

CORONAVIRUS ATTITUDE TRACKER SURVEY PAKISTAN

Wave 8 Results

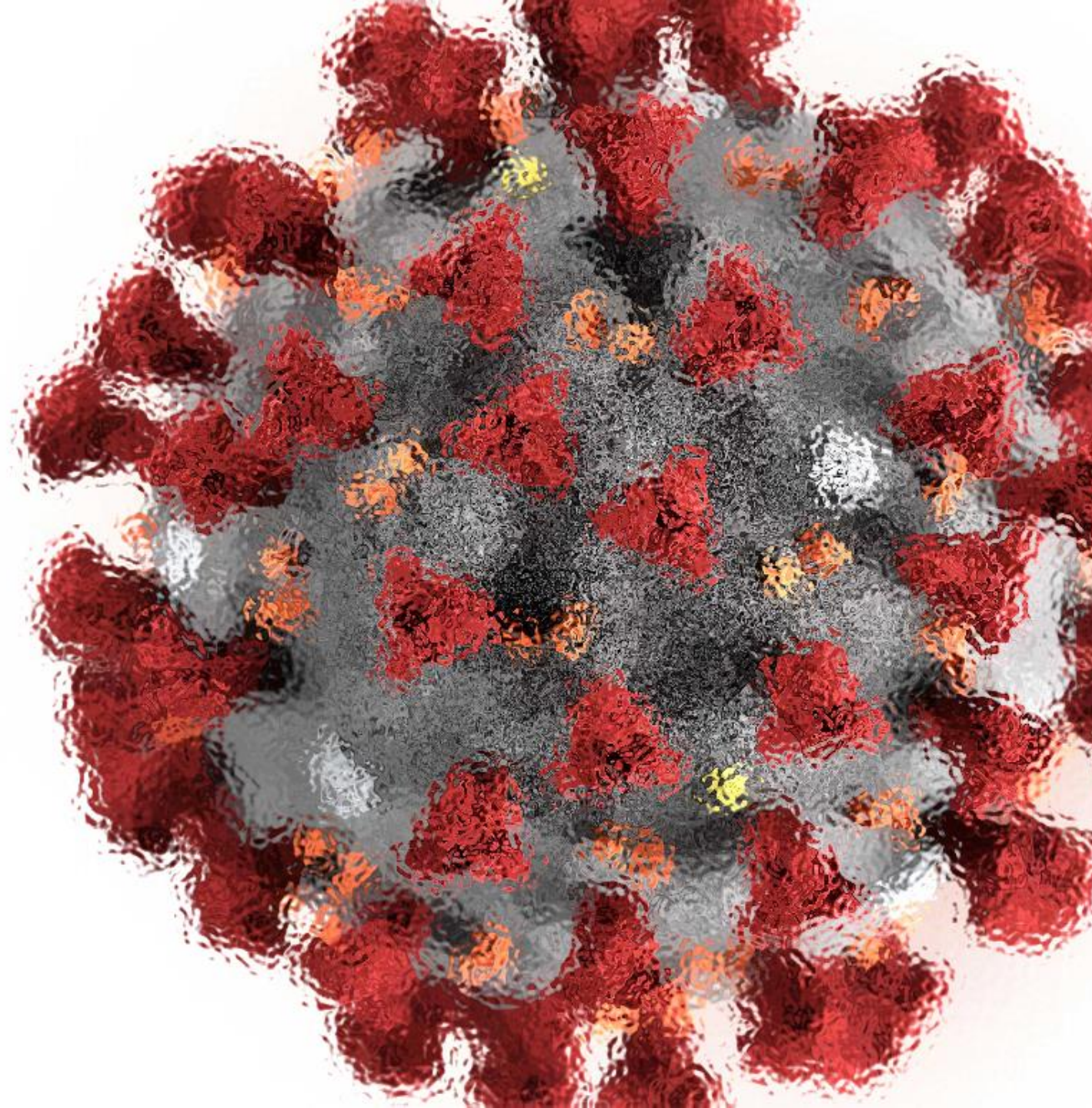
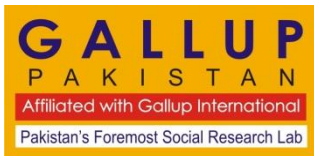


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SECTION V: ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID-19 OUTBREAK ON HOUSEHOLDS

KEY FINDINGS

1. COVID IS GONE , JOB DONE

Sweeping majority close to 75% feel COVID-19 is now under control implying that fear has subsided and need for continued precautions is superfluous. In the 8 waves tracking this is the first time that more people disagree that they fear getting COVID-19!

2. FOREIGN, FUTILE AND FAKE (3F'S OF COVID 19)

COVID-19 cases trajectory in Pakistan and lifting of lockdown has made Pakistani public very suspicious. More than half of the population (55%) claims to take precautions despite being unsure if the virus is real. Highest proportion of such people are from KP and are under the age of 30. Nearly 45% think that the virus is laboratory-made and spread around the world on purpose. This suspicion is most common among respondents under the age of 30 and is least common among respondents from Balochistan. As per results from September, 46% Pakistanis consider the virus a conspiracy, which is an improvement from 55% in August. Perhaps, suspicions fell slightly owing to the increased awareness about the virus and renewed fears of a second wave as well as perhaps personal exposure to increasing people who are falling sick. Nonetheless, these suspicions could erode trust in government and health interventions by government and international organisations in a significant manner and must be carefully dealt with. Policymakers need to work on Communication Strategy that addresses the Foreign, Fake, Futile (3 Fs) that population feels with respect to COVID-19. This is crucial also for future COVID-19 lockdowns if needed as well as mass vaccinations if required from international community.

KEY FINDINGS

Younger you are the more suspicious and conspiracy prone

An alarming development is that younger people under the age of 30 are significantly more likely to believe that COVID is a foreign conspiracy. This is problematic because this age group represents a significant proportion of population owing to median age being 21 in Pakistan as well as the fact that young people have significantly larger mobility and therefore the probability of infecting people if not following SOPs.

3. COVID-19 AND THE GOVERNMENT IN PAKISTAN: GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO BE THE ONLY WINNER IN THIS UNFORTUNATE BATTLE OF LIFE AND DEATH

Suspicion about the number of cases reported by government has risen slightly. While 61% people believed the accuracy of the numbers in August, that percentage has since fallen to 55% in September. Gallup Pakistan interprets that an even larger number of Pakistanis are now suspicious that the numbers reported by the government are an exaggeration. This is a dangerous turn of events because in event of a second wave it would be harder to convince people of the gravity of the situation.

Overall however, federal government enjoys support as majority (70%) Pakistanis believe that the government is handling the corona virus situation well. It is imperative however to note that support for the federal government in terms of tackling the virus is high in all provinces except for Balochistan, where the proportion of people who think the federal government is doing well has fallen from 76% in August to 52% in September - a 24% fall. While PTI's government has received international praise for its handling of the COVID crisis, shifts in the political arena as the crisis subsides would remain to be noted.

KEY FINDINGS

4. Economic devastation continues and after brief lull Gallup finds economic indicators to be deteriorating again

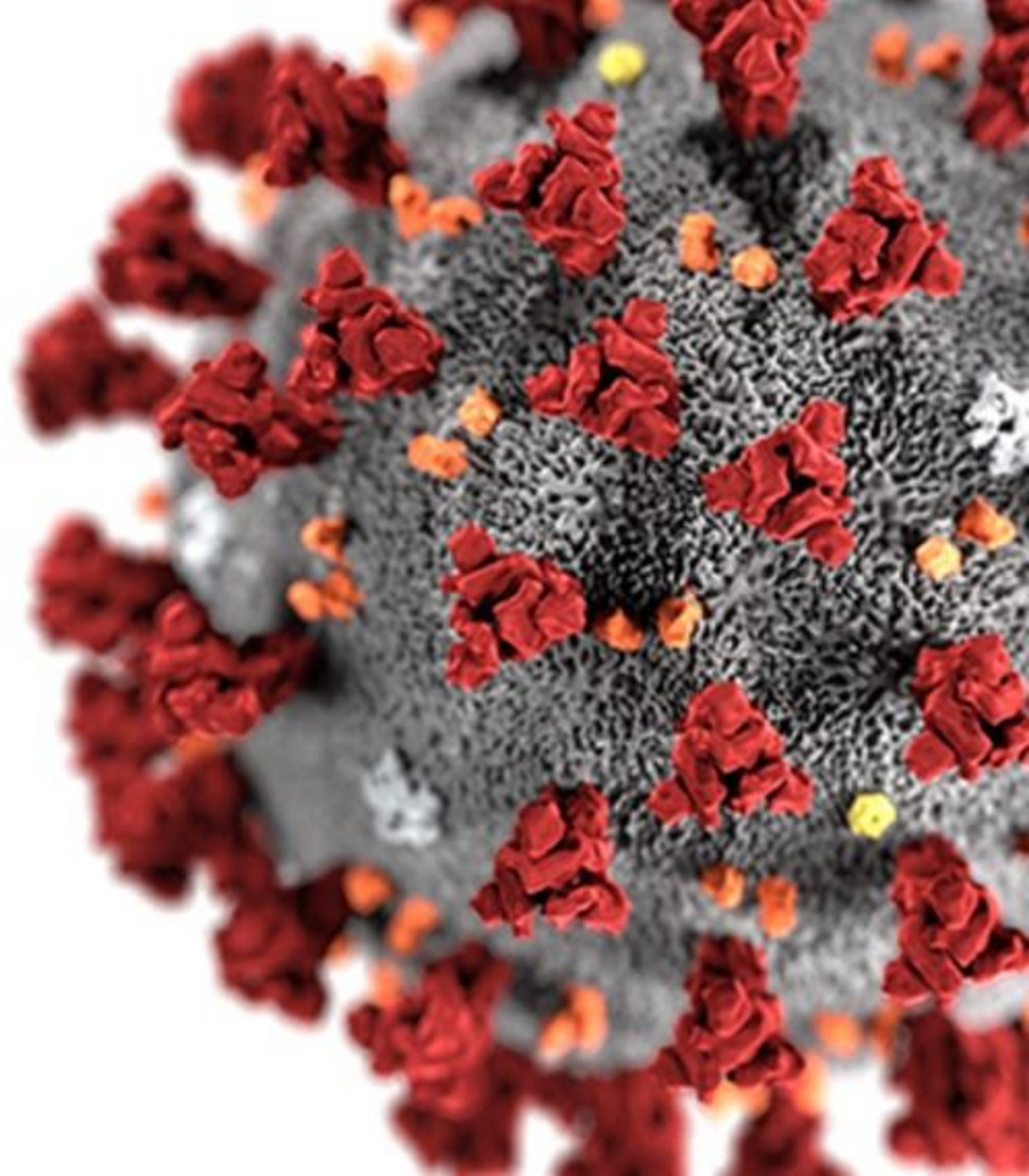
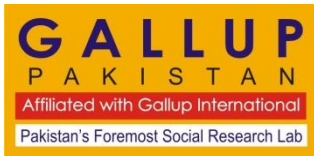
While government continues to enjoy support, economic impact of the virus on household remains immense.

