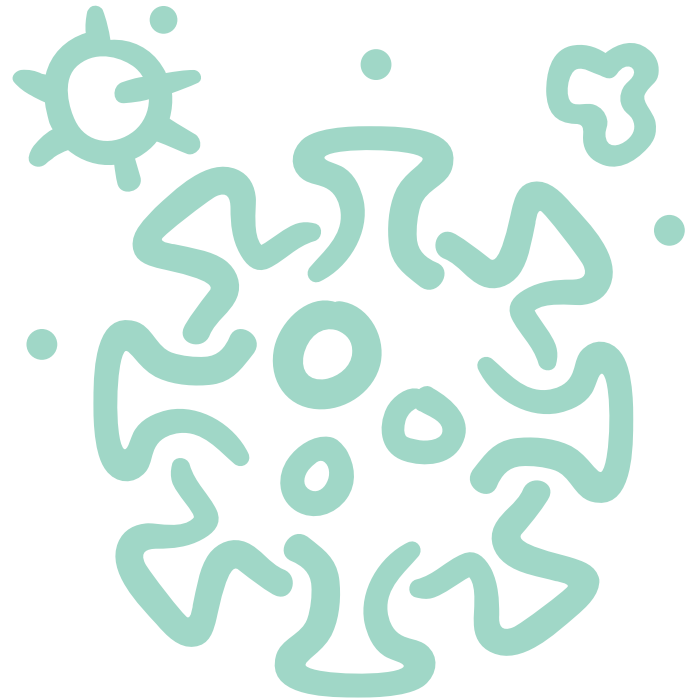




THE EFFECT OF COVID-19 ON EWEI ESP BENEFICIARIES

OCTOBER
2020

BACKGROUND

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic emerged with a lot of challenges for everyone. From the fear of loss of lives to fear of contracting the virus, to the fear of being isolated, to fear of not knowing when it will be a thing of the past, to the fear of not experiencing lives as it was before. This was doubled by the lockdown and restrictive measures which led to diverse limitations for citizens.

In Kaduna state, North-West Nigeria, the lockdown started on 27 February 2020 and lasted till 10 June 2020. As a result of the lockdown, EWEI's Educational Subsidy Programme (ESP) beneficiaries were also affected by the pandemic as schools were closed and are still closed in Kaduna state.

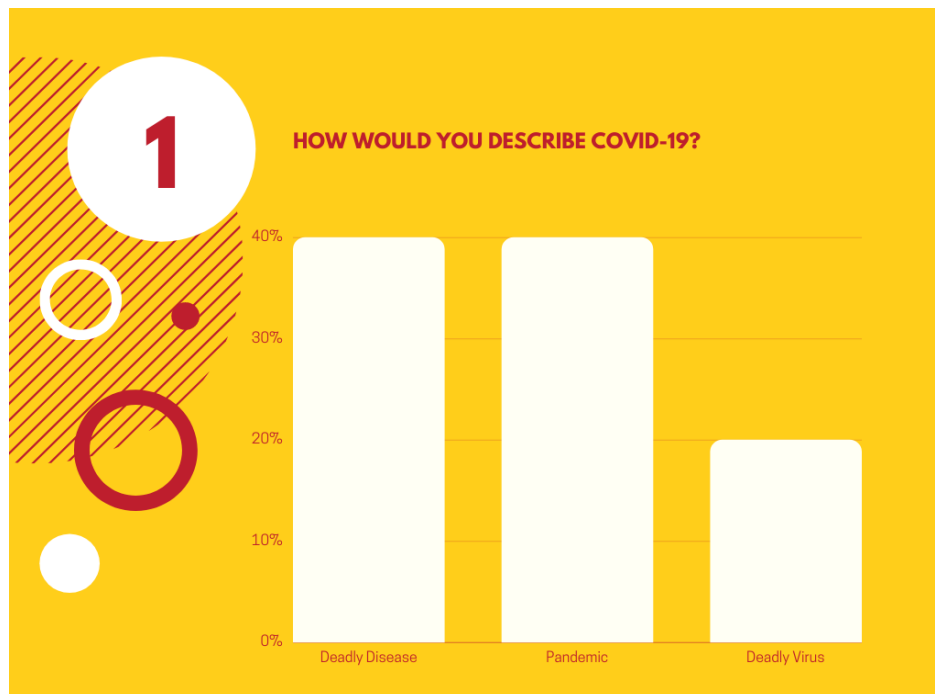
To understand the extent to which the lockdown affected our beneficiaries, EWEI surveyed 10 ESP beneficiaries to gain insights into the effects of the pandemic on them and their families On 9 October 2020.

