



## SURVEY SUMMARY

# COVID-19 IN KENYA: PERCEPTIONS OF KENYANS ON GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATION AND MASS TESTING

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**Survey Dates:** May 13-16, 2020

**Survey Respondents:** 562 adults (18+ years) from 47 counties. 58.7% were male and 40.8% female. 67% of them were gainfully employed while the rest were either student, unemployed, or retired. 61 % were aged between 18-35 and 26 % between 36 and 50 years.

## Key Findings

### Usefulness and Clarity of Government Communication

- 55% of the respondents said the government communication on COVID-19 was useful. 26% said it was clear while 12% thought it was poor.

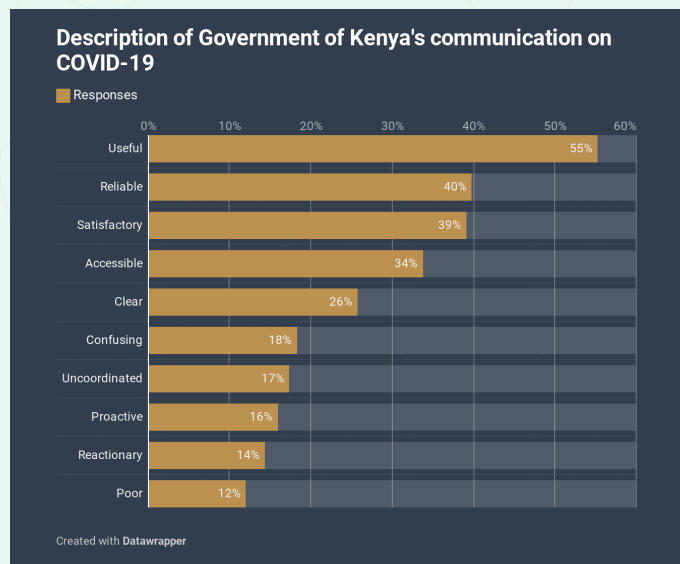


Figure 1.1 Description of Government of Kenya's communication on COVID-19

### Knowledge of COVID-19

- 96% are aware that: washing hands minimizes chances of infection; not all patients of COVID-19 will become severe cases; and that anyone can contract COVID-19.

COVID-19-related knowledge, attitudes, and practices among Kenyans

	True	False	I don't Know
1 COVID-19 does not exist	8.91%	87.52%	3.57%
2 Washing your hands prevents the spread of infections	91.41%	4.65%	3.94%
3 Adding pepper to your soup/meals cures COVID-19	4.47%	74.78%	20.75%
4 Most people who are infected with the coronavirus eventually die from the virus	4.10%	85.38%	10.52%
5 Drinking sanitizer/disinfectant will cure COVID-19	1.25%	92.34%	6.42%
6 One will not be infected by the virus if he/she drinks alcohol	1.44%	90.48%	8.08%
7 Coronavirus does not spread in hot/humid areas	4.84%	70.97%	24.19%
8 Not all patients with COVID-19 will develop into severe cases	75.45%	16.13%	8.42%
9 Black people cannot contract COVID-19	1.25%	96.24%	2.51%
10 COVID-19 only affects old people and young children	4.11%	93.39%	2.50%
11 COVID-19 can infect anyone	96.26%	1.78%	1.96%

Figure 1.2 COVID-19-related knowledge, attitudes, and practices among Kenyans

### Testing

- 74% of respondents said they would be ready for a COVID-19 test to find out their COVID-19 status.
- 73% of them said all Kenyans should be tested for Coronavirus.

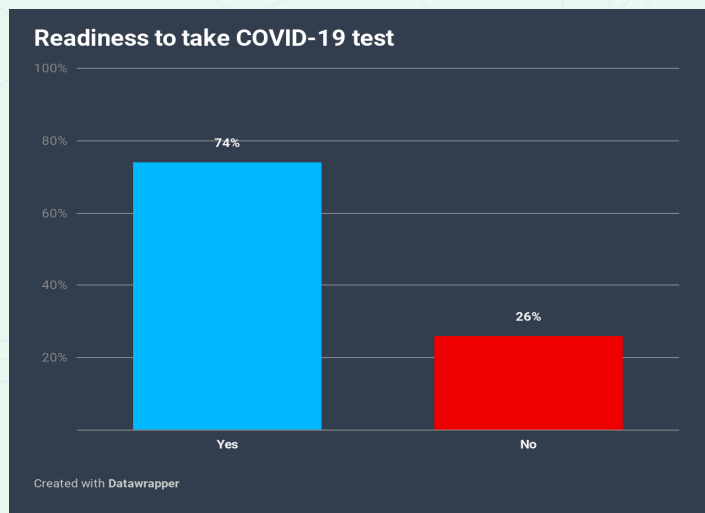


Figure 1.3 Readiness to take COVID-19 test

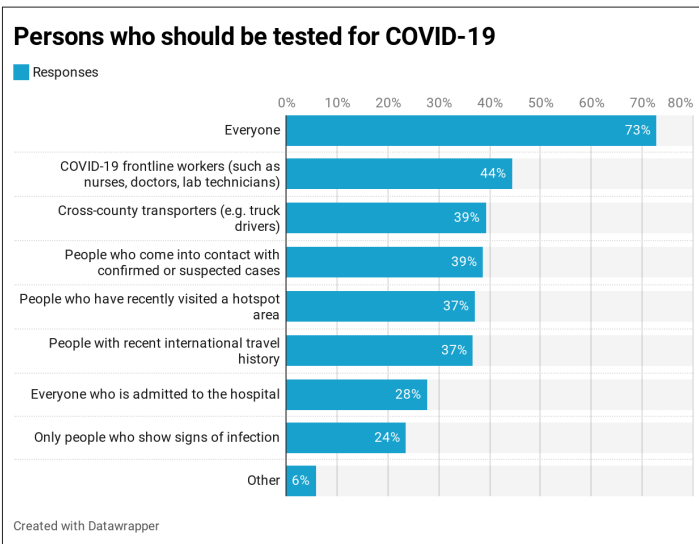


Figure 1.4 Persons who should be tested for COVID-19 in Kenya

### Risk of Infection

- 49% fear contracting COVID-19 in the public spaces they frequent most.