85% Pakistanis report a fall in their household incomes since the spread of the virus.

Since August, there have been slight increase in proportion of households that had to rely on alternate food items to cover needs, had to borrow food or seek help from relatives or had to sell assets. Alternatively, reliance on savings seems to have reduced from 19% in April to 6% in September, indicating a 13% fall.

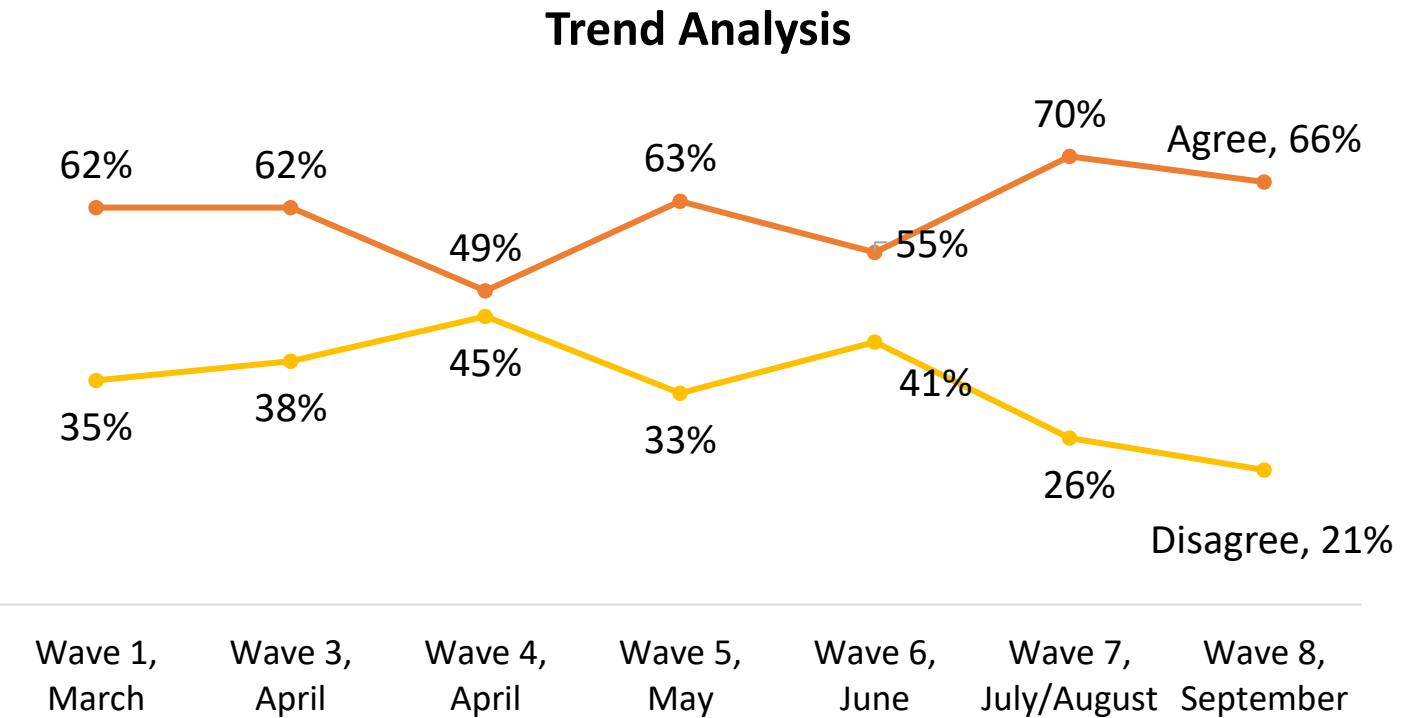
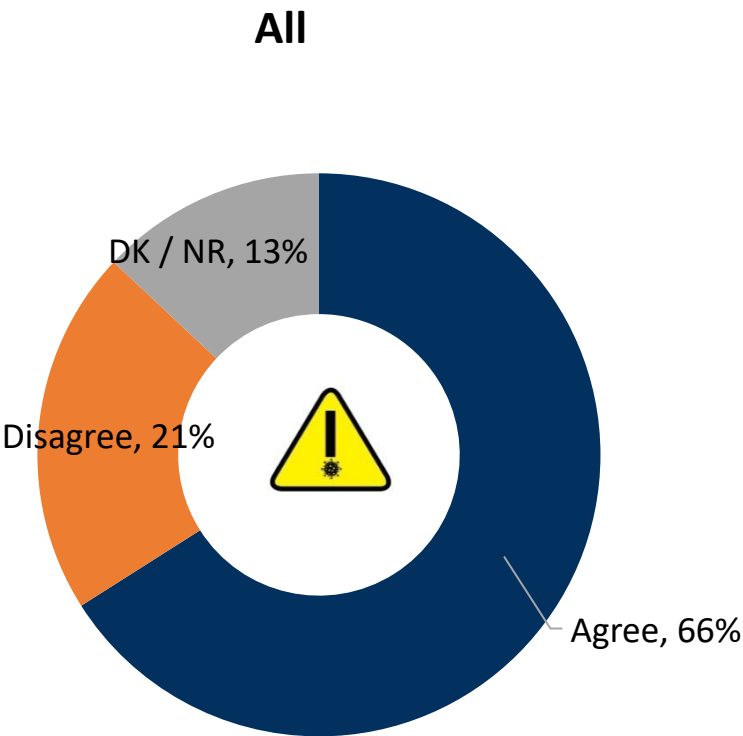
In light of these results, our takeaway is that a long-term plan should be in place so that such shocks do not impact households severely.

SECTION I: PERCEPTIONS OF THREAT FROM COVID-19



2 in 3 PAKISTANIS (67%) CONSIDER THE THREAT FROM CORONAVIRUS TO BE EXAGGERATED, COMPARED TO 70% IN AUGUST

Question: To what extent do you agree/disagree that the threat of Coronavirus is being exaggerated?

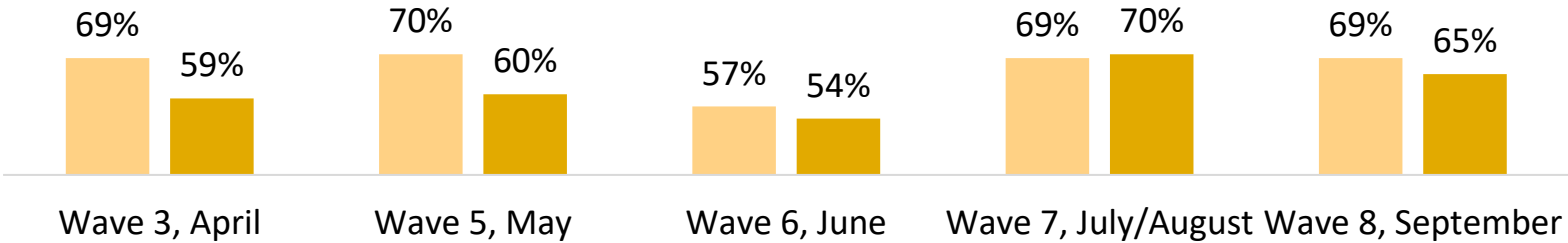


SINCE WAVE 7, 6% FALL AMONG FEMALES AND 5% AMONG RURAL RESIDENTS WHO AGREE THAT THE CORONAVIRUS THREAT IS EXAGGERATED

Question: To what extent do you agree/disagree that the threat of Coronavirus is being exaggerated?