These beneficiaries are between the ages of 15-17 and are currently in senior secondary schools. 4 beneficiaries attend Government Secondary School Television, 3 attend Government Girls Secondary School Barnawa, 2 attend Government Girls Secondary School Doka and 1 attend Government Girls Secondary School Independence Way. These beneficiaries are from low Income families and are resident in higher populated communities in Chikun, Kaduna South and Kaduna North LGA of Kaduna state.

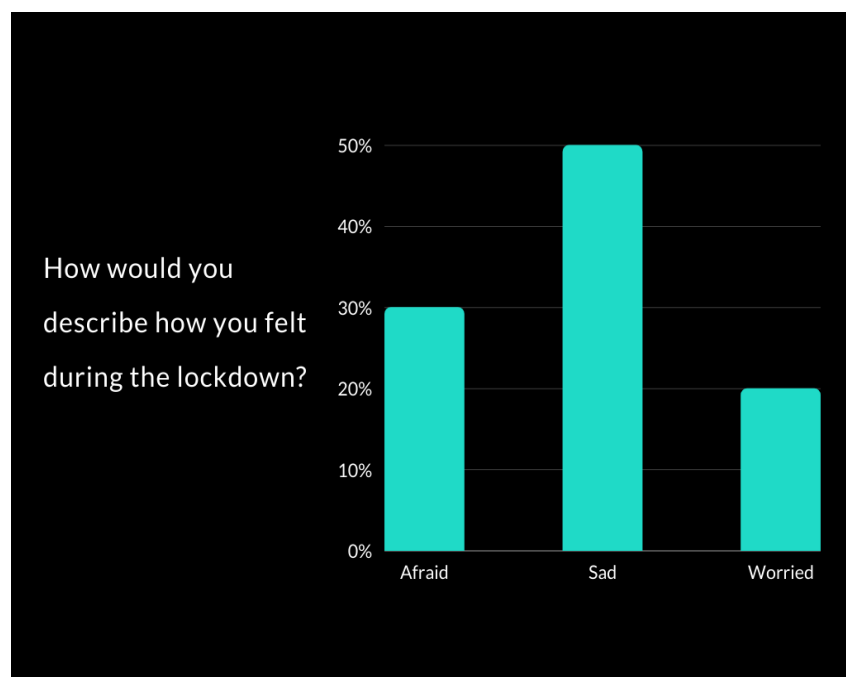
The survey results revealed the specific ways the pandemic affected the ESP beneficiaries and the challenges they faced and are still facing as a result of the pandemic.

