This resurgence has forced the implementation of renewed restrictions and lockdowns in some nations, amplifying the risk of deep economic scarring for many years to come.

The economic slowdown caused by the pandemic has disproportionally impacted the most marginalized countries and individuals of the world. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) the economic losses are expected to be much higher in emerging markets than in advanced economies. On an individual level, the virus has deepened inequality across sub-Saharan Africa with young and low-skilled workers, women and refugees bearing the brunt of the downturn.

Looking ahead, the opportunity to interrupt virus transmissions and initiate social and economic recovery in sub-Saharan Africa largely hinges on the availability and distribution of vaccines. The pandemic, however, has also exposed global inequalities in health care. Many sub-Saharan African countries have initiated limited vaccination programs, mainly procured through the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Facility. But at this point there are simply not enough doses available to inoculate entire African nations in the near term. The spread of false information and conspiracy theories has also led to an increase in vaccine hesitancy, further complicating vaccination efforts.

After living with the pandemic for a year, many questions and uncertainties remain. As a follow up to GeoPoll's 2020 reports on the impact of COVID-19 in sub-Saharan Africa, GeoPoll conducted a survey to assess the ongoing effects of the pandemic on respondents' finances, spending, and health, their thoughts and concerns about the vaccine, and their hopes for the future. The study was conducted in March 2021 in Côte D'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, and South Africa. The study was conducted in multiple countries to illustrate the differences in the impact of the pandemic at the country level within sub-Saharan Africa. The main topics covered include:

- **Changes to consumer finances, spending, and mobile money usage**
- **Perceptions about the government response to the virus and the trustworthiness of information available**
- **Anticipation about the availability and willingness to take the vaccine**
- **Adherence to public health measures and changes to mental and physical health**

Findings are summarized in this report and displayed in full in an interactive dashboard here.

OVERVIEW OF THE CURRENT COVID-19 SITUATION IN EACH COUNTRY

The number of confirmed cases, vaccination rates, and government restrictions have diverged widely across countries in sub-Saharan Africa. The information below is compiled from the World Health Organization's COVID-19 Dashboard, which provides official reports of the confirmed number of cases and vaccinations administered. For a list of the government restrictions currently in place, a link has been provided to the United States Embassy in each country.

Côte d'Ivoire

- 45,863 confirmed cases as of April 27th (up from 21,310 in December 2020)
- 283 deaths (up from 131)
- Second wave peak in reported cases on March 7th, 2021
- 118,224 vaccine doses administered
- See current cases and current restrictions

Democratic Republic of Congo

- 29,611 confirmed cases as of April 27th (up from 12,701 in December 2020)
- 756 deaths (up from 333)
- Second wave peak in reported cases on January 16th, 2021
- 945 vaccine doses administered
- See current cases and current restrictions

Kenya

- 156,981 confirmed cases as of April 27th (up from 83,316 in December 2020)
- 2,643 deaths (up from 1,452)
- Highest number of reported cases in the second wave so far occurring on April 18th, 2021
- 827,144 vaccine doses administered
- See current cases and current restrictions

Mozambique

- 69,715 confirmed cases as of April 27th (up from 15,613 in December 2020)
- 809 deaths (up from 130)
- Second wave peak in reported cases occurring on February 15th, 2021
- 141,640 vaccine doses administered
- See current cases and current restrictions

Nigeria

- 164,756 confirmed cases as of April 20th (up from 67,412 in December 2020)
- 2,062 deaths (up from 1,173)
- Second wave peak in reported cases occurring on January 11th, 2021
- 1,143,600 vaccine doses administered
- See current cases and current restrictions

South Africa

- 1,567,320 confirmed cases as of April 20th (up from 787,702 in December 2020)
- 54,186 deaths (up from 21,477)
- Second wave peak in reported cases occurring on January 3rd, 2021
- 182,983 vaccine doses administered
- See current cases and current restrictions

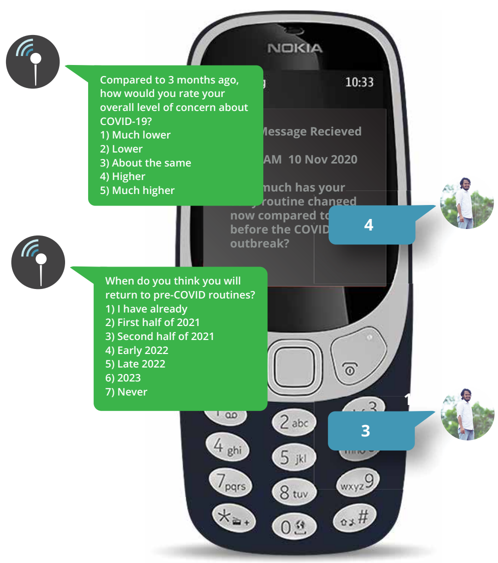
METHODOLOGY

This study was implemented by GeoPoll using our own mobile research platform and respondent database. For more information on the sample and methodology, and to request copies of the questionnaire and response data, please contact info@GeoPoll.com.

Questionnaire and Mode

This study questionnaire was designed by GeoPoll researchers and translated where needed. The study was conducted in English in Kenya, South Africa, and Nigeria; French in Côte D'Ivoire and the Democratic Republic of Congo; and Portuguese in Mozambique. Data collection occurred from March 24th to April 12th, 2021 with some countries completing data collection earlier than others.

Methodology



MODE: **SMS**

TIMELINE:

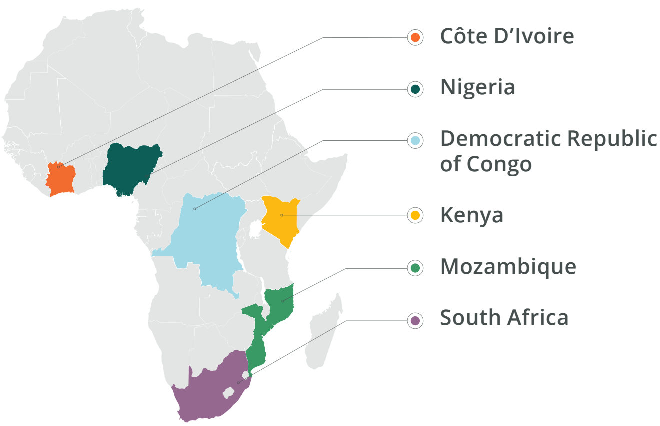
March 24th - April 12th

The study was conducted through SMS, in which a 2-way text message conversation takes place, with one survey question being sent at a time. Messages utilize short codes which are free to respond to, meaning respondents can participate even if they do not have airtime in their accounts. A small incentive in the form of airtime credit was provided upon survey completion.

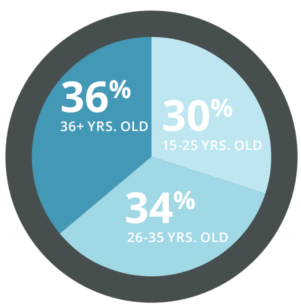
Sample

This study was run in six countries: Côte D'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, and South Africa. The total sample size was 400 per country and 2,400 total, which provides a 5% margin of error and a 95% confidence interval. GeoPoll used a simple random sampling technique from GeoPoll's respondent database of mobile subscribers in each country surveyed. The sample was nationally representative by age, gender and location (ADM1) except in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where we fell slightly short of a nationally representative sample in two provinces – Bandundu and Kasai Oriental. The overall gender split was 49% female to 51% male. The age split was 30% ages 15-25, 34% ages 26-35, and 36% ages 36+.