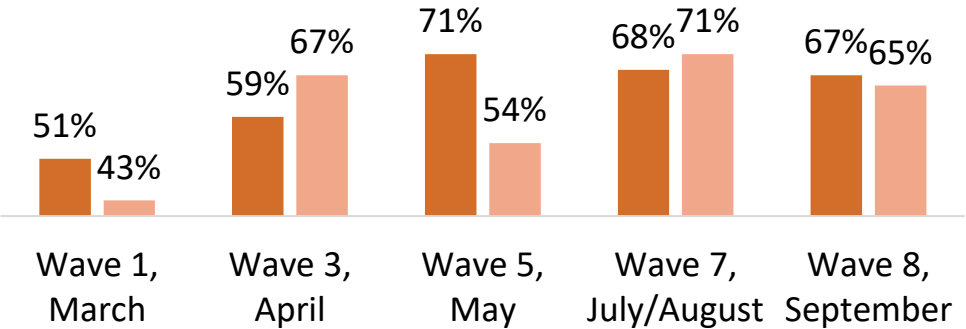
Urban-Rural Trend

Urban Rural



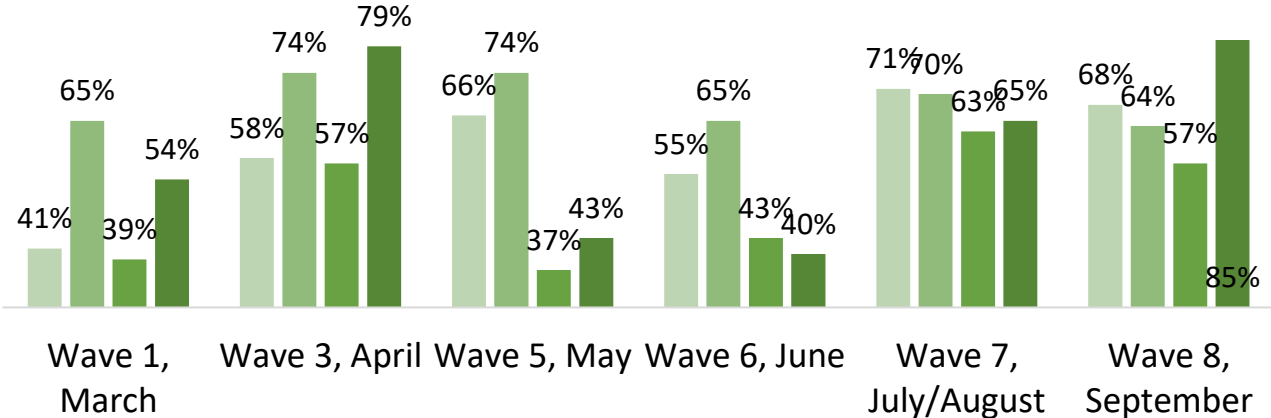
Gender Trend

Male Female



Provincial Trend

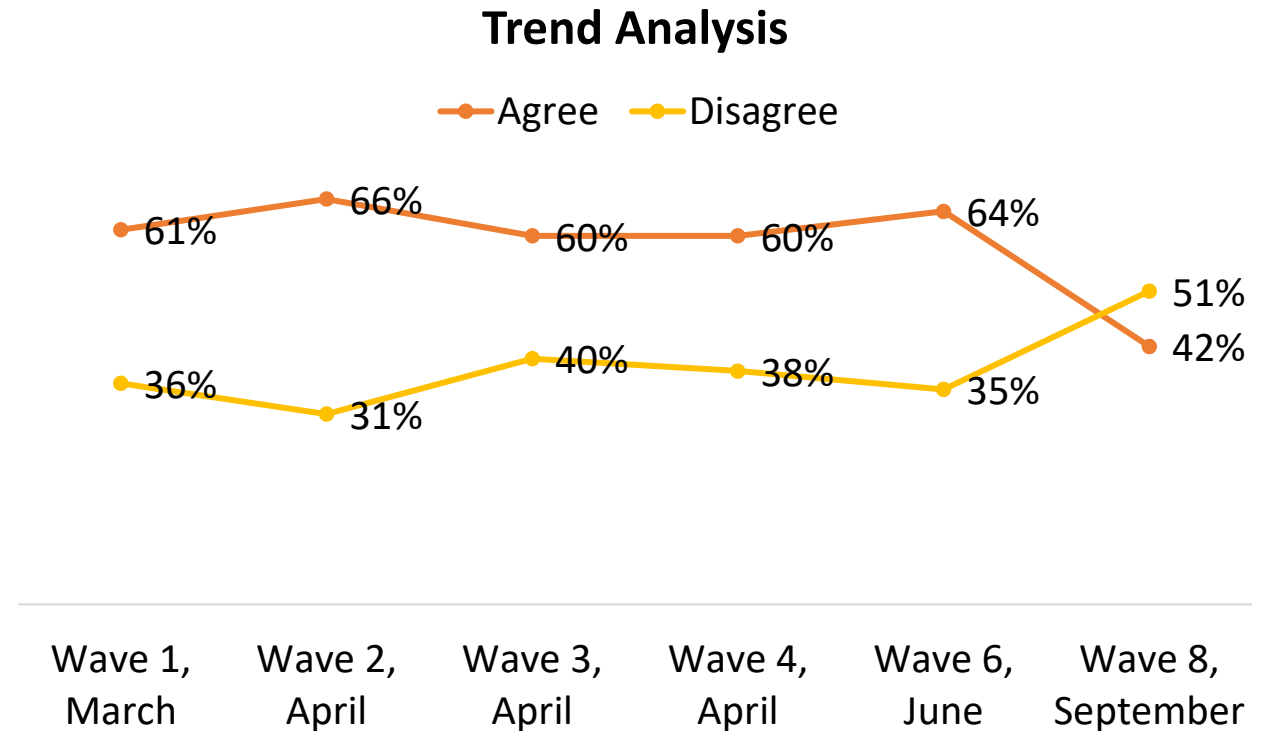
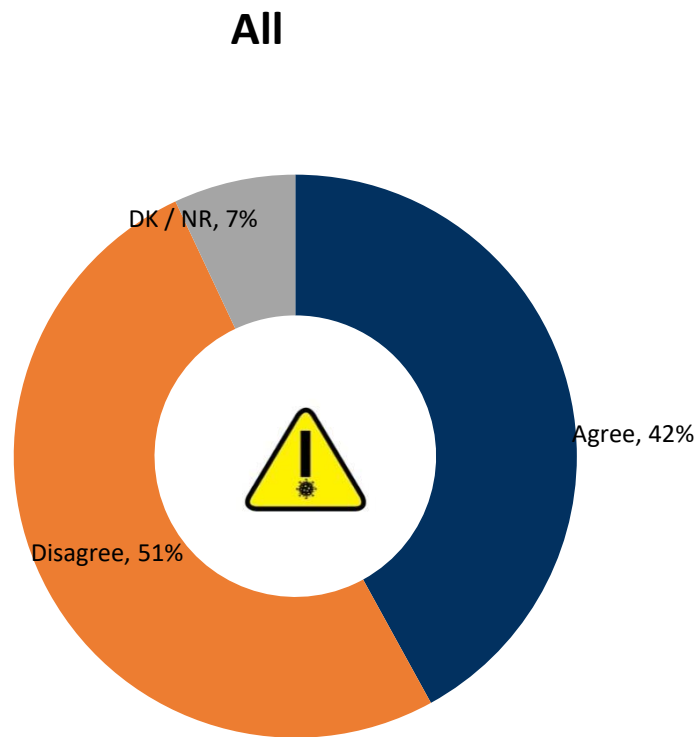
Punjab Sindh KPK Balochistan



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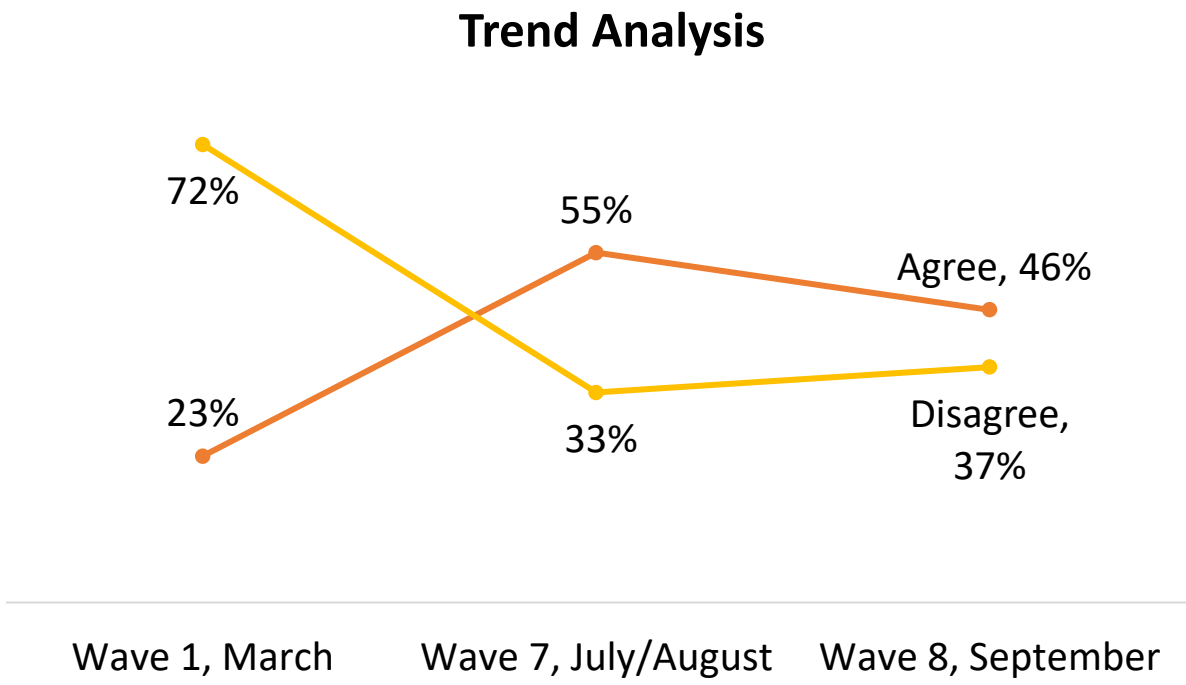
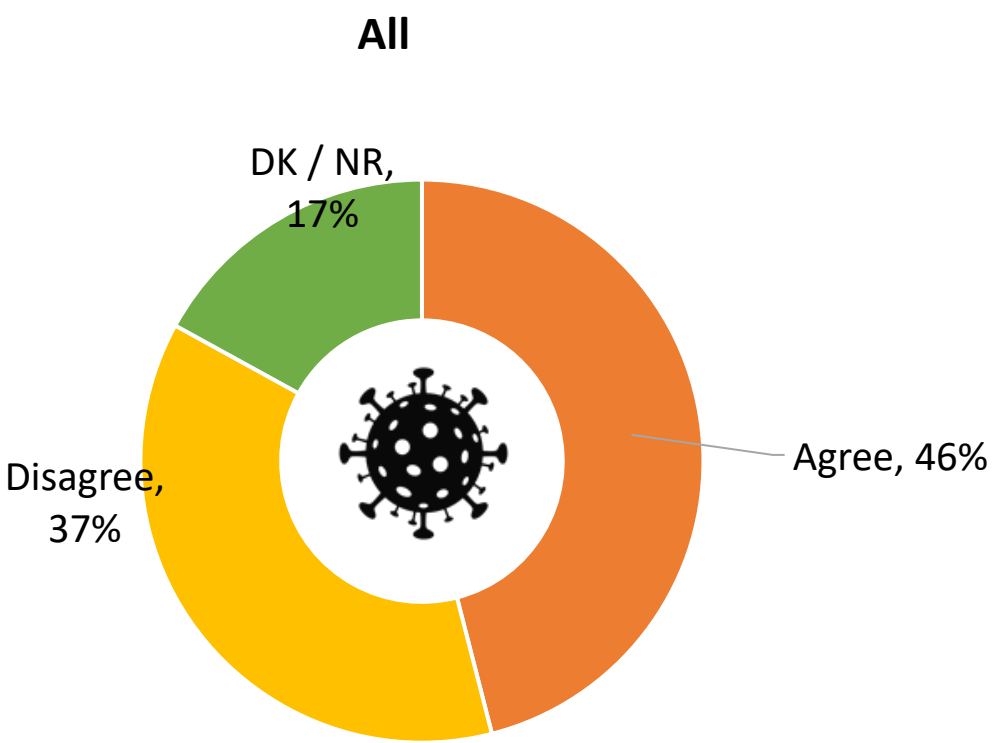
COMPARED TO 64% IN JUNE, FEWER PAKISTANIS (42%) NOW FEAR INFECTION FROM THE CORONAVIRUS, in the 8 waves tracking this is the first time that more people disagree that they fear getting covid 19!