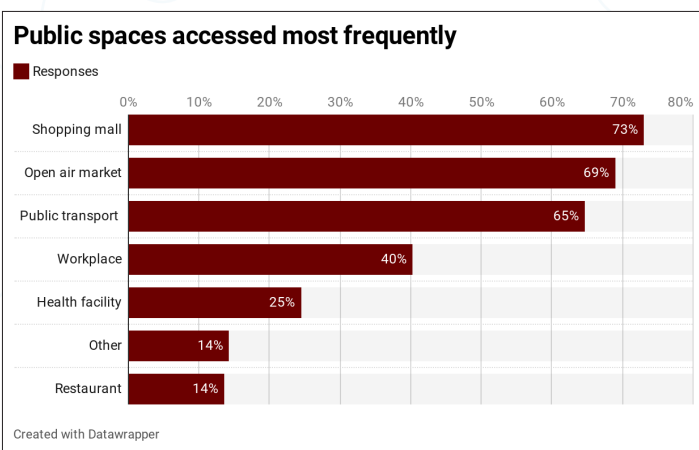


Figure 1.5 Public spaces accessed most frequently by Kenyans

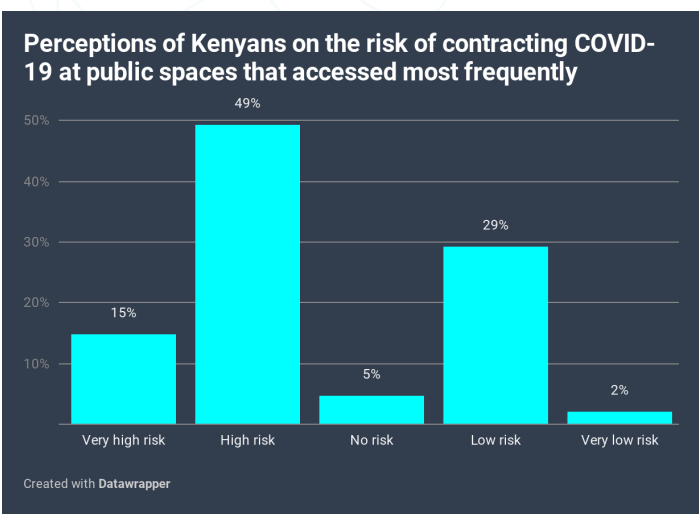


Figure 1.6 Perception of the risk of contracting COVID-19 at public spaces accessed most frequently

### Restriction of Movement

- 71% of respondents said the lockdown of Nairobi, Mombasa, Kilifi, Kwale, and Mandera will slow the spread of the virus. 50% hailed this as a strategic move.
- 65% said the lockdown of Eastleigh and Old Town will slow down the spread of the disease. 46% said it is a strategic move.

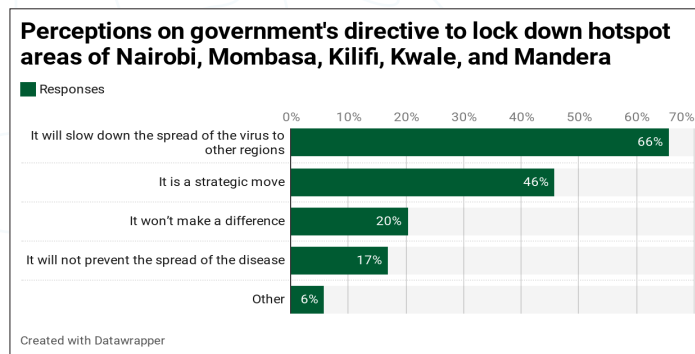


Figure 1.7 Perceptions on government directive to lock down hotspot areas of Nairobi, Mombasa, Kilifi, Kwale, and Mandera

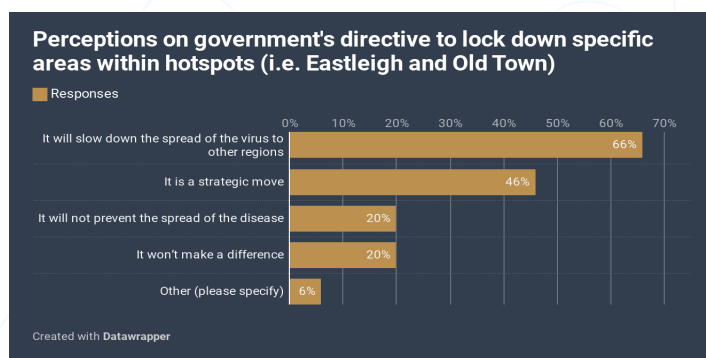


Figure 1.8 Perception on government's directive to lock down specific areas within hotspots