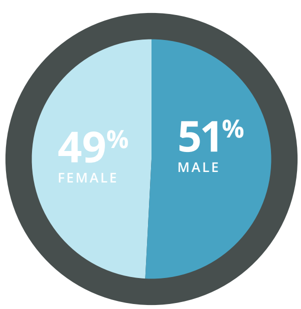
Countries Surveyed

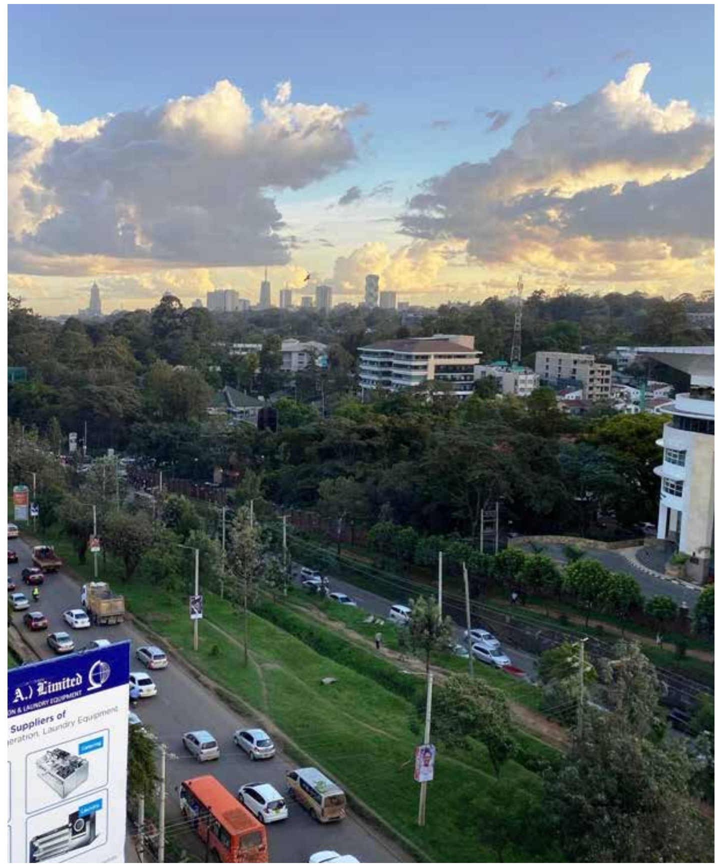


AGE BREAKDOWN



GENDER BREAKDOWN





While SMS surveys are generally able to reach wide portions of the population in most countries, the sample is made up of literate adults with access to mobile phones, and thus reaches wealthier and more educated populations than other modes such as **Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing** (CATI).

For more detailed sample breakdowns please visit our dashboard, which includes data by ADM1 location, or email us at info@GeoPoll.com

Economic Impact Of COVID-19

In its biannual economic analysis for the region in March 2021, the World Bank projects sub-Saharan Africa will see moderate economic growth this year, rebounding from the COVID-19 induced recession of 2020. However, the resurgence of the pandemic is dampening those projections, and many are at risk of suffering further setbacks to their personal finances and living standards.

The sample for this study included a natural fallout of Socio-Economic Class or Living Standard Measures in all markets. To gain insight into that fallout after a year of dealing with the pandemic, we asked several questions related to employment and income.

Employment Status

With unprecedented global employment losses in 2020 due to COVID-19, leading to record high unemployment rates in countries such as South Africa in the October-December quarter, it is not surprising that a significant percentage of our sample (32%) reported being unemployed as of March 2021. Only 20% said they are employed full time and 19% are students. The unemployment rate was significantly higher for women (37%) than for men (28%) but remained consistent across age groups. Across countries, the percentage of unemployed ranged from a high of 40% in Mozambique to 19% in Nigeria.

Respondents across markets that listed their employment status as full time, part time or self-employed were asked if they are considering taking a step back in their career due to COVID-19. Several global studies have explored the issue of parents (primarily mothers) being forced to quit their jobs to take care of their children in light of school closures. Although most respondents in our study claimed they are not considering taking a step back (54%), 31% said they are – which is in line with findings from other studies. We did not see a significant difference between men and women, but the question asked did not take into account respondents that may have already left their jobs.

Income Changes Since December 2020

In its latest global outlook, the World Bank estimated a 6.1% decline in per capita income in sub-Saharan Africa last year – the deepest contraction on record. To gain an understanding of our sample's current financial situation, we asked everyone employed their average monthly income over the past three months. The income ranges we used to report their incomes in the table to follow were developed in collaboration with local partners. In all six countries, the vast majority of respondents fall into the lowest income bracket.

Average Monthly Income Since December 2020

CÔTE D'IVOIRE (XOF)

73%	0 - 150000 ($0 - $270)
14%	150000 - 300000 ($270 - $540)
3%	300001 - 500000 ($540 - $901)
5%	500001 - 1000000 ($901 - $1802)
6%	Over 1000000 (Over $1802)

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (CDF)

60%	0 - 197110 ($0 - $99)
19%	197111 - 393220 ($99 - $198)
9%	394221 - 985553 ($198 - $495)
6%	985554 - 1971105 ($495 - $991)
8%	Over 1971105 (Over $991)

KENYA (KSH)

65%	0 – 10000 ($0 - $94)
16%	10001 – 20000 ($94 - $187)
12%	20001 – 50000 ($187 - $468)
4%	20001 – 50000 ($468 - $935)
3%	Over 100000 (Over $935)

MOZAMBIQUE (MZN)

83%	0 – 15000 ($0 - $267)
6%	15001 – 30000 ($267 – $535)
4%	30001 – 45000 ($535 – $802)
2%	45001 – 100000 ($802 – $1783)
5%	Over 100000 (Over $1783)

NIGERIA (NGN)

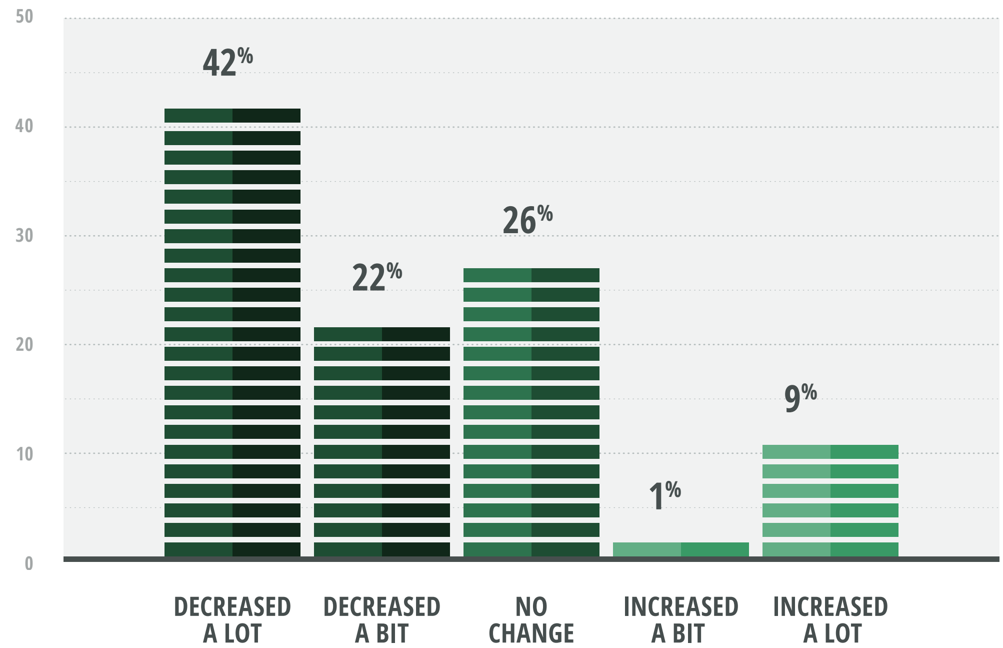
71%	0– 100000 ($0- $262)
16%	100001 - 200000 ($258 – $524)
6%	200001– 300000 ($524 - $786)
2%	300001– 400000 ($786 - $1048)
5%	Over 400000 (Over $1048)

SOUTH AFRICA (ZAR)

66%	0– 5000 ($0 – $347)
13%	5001 - 10000 ($347 – $694)
12%	10001 - 20000 ($694 – $1388)
5%	20001 – 40000 ($1388 – $2775)
5%	Over 40000 (Over $2775)

In GeoPoll's previous study on the ongoing impact of COVID-19 from November 2020, 79% of respondents stated their income had decreased since June 2020. Our current study shows that downward trend continuing with 64% saying their income has decreased since January 2021. The largest segment (42%) say it has decreased a lot.