Question: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "I am afraid that myself and someone in my household will be infected by coronavirus"



SINCE JULY, 9% FALL IN PROPORTION OF PAKISTANIS WHO BELIEVE THAT THE CORONAVIRUS IS A FOREIGN CONSPIRACY

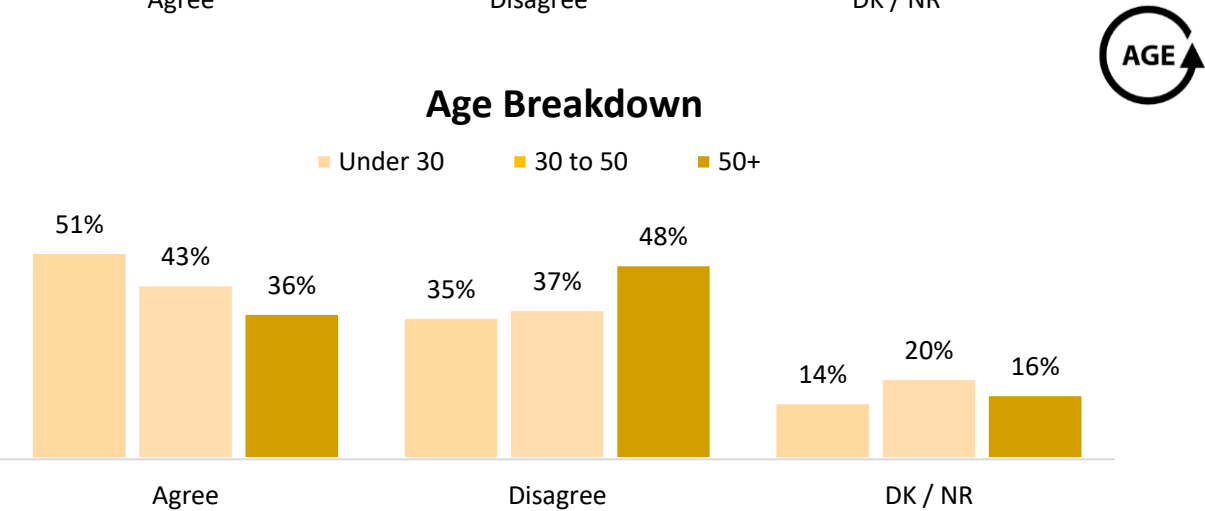
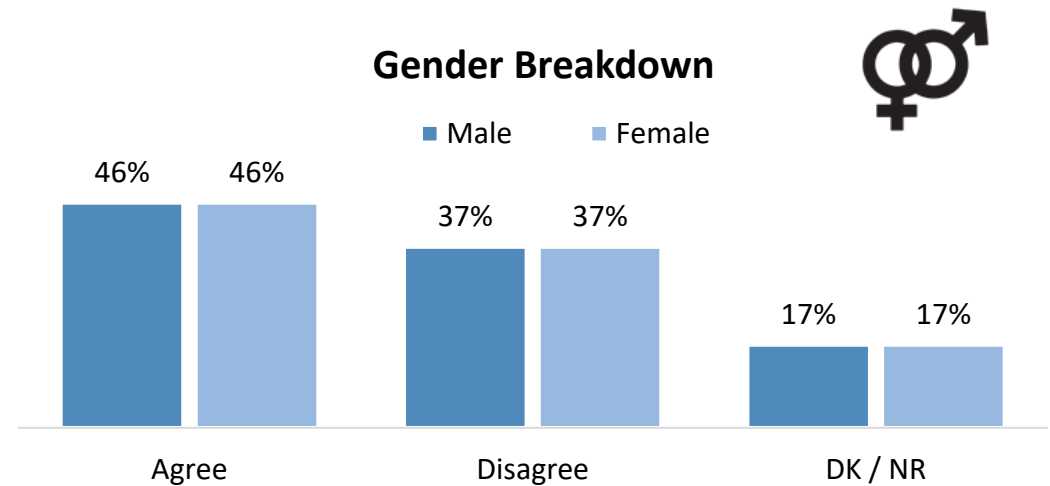
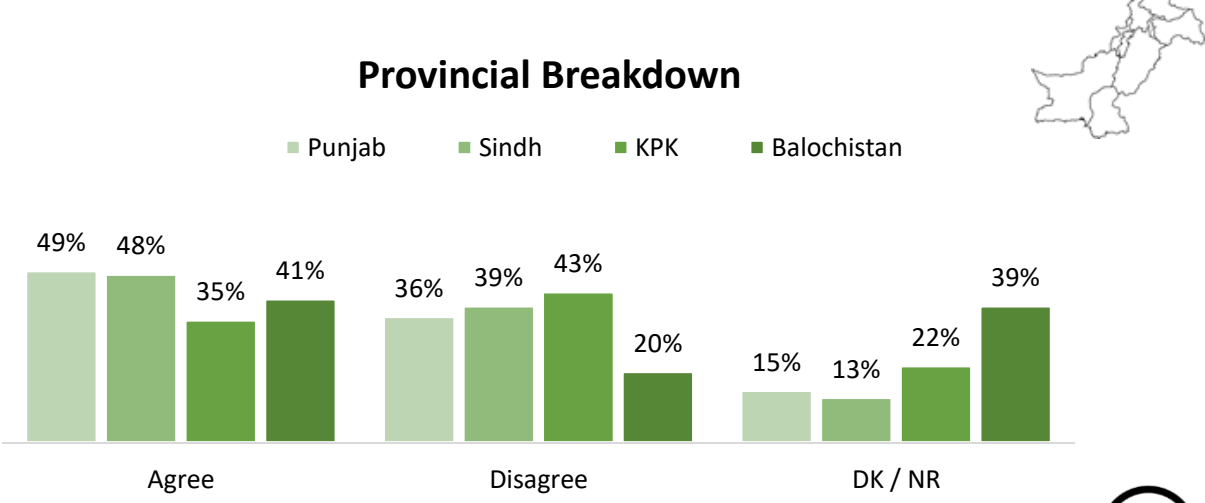
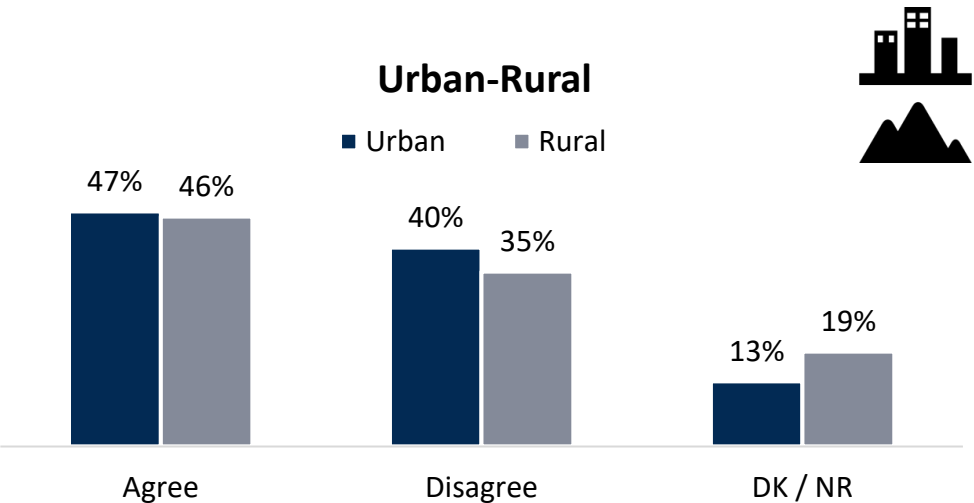
Question: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements: 'I think Coronavirus is a foreign conspiracy'



Source: Gallup Pakistan Coronavirus Attitude Tracker Survey 2020, Wave 8

RESPONDENTS FROM PUNJAB (49%) AND THOSE UNDER 30 (51%) ARE MOST LIKELY TO CONSIDER CORONAVIRUS A FOREIGN CONSPIRACY

Question: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements: 'I think Coronavirus is a foreign conspiracy'