Effects of COVID-19

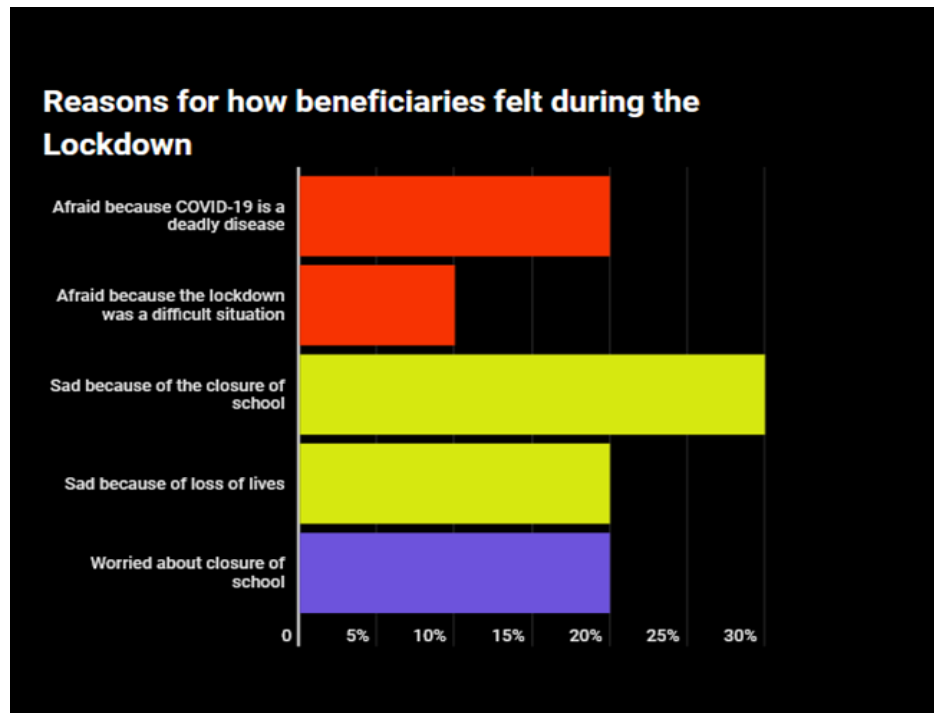
The respondents were asked to describe COVID-19. 40% of the respondents described it as a deadly disease, 40% described it as a pandemic and 20% described it as a deadly virus.



We asked our respondents to describe how they felt during the lockdown. 30% said they were afraid, 50% said they were sad and 20% said they were worried.

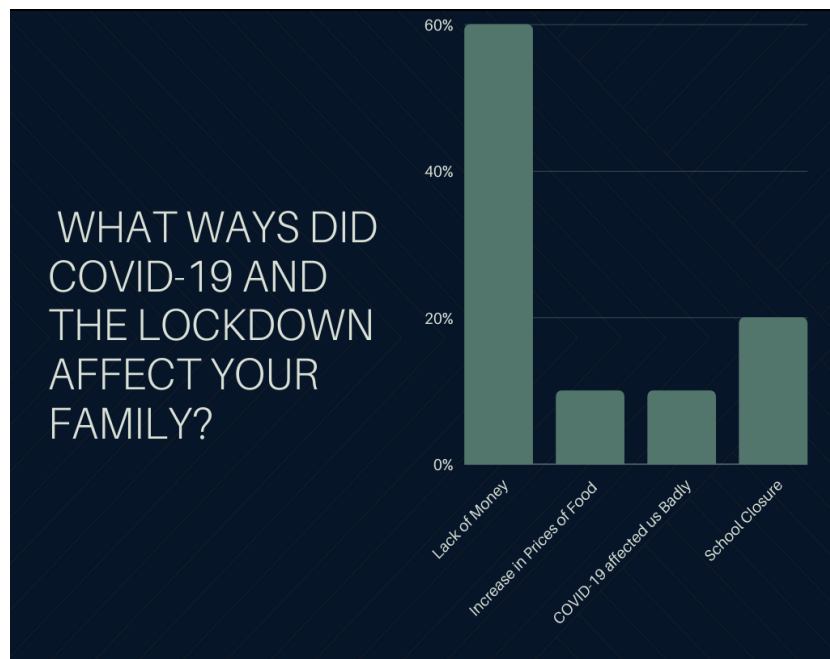


We asked our respondents the reasons why they felt afraid, sad or worried and 20% were afraid because COVID-19 is a deadly disease, 10% said they were afraid because the lockdown was a difficult situation, 30% were sad because of closure of schools, 20% were sad because of the loss of lives and 20% were worried about closure of schools.