Compared to January 2021, how has your income changed?



The recent resurgence of the pandemic and renewal of government restrictions in Kenya appears to have had a severe economic impact, with 79% of respondents in that country reporting a decrease in income. Young people in Kenya appear to be particularly effected, with 66% of respondents ages 15-25 saying their income has decreased a lot. Only 10% of respondents across countries said their income has increased even a bit.

53% are extremely concerned about paying expenses in the next 3 months

The prevalent drop or stagnation in income in sub-Saharan Africa has understandably impacted consumer finances and spending. Across countries, most respondents (53%) say they are extremely concerned about paying expenses in the next three months. Men and women across age groups share similar concerns. The level of concern is particularly high in Mozambique with 70% of respondents saying they are extremely concerned.

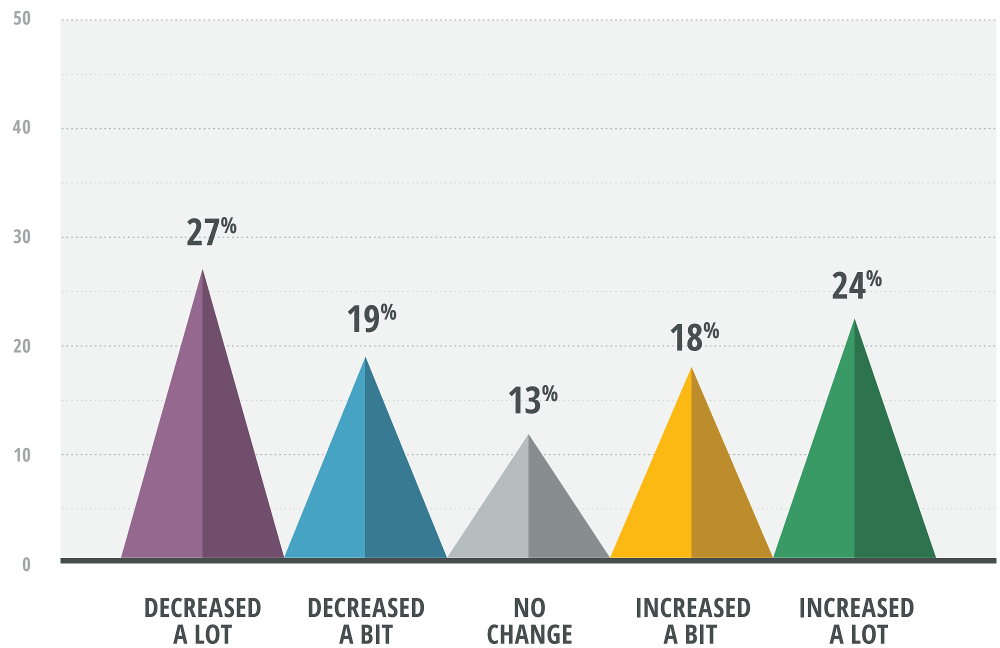
The World Bank approved a $100 million COVID-19 response grant for the government of Mozambique in October 2020, noting that that a sizeable number of Mozambicans could fall back into poverty as a result of the pandemic

Conversely, in the Democratic Republic of Congo almost half (46%) of respondents say they are not concerned at all about paying expenses. That is 12% higher than Côte D'Ivoire and more than double the other four countries included in this study. Only 38% of respondents in the DRC say they are extremely concerned about paying their expenses. According to the World Bank, 73% of the population in the DRC lived below the international poverty rate prior to COVID-19. With poverty already widespread, the economic impact of the pandemic has meant comparatively less of a drop in income/ability to pay expenses in the DRC than in other economies.

Consumer Spending

Spending on food and other necessities has fluctuated significantly since January 2021. When asked to compare their current spending on food and other necessities to three months ago, most respondents choose the extremes, saying it either decreased a lot (27%) or increased a lot (24%). Only 12% of respondents say it has not changed.

Spending On Food And Other Necessities

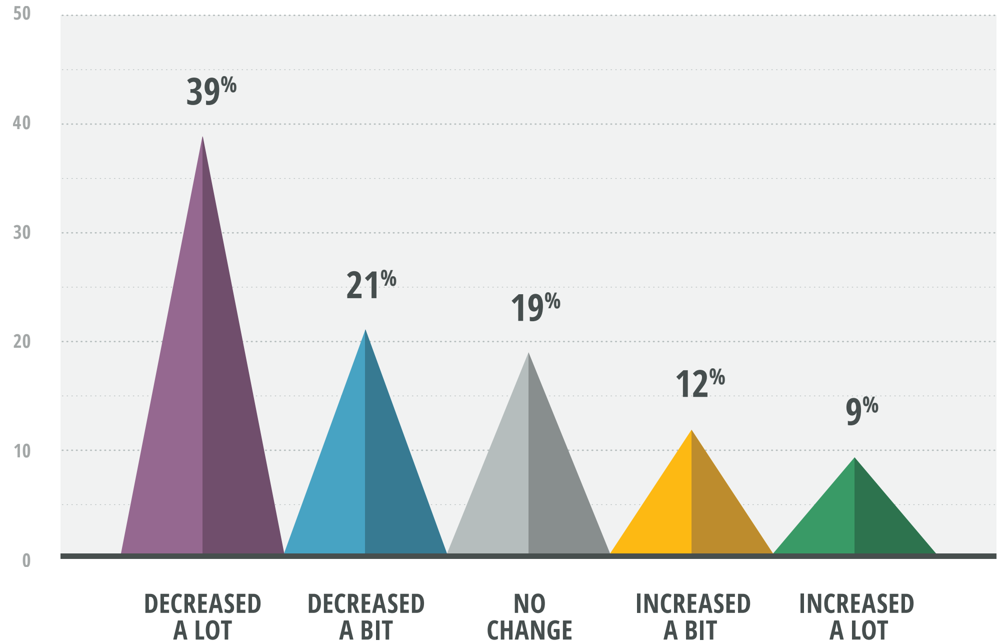


Nigeria's inflation rate rose to 18.17% in March 2021, hitting a 4-year peak due to the impacts of COVID-19. Food inflation in particular rose to 22.95%, putting even more pressure on households faced with rising unemployment and shrinking incomes. In our study, 68% of respondents in Nigeria stated that their spending on food and other necessities has increased in the past three months. Almost half (47%) say it has increased a lot. The overwhelming reason why respondents across countries say their spending on food and other necessities has decreased is because they have less money (76%). For respondents that stated their spending on food and other necessities has increased, 85% claim the increase is because prices have gone up. In Nigeria that number rises to 94%.

85% attribute spending more on food to an increase in prices

With 64% of respondents saying their income has decreased in the past three months, it is understandable that 60% of respondents say their spending on non-essential items has also decreased. In Kenya, where 79% of respondents experienced a decrease in income, 51% say their spending on non-essential items has decreased a lot.