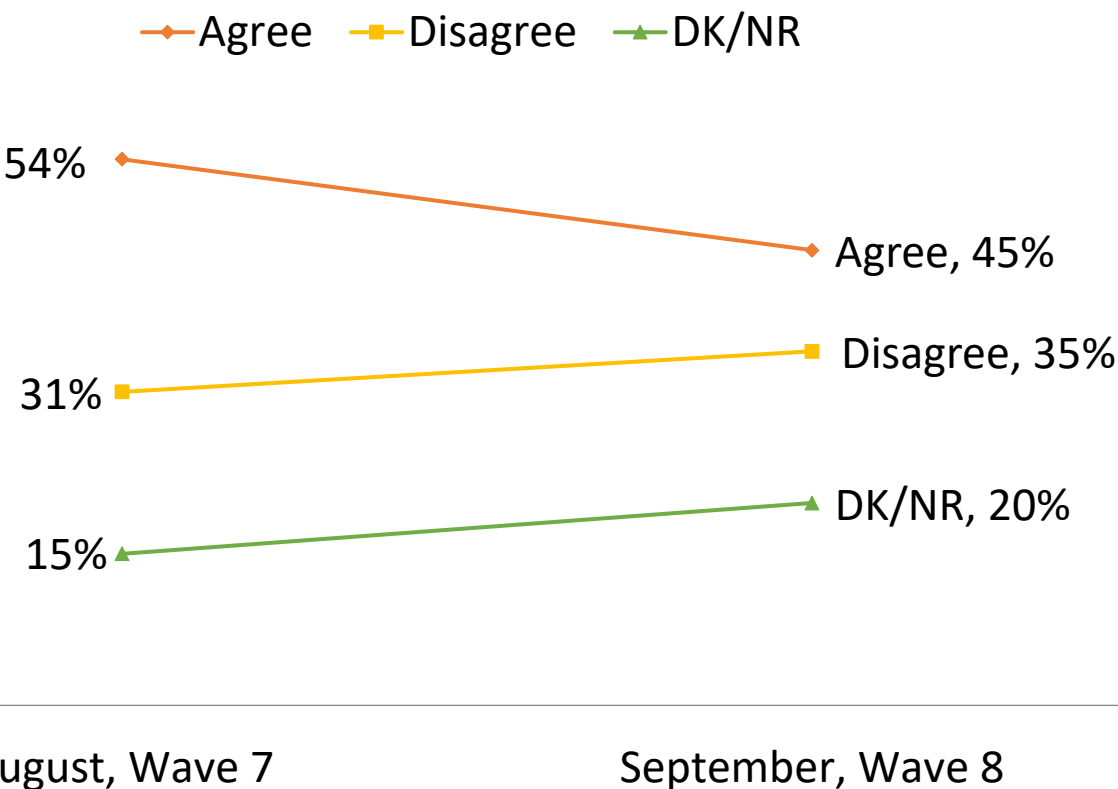


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45% PAKISTANIS OPINE THAT CORONAVIRUS IS LABORATORY-MADE VIRUS AND IS SPREAD AROUND THE WORLD ON PURPOSE

Question: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements: 'I think Corona is laboratory-made virus spread in the world on purpose'

Trend Analysis

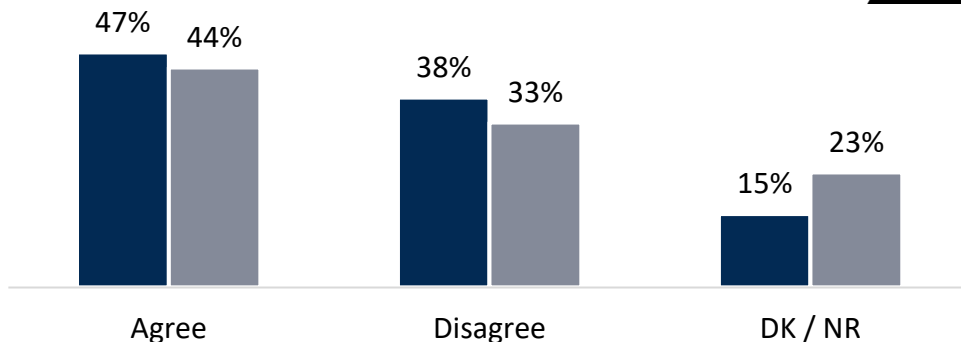


RESPONDENTS UNDER THE AGE OF 30 (52%) ARE MOST LIKELY TO CLAIM THE CORONAVIRUS IS LABORATORY-MADE AND SPREAD IN THE WORLD ON PURPOSE

Question: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements: 'I think Corona is laboratory-made virus spread in the world on purpose'

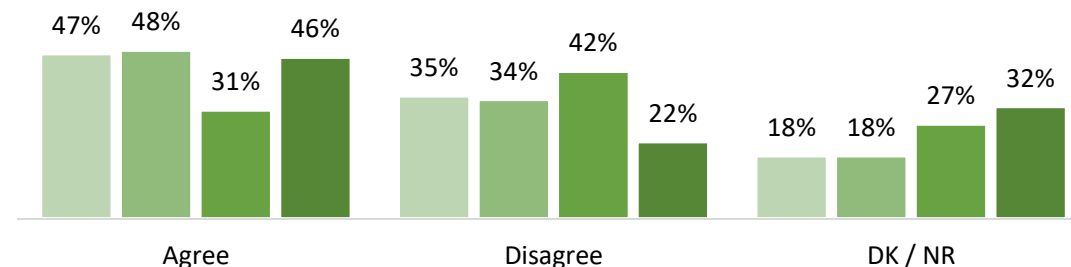
Urban-Rural

■ Urban ■ Rural



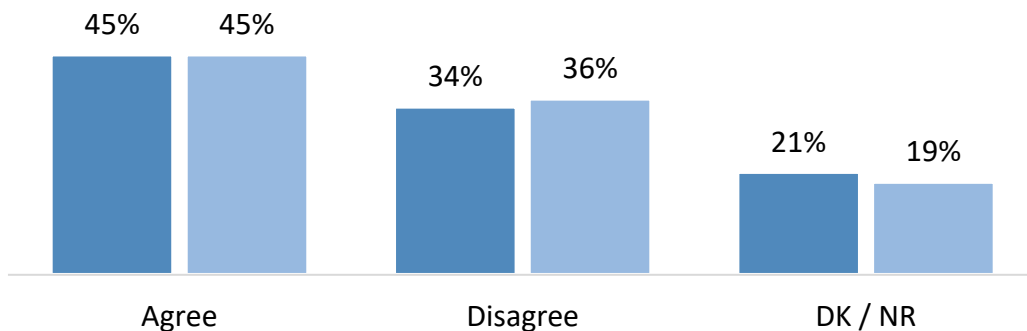
Provincial Breakdown

■ Punjab ■ Sindh ■ KPK ■ Balochistan



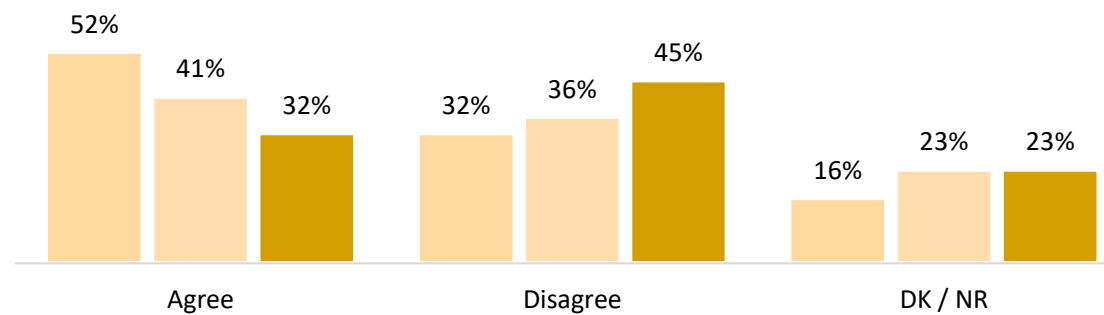
Gender Breakdown

■ Male ■ Female



Age Breakdown

■ Under 30 ■ 30 to 50 ■ 50+

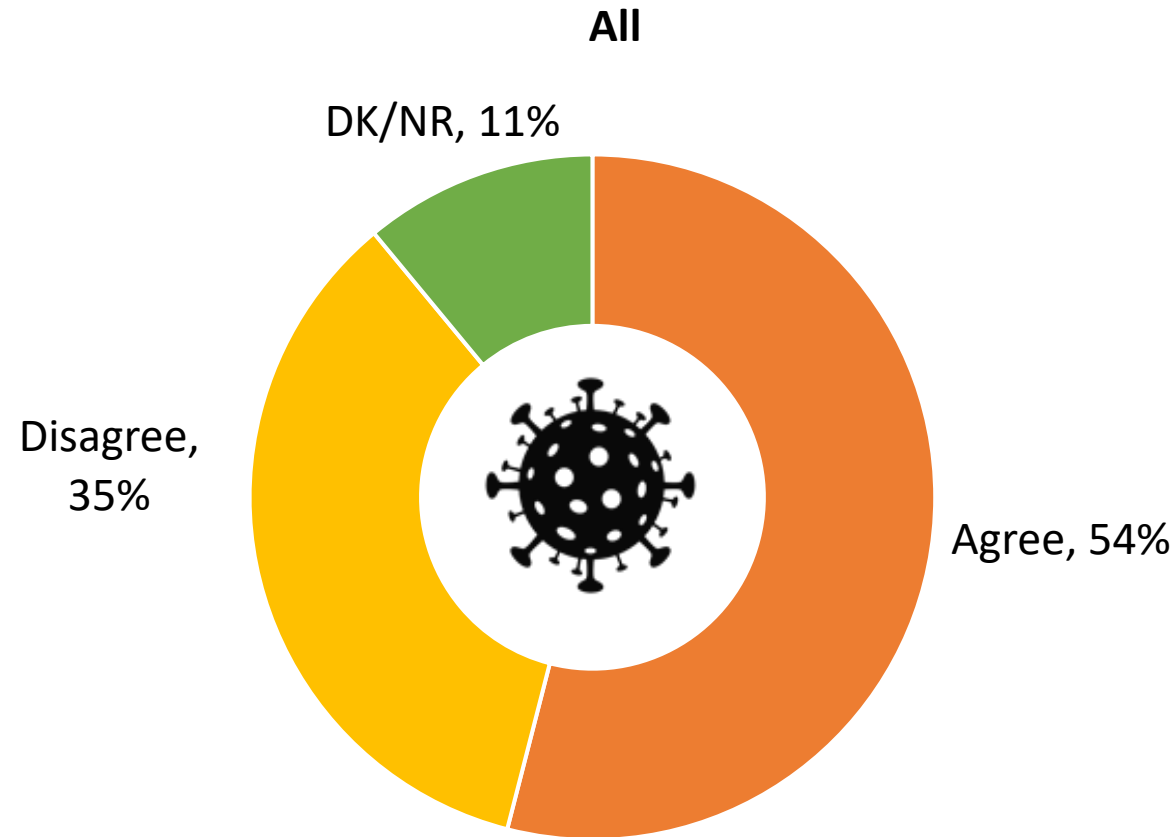


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Source: Gallup Pakistan Coronavirus Attitude Tracker Survey 2020, Wave 8