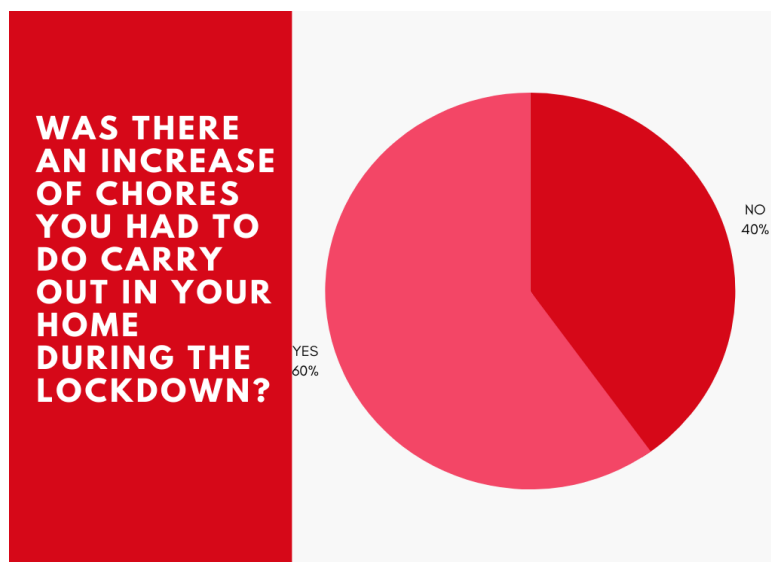
The Impact of COVID19 and Lockdown Measures

Respondents were asked the effects of the lockdown on their family. 60% of the respondents stated that the pandemic and lockdown led to a lack of finances for their family, 10% stated that it led to an increase in prices of food, 20% stated that the lockdown led to the closure of schools which resulted in them staying at home all day and 10% stated that the lockdown affected them badly.



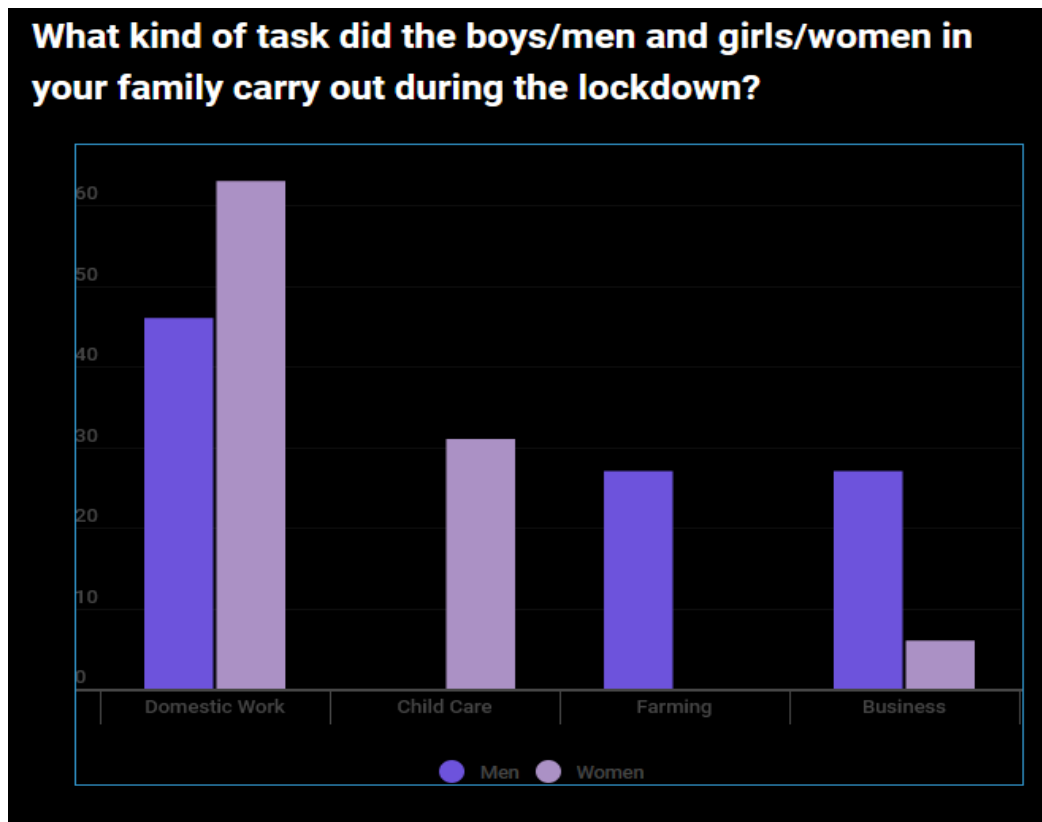
Lockdown Tasks

We also asked the respondents if there was an increase of chores they had to carry out in their homes during the lockdown. 60% stated that there was an increase of house chores because more people were