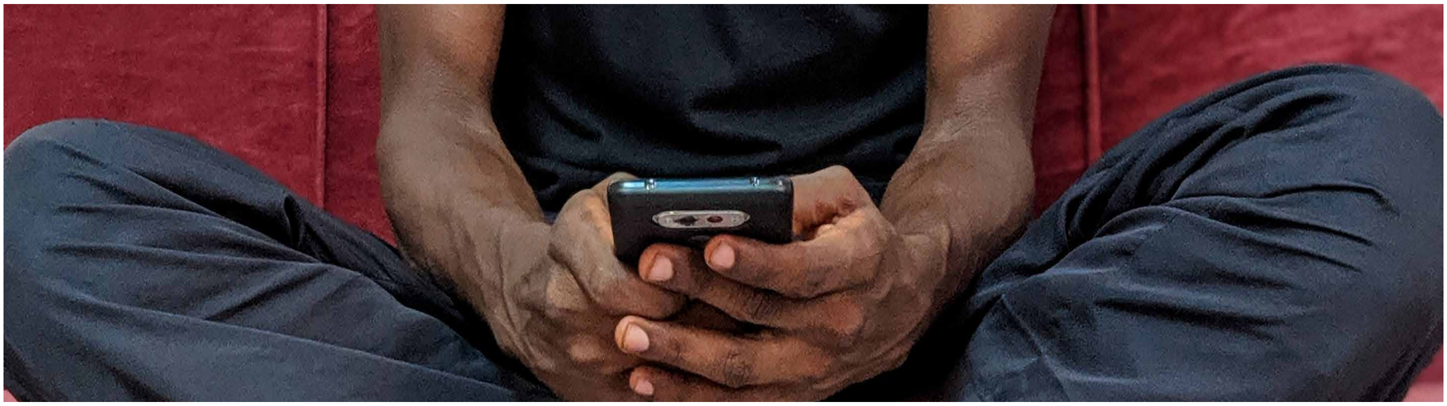
Spending On Non-Essential Items



Most respondents across countries (65%) say the reason why their spending on non-essential items has decreased is because they have less money. Almost 18% say it is because they are spending more elsewhere – likely on food and essentials. Of the relatively few respondents that say their spending on non-essential items has increased, 77% attribute the increase to a rise in prices. In Nigeria, 90% attribute it to a rise in prices.

66% are using mobile money less than in January 2021

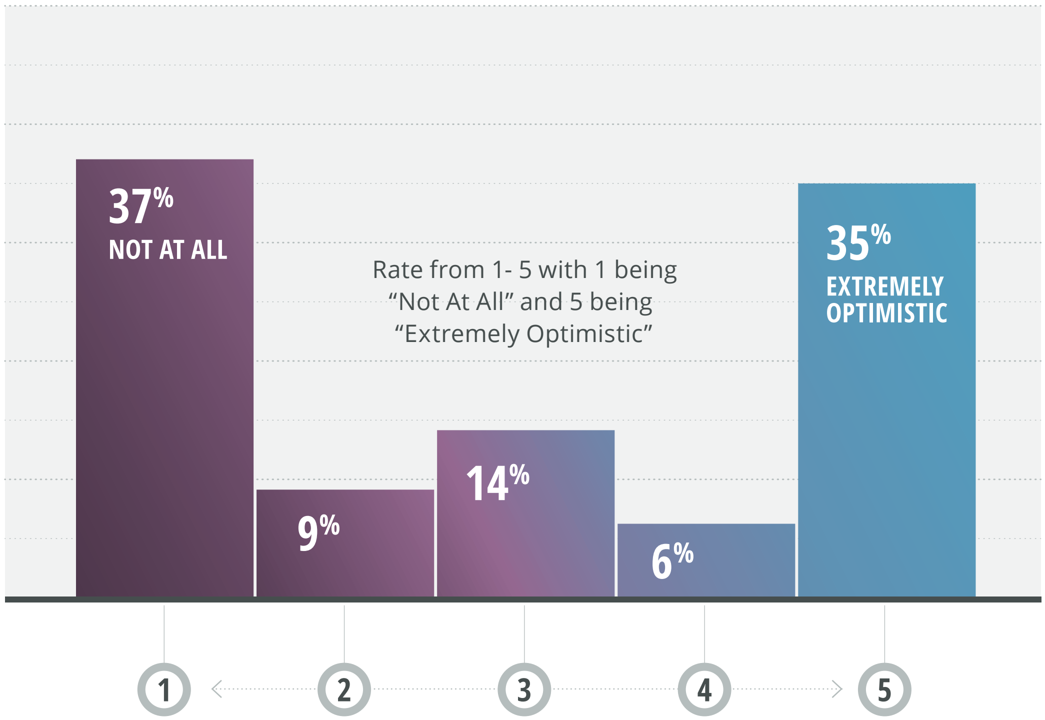
With many people earning less and spending less money due to the financial impacts of COVID-19, it is not surprising that they are using mobile money less. Compared to January 2021, 66% say they are depositing or withdrawing mobile money less often. At the extremes, 37% say they are using mobile money a lot less often, but only 7% say they are using it a lot more often. The downward trend is least severe in Nigeria where 55% are depositing or withdrawing mobile money less often but 33% are doing it more often.



Financial Outlook

Looking ahead, respondents have polarized views about their financial future. When asked to rate their optimism about their financial situation improvising in the next three months, 37% are not at all optimistic and 35% are extremely optimistic. Respondents ages 26-35 are slightly more optimistic than the other age groups with 38% saying they are extremely optimistic. Women are more likely to be extremely optimistic than men (38% to 32%).

How optimistic are you about your financial situation improving in the next 3 months?



Nigeria stands out as having the brightest outlook for the future. Despite the tumultuous first few months of 2021, 46% of respondents in Nigeria are extremely optimistic about their financial situation improving in the next 3 months. Respondents in the Democratic Republic of Congo are the most skeptical, with only 27% extremely optimistic and 54% not at all optimistic. According to the United Nations, one-third of the DRC's population is currently facing acute hunger due to conflict and the economic impacts of COVID-19, providing possible context for that skepticism.

Perceptions And Concerns About The COVID-19 Vaccine

One of the biggest challenges governments and health institutions face in slowing the spread of COVID-19 is the prevalence of false information and myths about the vaccine. As more vaccine becomes available, concerns about vaccine hesitancy caused by misinformation and disinformation remain high. To increase acceptance of the vaccine and approach herd immunity in sub-Saharan Africa, concerted efforts will have to be made by governments and other stakeholders to debunk misinformation and non-factual statements.

In this study, we asked respondents in Côte D'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, and South Africa about their likeliness to take the vaccine when it becomes available – and when they think that might be. We also asked if they have been provided enough trustworthy information about the vaccine and any concerns they might have.

48% believe they have been provided enough trustworthy information about the vaccine

Trustworthy Vaccine Information

Less than half of respondents in this study (48%) believe they have been provided enough trustworthy information about the COVID-19 vaccine. Only 44% of women believe they have been provided enough information, and 42% of respondents from Kenya. Persistent rumors around the vaccine have clearly degraded peoples' confidence in the information available to them and demonstrate the importance of stakeholders battling misinformation around vaccines.