NEARLY 1 IN 2 PAKISTANIS SAY THAT ALTHOUGH THEY TAKE PRECAUTIONS, THEY ARE UNSURE IF CORONAVIRUS IS REAL

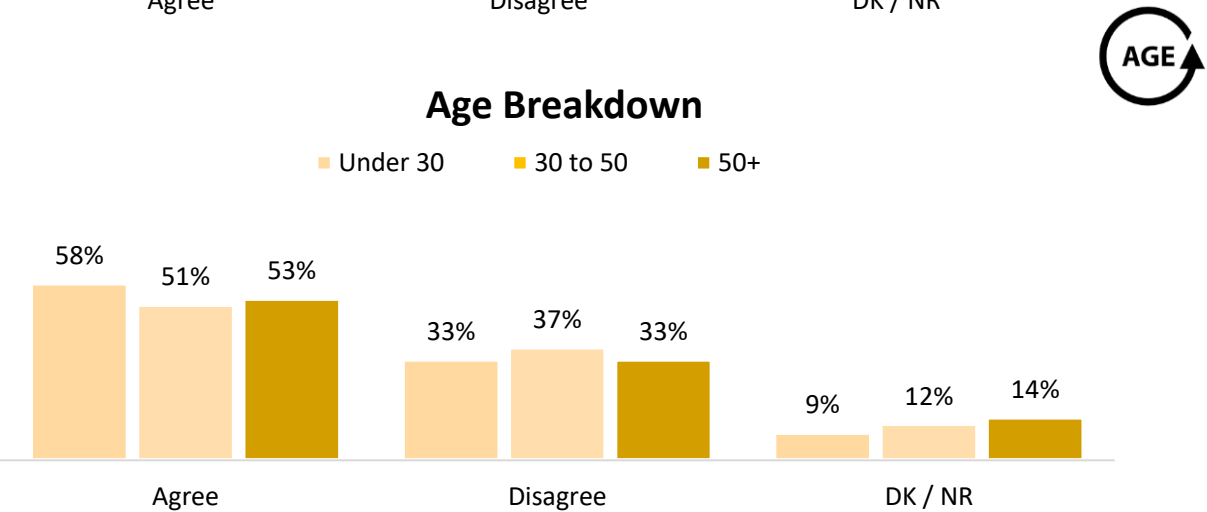
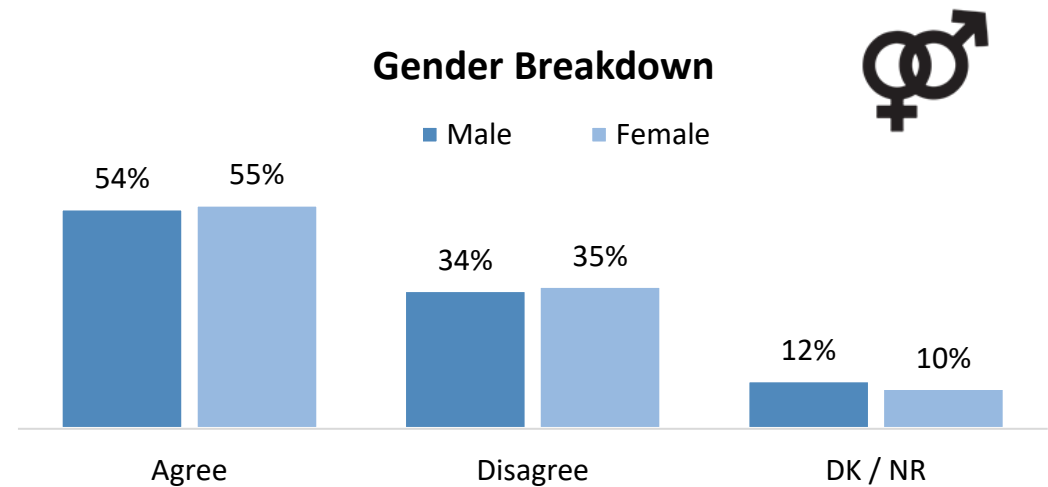
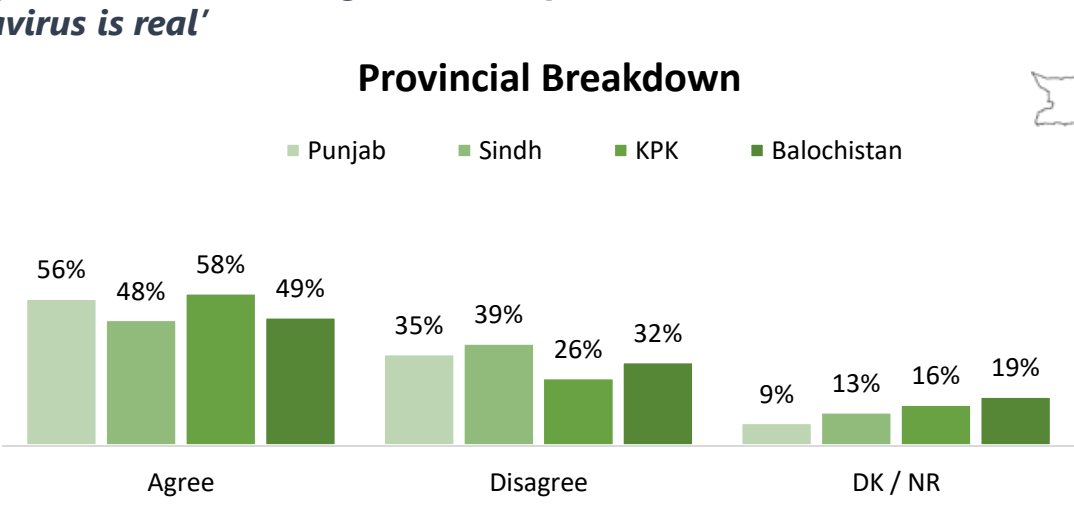
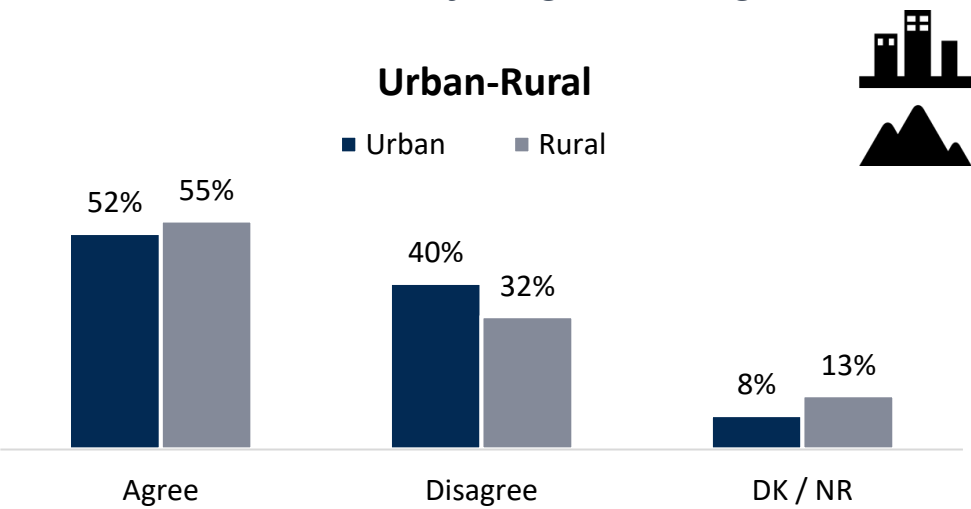
Question: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements: 'Although I do take precautions, I am not 100% sure whether Coronavirus is real'



Source: Gallup Pakistan Coronavirus Attitude Tracker Survey 2020, Wave 8

HIGHEST PROPORTION OF RESPONDENTS UNDER 30 (58%) AND FROM KP (58%) WERE LIKELY TO SAY THAT ALTHOUGH THEY ARE TAKING PRECAUTIONS, THEY ARE NOT SURE IF CORONAVIRUS IS REAL

Question: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements: 'Although I do take precautions, I am not 100% sure whether Coronavirus is real'