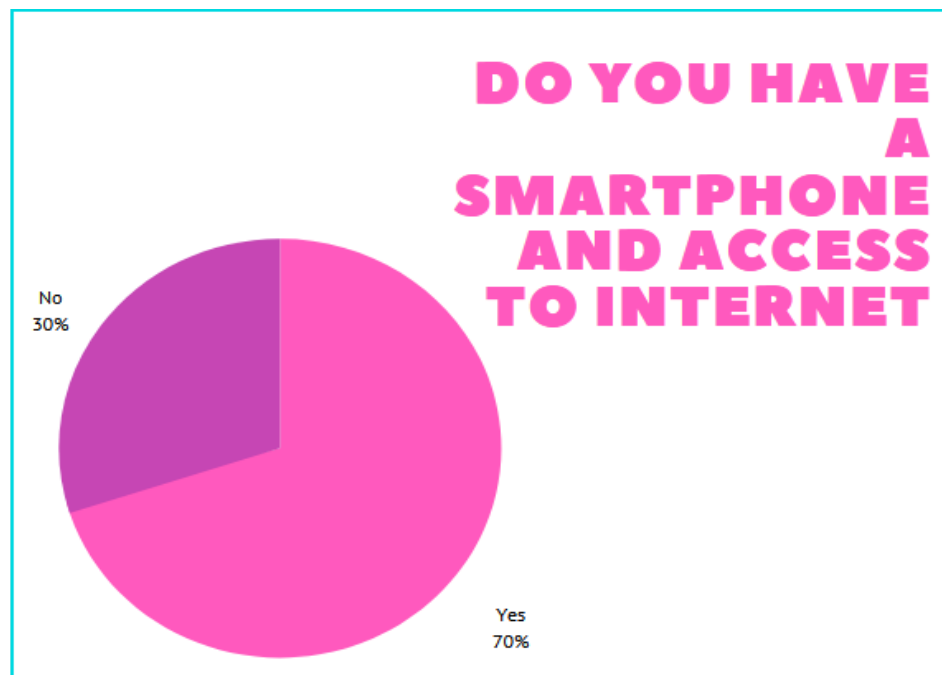
at home during the lockdown but 40% stated that there was no increase in house chores during the lockdown because tasks were shared by everyone at home.

Respondents were also asked what kinds of tasks girls/women and boys/men in their family carried out during the lockdown. It was recorded that 63% of girls/women and 46% of boys/men were engaged in domestic work, 31% of women were engaged in childcare while 27% of men were engaged in farming and 6% of girls/women and 27% of boys/men were engaged in business.



Availability of Smartphones and Access to Internet

The respondents were asked if they have a smartphone and access to the internet. 30% stated that they have smartphones and access to internet while 70% stated that they have no smartphones nor access to internet.



30% of the respondents who have access smartphones internet were asked who the smartphones belong to. They confirmed that they belong to their parents and siblings.

In addition, the 70% respondents who had no access to smartphone and internet were asked if the use of internet is allowed in their homes; 60% stated that it was allowed and 10% stated that to access internet in their house, you must be above the age of 18 or be done with secondary school.

Conclusion

From the data collected, we deduce that the pandemic affected beneficiaries to a large extent ranging from the feeling of sadness to worry to fear to the close down of school and also lack of resources.

Based on these findings, we recommend interventions that address the needs and gaps created by the pandemic not just for beneficiaries alone but for the wider audience.

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM COVID-19

HOW THE COVID-19 VIRUS SPREADS

DO THIS TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS