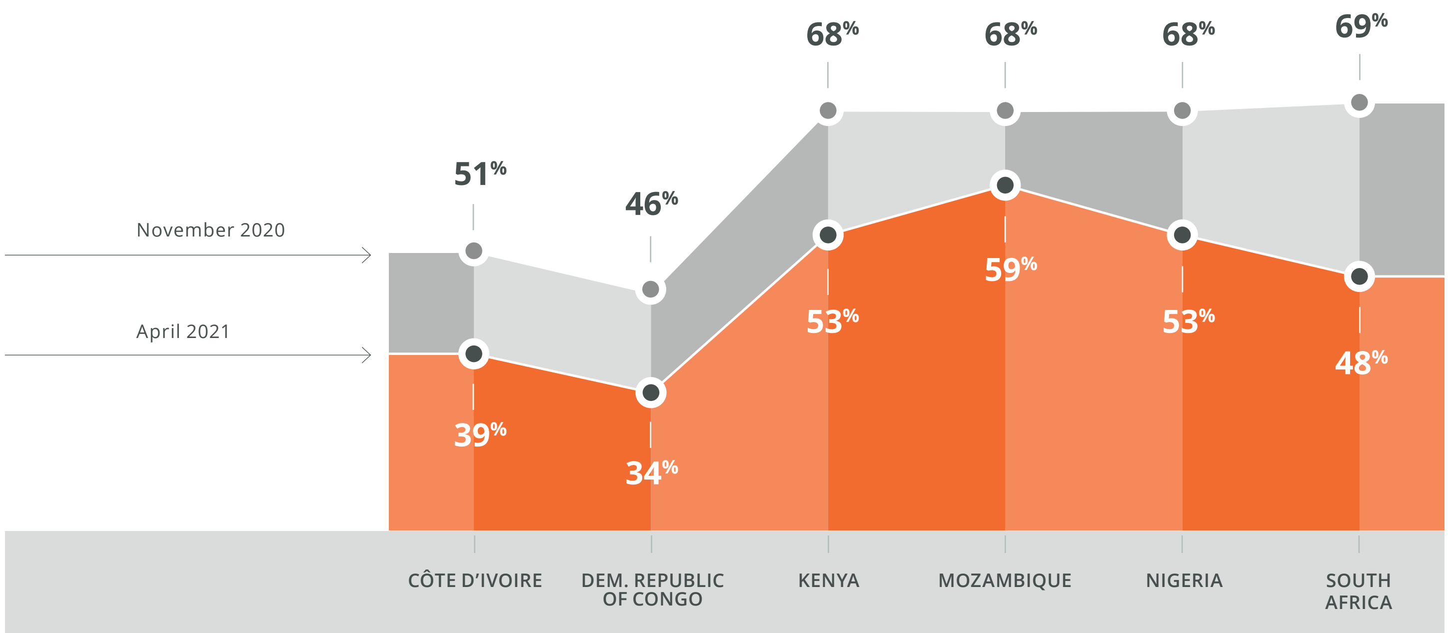
Likelihood to Get the Vaccine

Respondents' likeliness to get the vaccine mirrors their trust in the information available about the vaccine. Only 48% of respondents across countries said they would probably or definitely get the vaccine right away if it was available for free. That is down from 62% in our previous study in November 2020, further illustrating the impact of continued negative information about the vaccine. Although the exact vaccination rate needed to achieve COVID-19 herd immunity is still unknown, some experts have estimated the number to be 80% to 90% of the population.

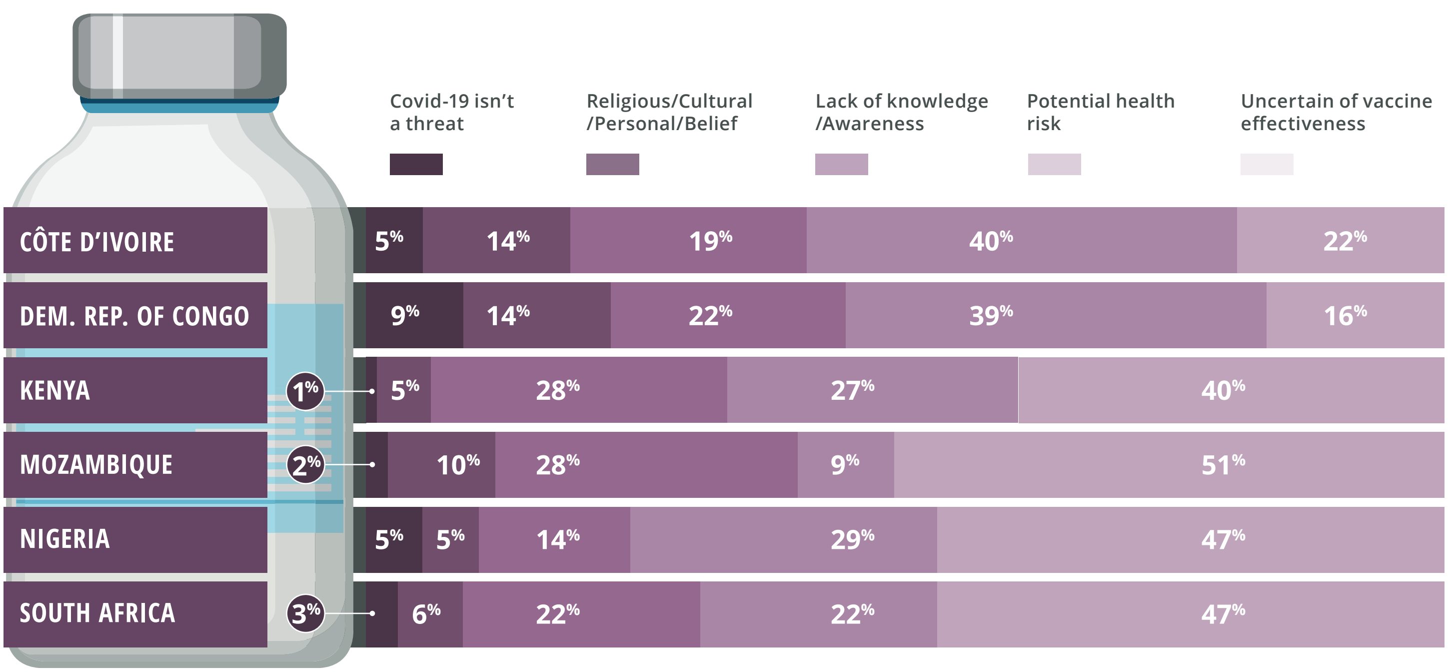
Women are significantly less likely to get the vaccine than men at 43% compared to 53%. Likeliness to get the vaccine varies even more drastically between countries.

Trending in the wrong direction, all six countries are less likely to get the vaccine now than they were in our study in November 2020. The DRC continues to be least likely to get the vaccine, with 45% saying they probably or definitely would not. Overall, the top reason why respondents may not get the vaccine is uncertainty about its effectiveness. That does not hold true in each country, however, as shown in the chart on the next page.

PERCENTAGE THAT WOULD 'DEFINITELY' OR 'PROBABLY' GET THE COVID-19 VACCINE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE