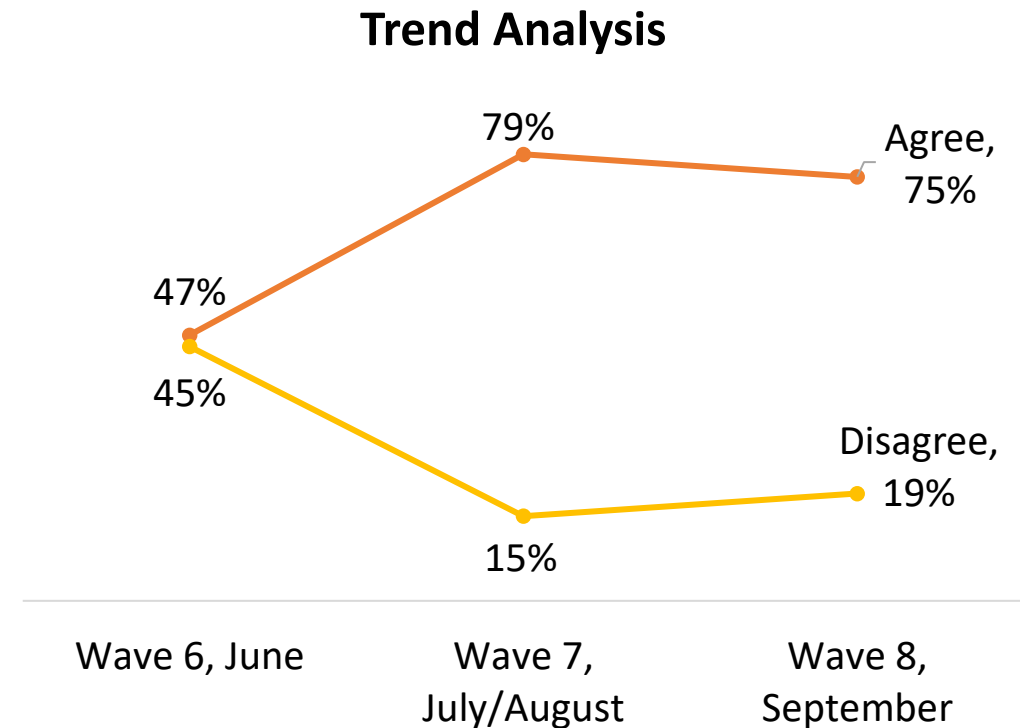
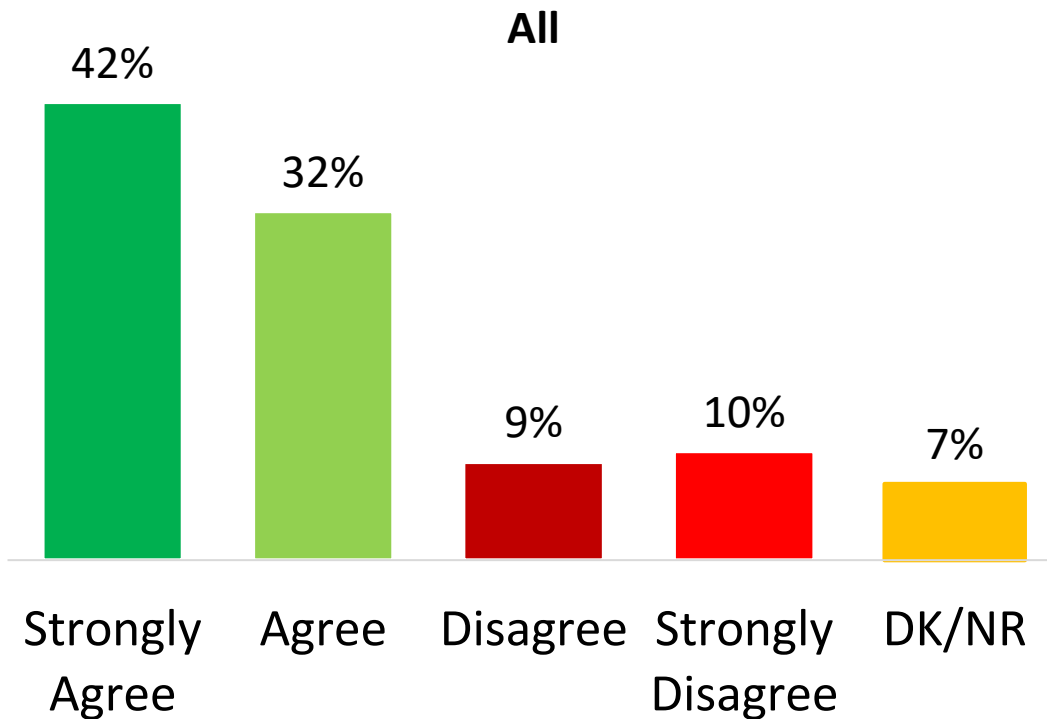


Source: Gallup Pakistan Coronavirus Attitude Tracker Survey 2020, Wave 8

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WITH A 28% RISE SINCE JUNE, NEARLY 3 IN 4 PAKISTANIS NOW AGREE THAT THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC IS UNDER CONTROL

Question: *To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements: 'I think the Coronavirus pandemic is now under control'*

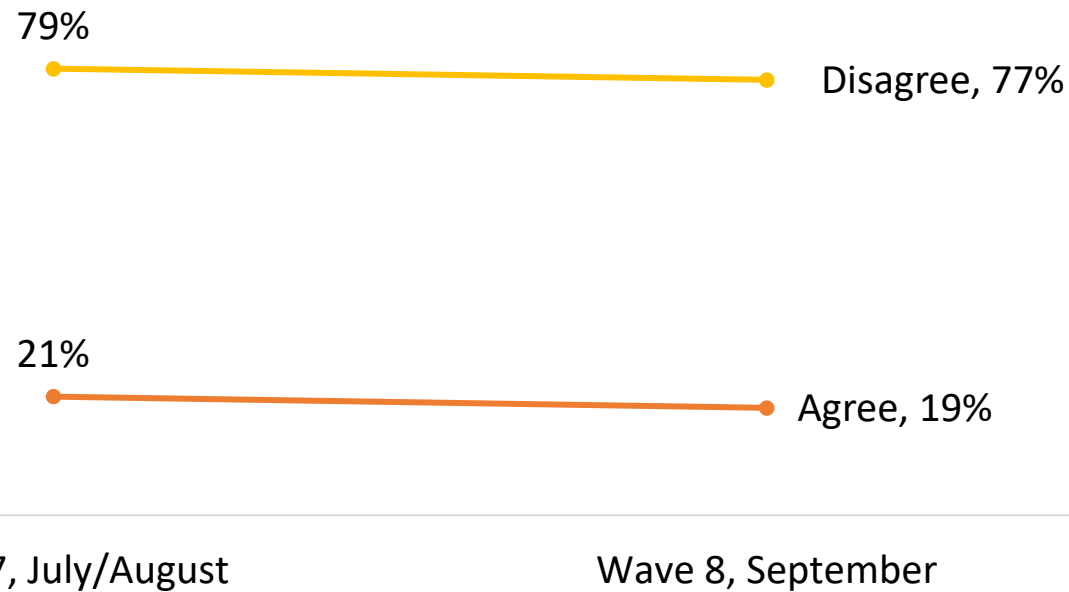


Source: Gallup Pakistan Coronavirus Attitude Tracker Survey 2020, Wave 8

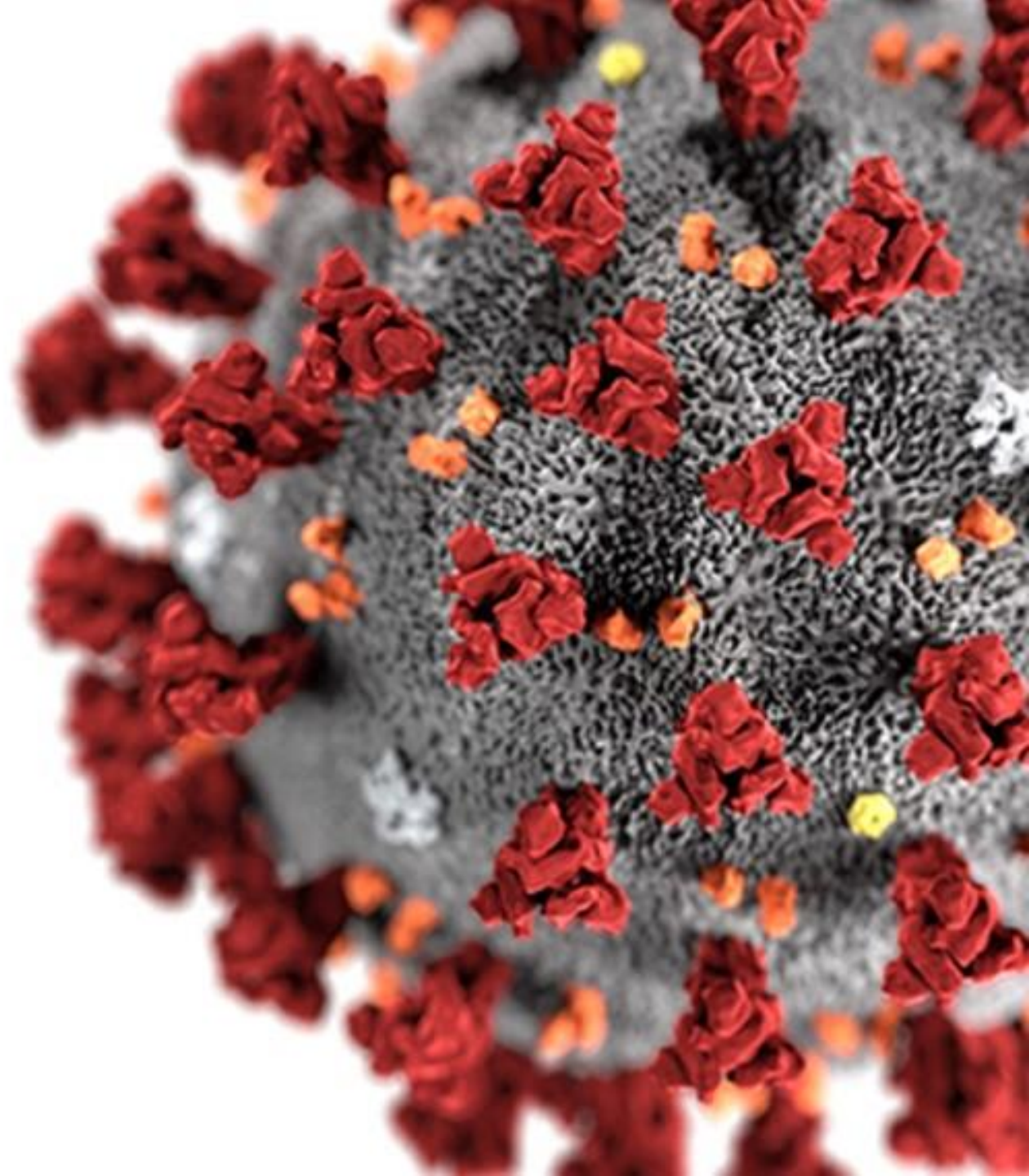
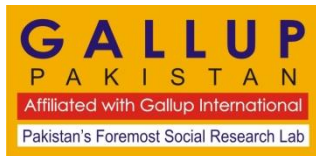
1 IN 5 (19%) PAKISTANIS CLAIM TO PERSONALLY KNOW SOMEONE WHO TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

Question: Do you personally know anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19?