CONCERNS ABOUT THE VACCINE



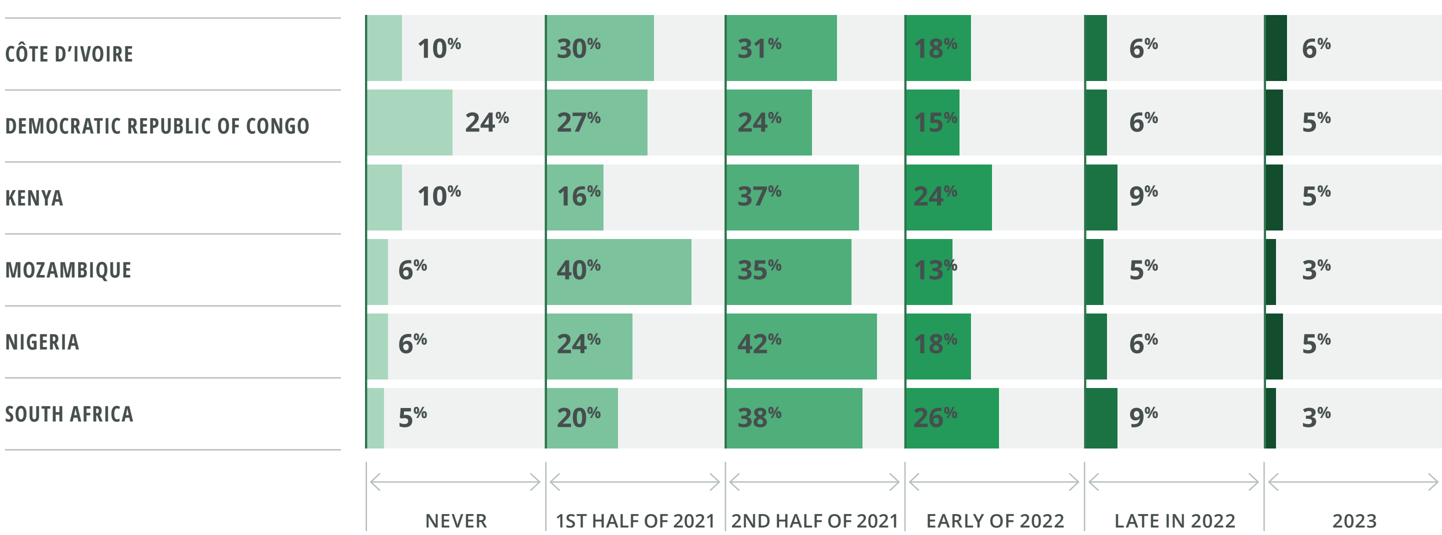
Expectations About Vaccine Availability

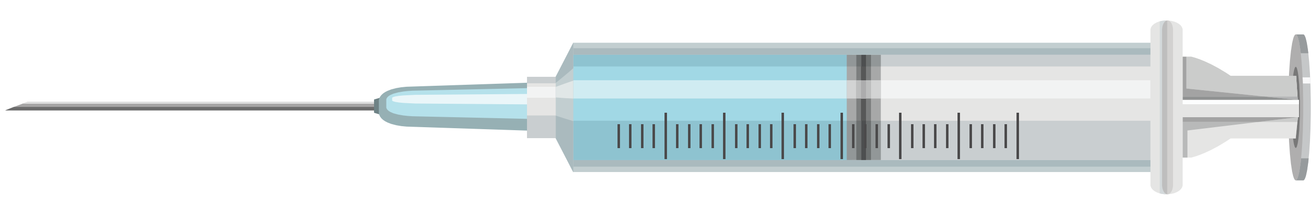
Vaccination rates are diverging widely across the globe as well as between the countries in sub-Saharan Africa. According to the World Health Organization's COVID-19 Dashboard, the number of vaccine doses administered as of April 27th, 2021 ranges from 1,143,600 in Nigeria to 945 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It is not surprising then that respondents in the DRC are most pessimistic about the timeliness of the vaccine rollout. In fact, 24% of respondents in the DRC do not believe the vaccine will ever be available to the public.

The delayed rollout of the vaccine so far in Africa has pushed back when respondents from all six countries in this study expect the vaccine will be available to the public. In our study in November 2020, 31% believed a vaccine would be available in the first half of 2021. Only 10% believed it would be available in the second half of 2021 and 5% believed it wouldn't be until 2022. In this study, the percentage that believe the vaccine will be available in the first half of 2021 dropped from 31% to 26%. The percentage that believes the vaccine will be available in the second half of 2021 jumped from 10% to 34%, and the percentage that predict it will not be available until 2022 or later jumped from 5% to 30%.

Respondents in Mozambique are by far the most optimistic about the availability of the vaccine. A full 40% anticipate the vaccine will be available to the public in the first half of 2021 and 75% expect it by the second half of 2021 at the latest. Prime Minister Carlos Agostinho do Rosario of Mozambique announced in March that the country will receive an extra 1.7 million doses of the vaccine from various bilateral sources by May, 2021 and hopes to vaccinate 16 million people by 2022.

WHEN DO YOU EXPECT A VACCINE WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC?



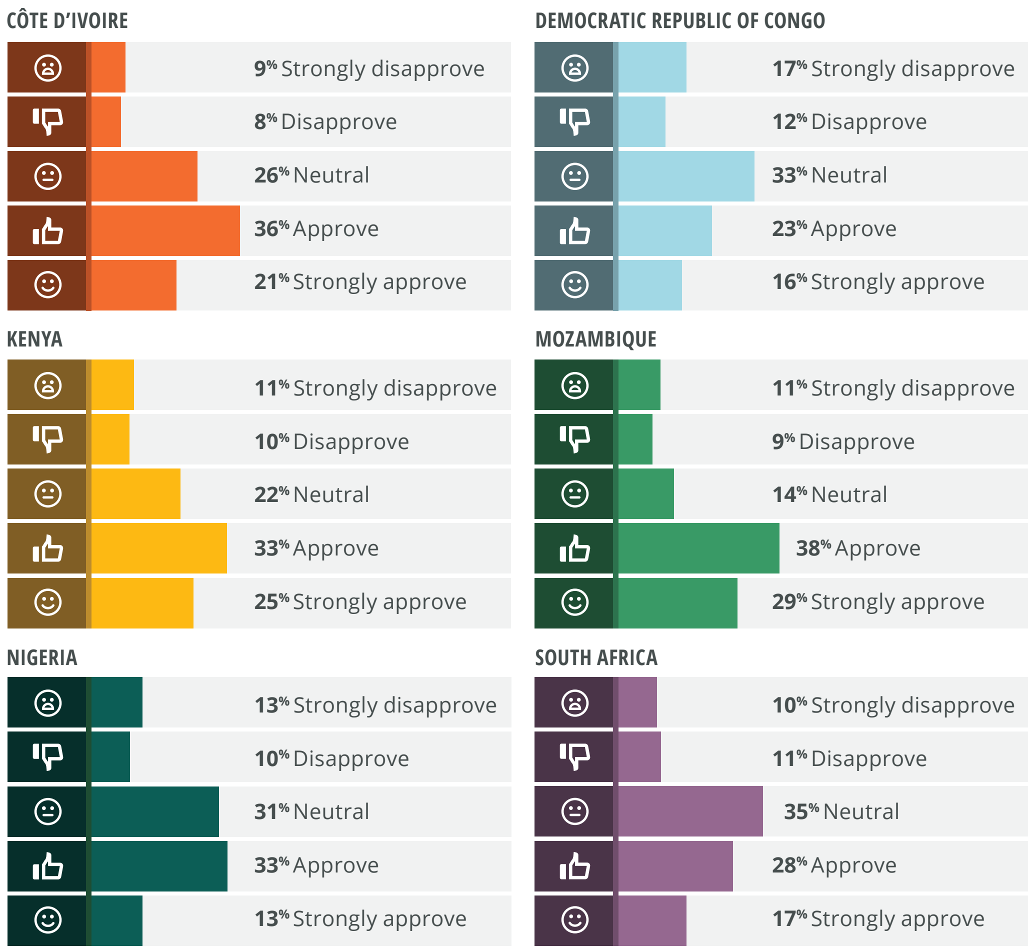


Societal Impact Of COVID-19

Government Response

COVID-19 has tested the capacity and reach of governments around world. Despite the early efforts and investments of governments in sub-Saharan Africa to keep their economies afloat and protect the lives and livelihoods of their people, the virus has yet to let up. Now dealing with the effects of a resurgence of the virus, we asked respondents in Côte D'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, and South Africa to assess their governments' actions related to COVID-19.

Approval of government's actions related to Covid-19

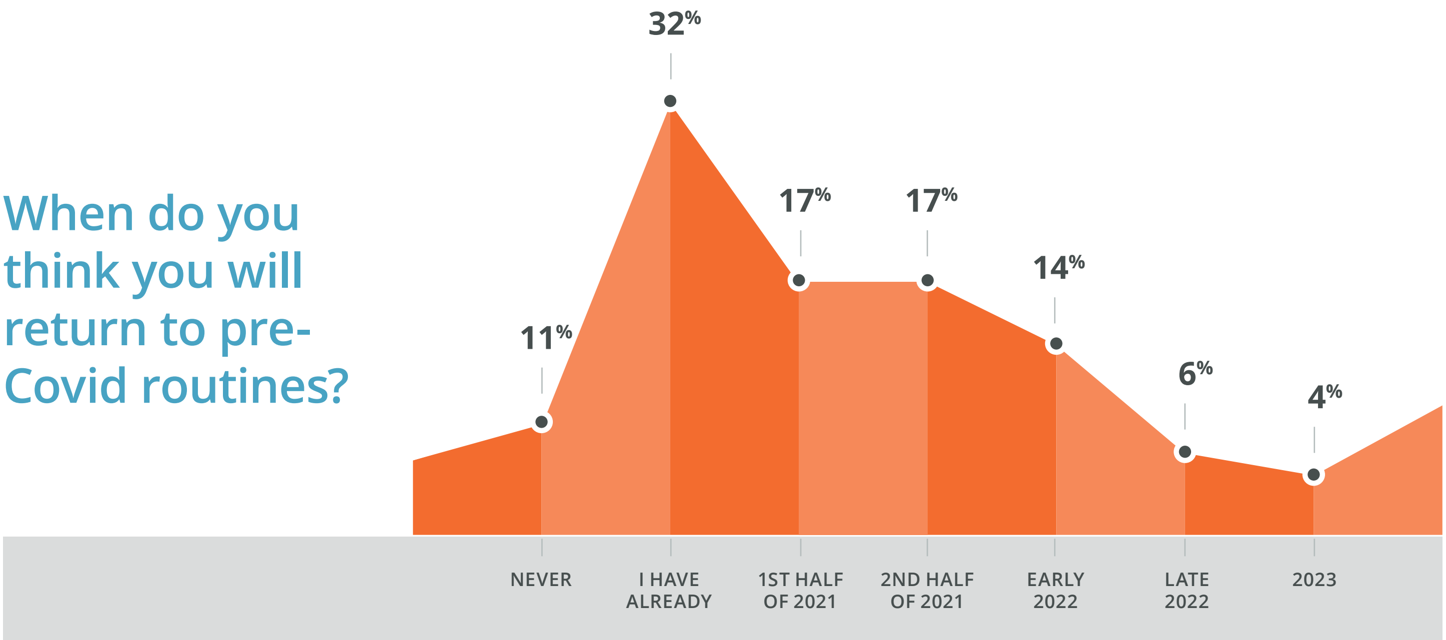


In all six countries, more people approve of their government's response than disapprove. The highest approval rating is in Mozambique where 67% approve or strongly approve. The Democratic Republic of the Congo is the least satisfied with 29% that either disapprove or strongly disapprove. With the pandemic still far from over, 27% of respondents across countries provided a rating of neutral, withholding their judgment for now.

Lifestyle Changes Due to COVID-19

In our study in November 2020, 24% of respondents indicated they had already returned to pre-COVID routines. In this study, that percentage increased to 32%. In November, 41% believed they would return to pre-COVID routines in the first half of 2021. The second wave of the virus has since dampened that optimism with only 17% now believing their routines will return to normal by June.

When do you think you will return to pre-Covid routines?



Côte D'Ivoire leads the way in the return to normal with 44% saying they have already returned to pre-COVID routines. That percentage drops down all the way to 24% in South Africa. One component of the new routine caused by COVID-19 is mask-wearing. Without widespread access to vaccines, many sub-Saharan African countries are relying on public health measures such as mask wearing, handwashing and social distancing to control the disease's spread. Despite the resurgence of the virus, however, recent data suggests that mask-wearing in Africa is declining. Most countries mandate the wearing of masks in public places, but enforcement is inconsistent, and fatigue and misinformation discourage use.

After living with the pandemic for more than a year, our study finds that 96% of respondents across countries continue to wear a mask in public at least sometimes. Beyond that, mask-wearing frequency varies significantly from one country to the next.

When in public, how often are you wearing a mask?

South Africa has the highest number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Africa. With the second wave of the virus peaking in South Africa on January 4th, 2021, the country loosened its restriction to alert level 1 on March 1st. Wearing a mask in public remains mandatory, however, and failure to comply is punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment. In our study, respondents in South Africa were most likely to always wear a mask in public at 86%. Mozambique and Kenya were close behind at 79% and 77% respectfully. In contrast, only 21% of respondents in the Democratic Republic of the Congo report always wearing a mask. The DRC has had the lowest number of confirmed cases of all six countries included in this study.

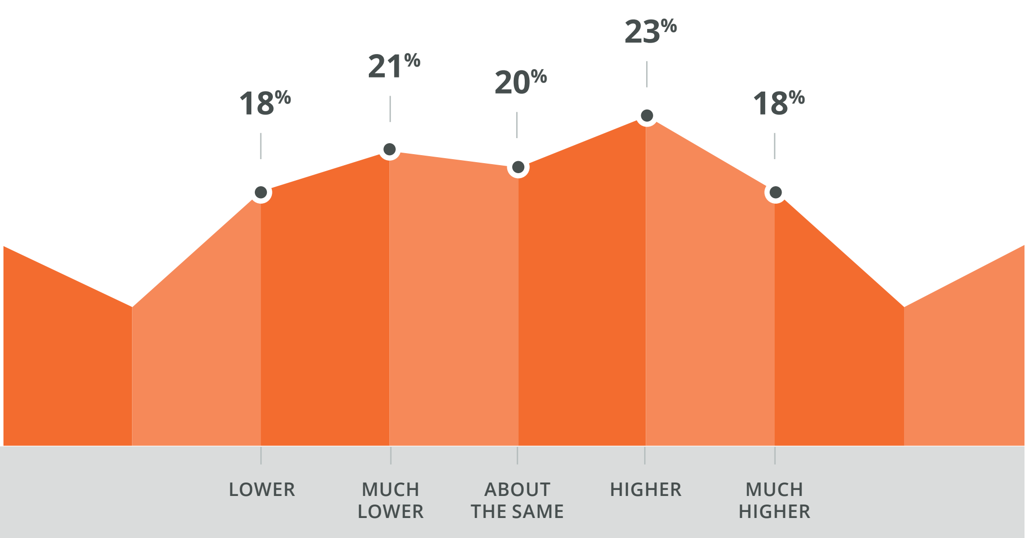
Physical distancing due to the COVID-19 outbreak can have drastic negative effects on people's mental health. Increased stress, anxiety, and depression can all be attributed to extended self-isolation. Understanding the importance and need for people to interact socially as governments try to stem the spread of the virus, we asked respondents how many times in the past month they have socialized with individuals outside of their immediate family.

Across countries, 23% say they never socialized with people outside of their family in the past month. Mozambique has the largest percentage of people that never socialized at 31%. The highest rate of socializing was in Côte D'Ivoire where 39% socialized more than 5 times. This finding aligns with Côte D'Ivoire also having the highest percentage of respondents that have already returned to pre-COVID routines.

Physical and Emotional Health Effects

Differences in the timing, spread and response to the virus across sub-Saharan Africa help explain the differences in respondents' level of concern about the virus.

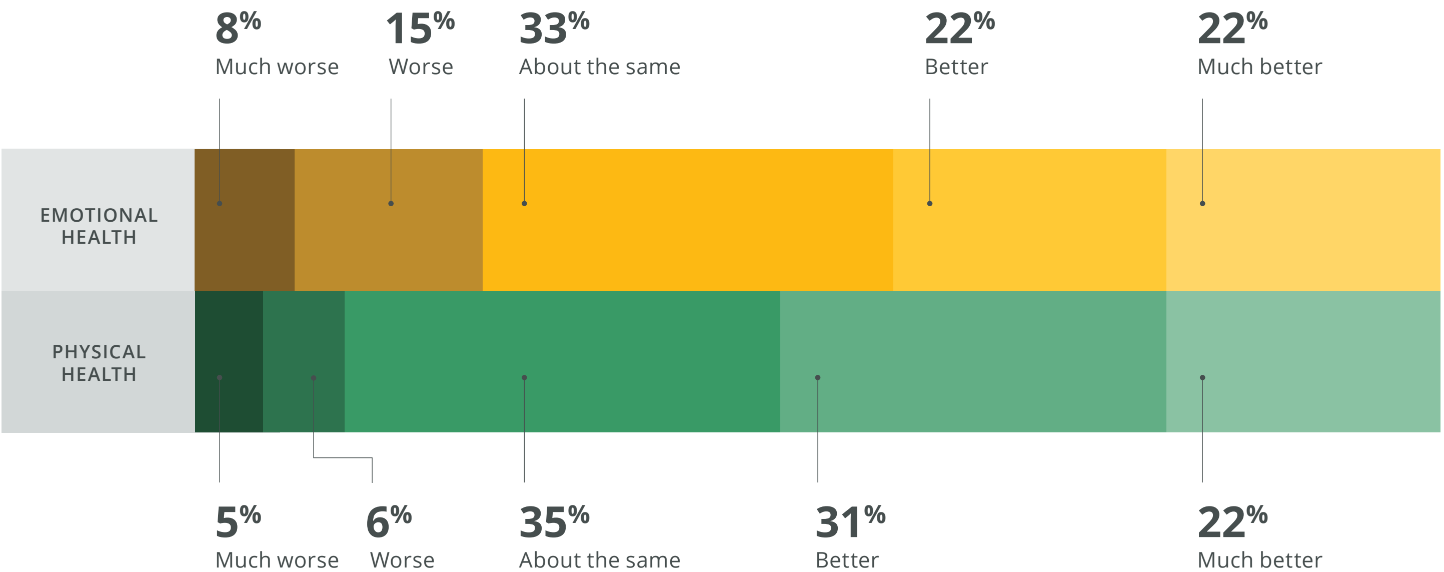
Compared to January 2021, how would you rate your overall level of concern about Covid-19?



The severity of the second wave of the pandemic in Kenya and the recent renewal of government restrictions has understandably elevated concerns about COVID-19 in that country. Most respondents in Kenya (64%) say their level of concern about the virus is higher or much higher compared to January 2021. Mozambique is the only other country where the current level of concern is higher than it was in January at 53%.

The current situation in Kenya also appears to be impacting respondents' emotional health. Only 30% say their emotional health has improved since January. At the other end of the spectrum, 62% in Nigeria claim their emotional health is better or much better compared to January.

Emotional and Physical Health Compared to January 2021



Across countries the trend in emotional health is positive, with 44% saying their emotional health is better than it was in January 2021 and only 23% saying it is worse. For 33% it has remained the same. The breakdown remains consistent across age groups and genders.

The trend is positive in terms of physical health as well. Compared to January most say their physical health has improved at 53%. Only 11% say it has worsened, and 35% say it has remained the same. Demonstrating the close relationship between physical and emotional health, Nigeria shows the most improvement with 70% saying their physical health is better or much better than in January and Kenya shows the least at 38%. The biggest decline is in the Democratic Republic of the Congo where 25% say their physical health is worse or much worse than in January.

CONCLUSION

Many countries in sub-Saharan Africa continue to suffer the economic and societal impacts of COVID-19. GeoPoll's study of the topic finds that unemployment rates remain high, particularly, for women who have experienced outsized effects of COVID-19 in many areas, including jobs, income, gender-based violence, and education. Due to the closure of schools and additional domestic needs, 31% of the respondents in this study are considering taking a step back in their careers, even as most (53%) are extremely concerned about paying their expenses.

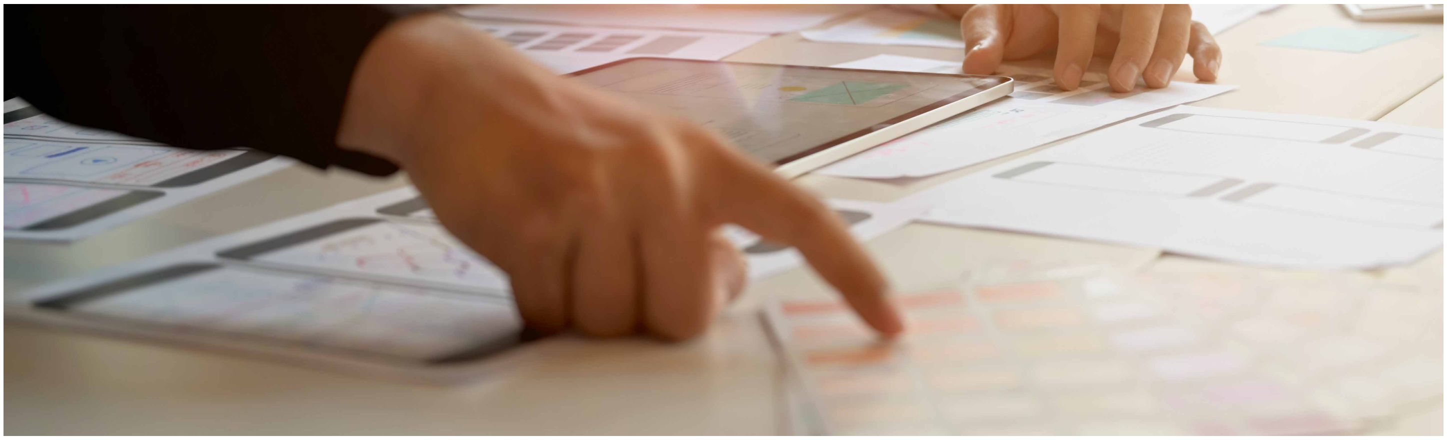
Incomes continue to fall across all six countries included in this study. The recent resurgence of the pandemic and renewal of government restrictions in Kenya appear to be having a severe impact, where 79% report a decrease in income compared to January 2021. Most in Kenya also say their level of concern about COVID-19 is higher or much higher than in January.

While a loss of income is causing a decrease in spending on food and essentials for some, record high inflation, particularly in Nigeria, is forcing others to spend more. Almost everyone is spending less on non-essential items. They are also using mobile money less. Hope for the financial future varies dramatically. When asked to rate their optimism about their financial situation improving in the next three months on a 5-point scale, most choose either a 1 or a 5.

Despite the hardships faced over the past year, most respondents approve of their government's response. Most continue to wear masks in public but have started to socialize outside of their immediate family. Trending positive, 44% say their emotional health is better and 53% say their physical health is better than at the start of 2021.

According to experts a full return to normal largely hinges on the availability and distribution of vaccines. Unfortunately, less than half the respondents in this study believe they have been provided enough trustworthy information about the vaccine or would probably get the vaccine right away if it was available. In all six countries, respondents are less likely to get the vaccine now than they were in a previous GeoPoll study from November 2020.

Over the coming months, GeoPoll will continue to monitor the long-term implications of COVID-19 and sentiments towards a vaccine in sub-Saharan Africa and around the globe. Sign up to be updated when GeoPoll releases new COVID-19 research, and please contact us if you require additional information regarding this study or would like to conduct your own research using GeoPoll's mobile- based data collection capabilities and global reach.



About GeoPoll

GeoPoll is the pioneer in providing remote, mobile-based research solutions throughout Africa, Asia, and Latin America. GeoPoll combines a robust, multi-modal technology platform with a large database of respondents, direct connectivity to mobile network operators, and a team of expert researchers in order to gather valuable data in more than 80 countries around the globe. Working with partners including international development organizations, local NGOs, and global brands, GeoPoll facilitates projects that measure vital indicators around the world. For more information, please visit www.GeoPoll.com.

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