Trend Analysis

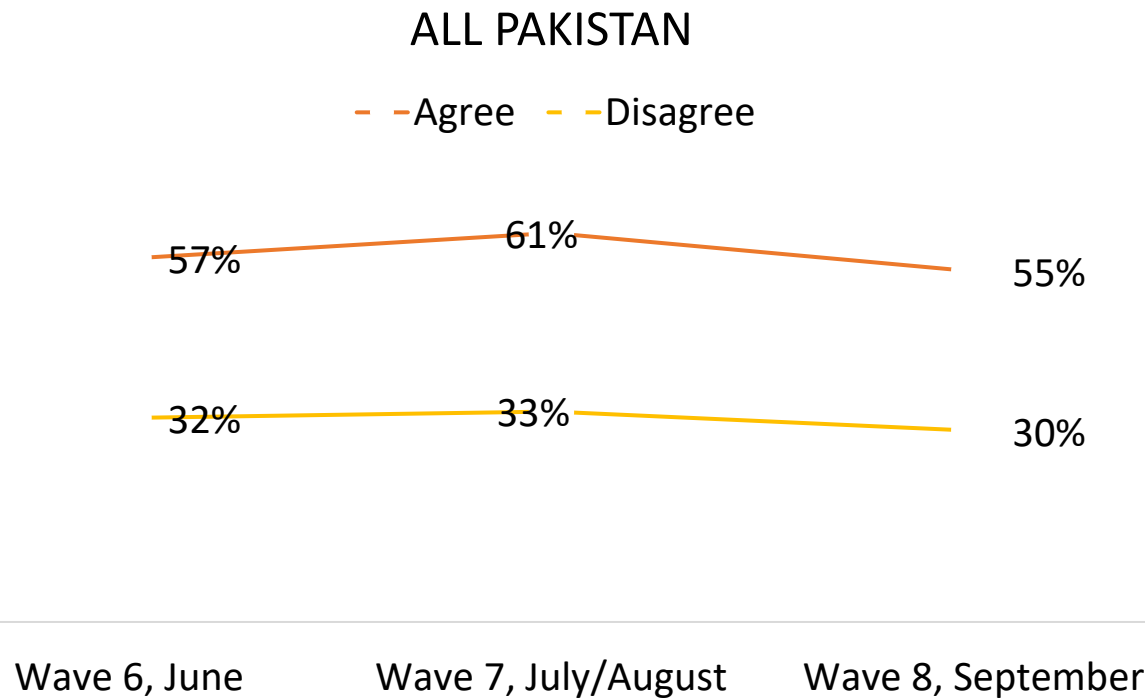


SECTION II: **PUBLIC OPINION ON** **GOVERNMENT** **RESPONSE TO THE** **COVID-19 OUTBREAK**



3 IN 10 PAKISTANIS CONTINUE TO BE SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE NUMBER OF COVID-19 CASES BEING REPORTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

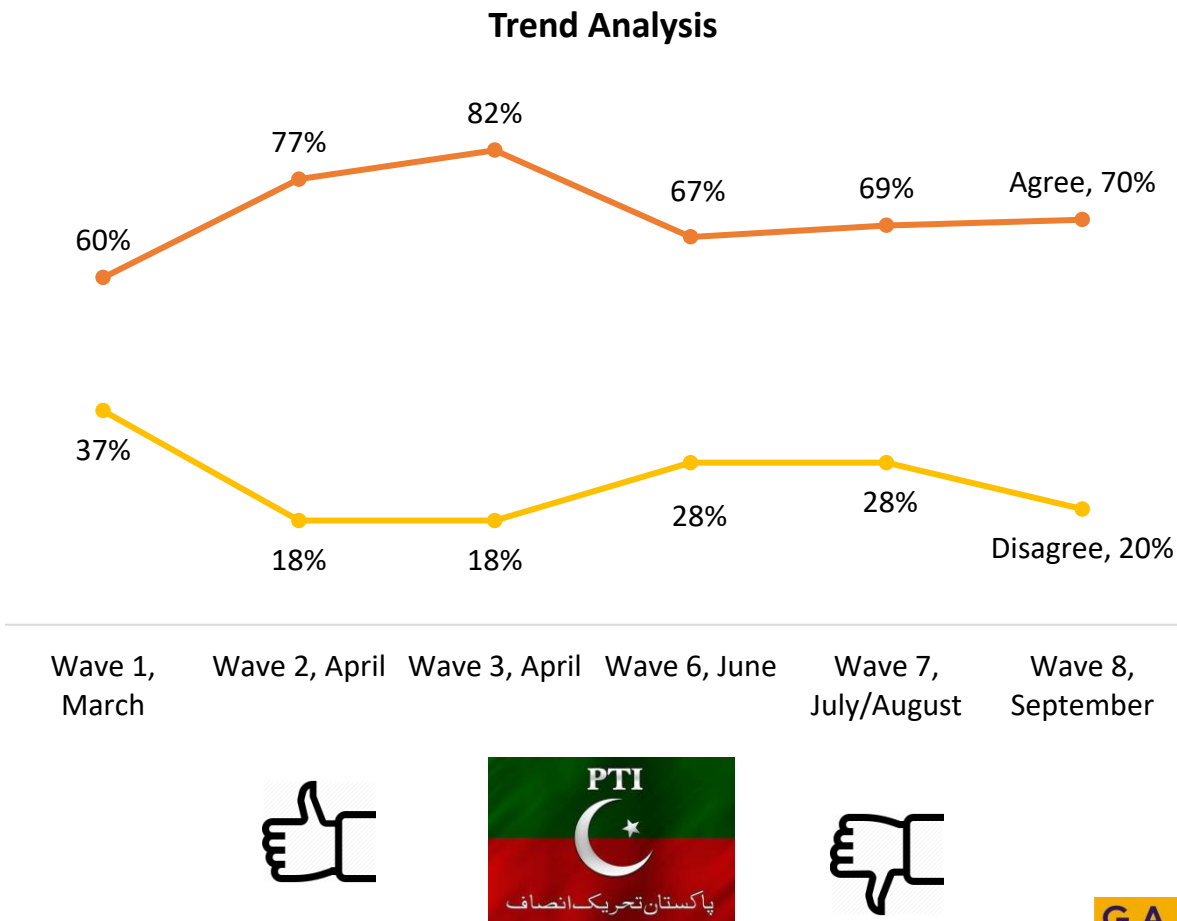
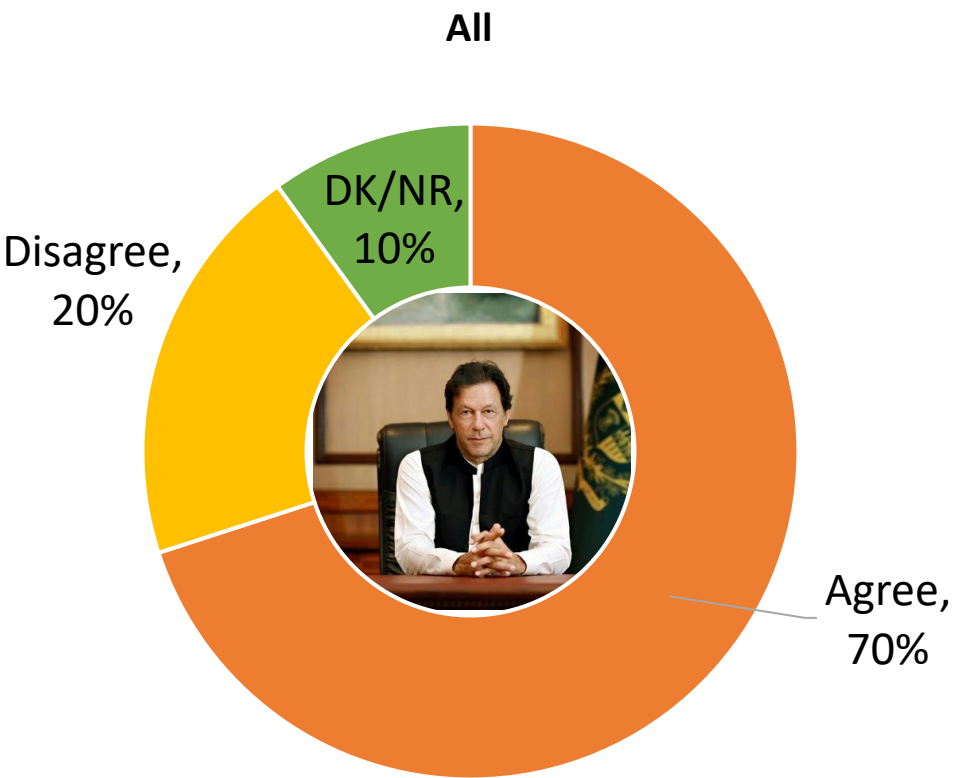
Question: *To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements: 'I believe the number of Coronavirus cases being reported by the government are accurate'*



Source: Gallup Pakistan Coronavirus Attitude Tracker Survey 2020, Wave 8

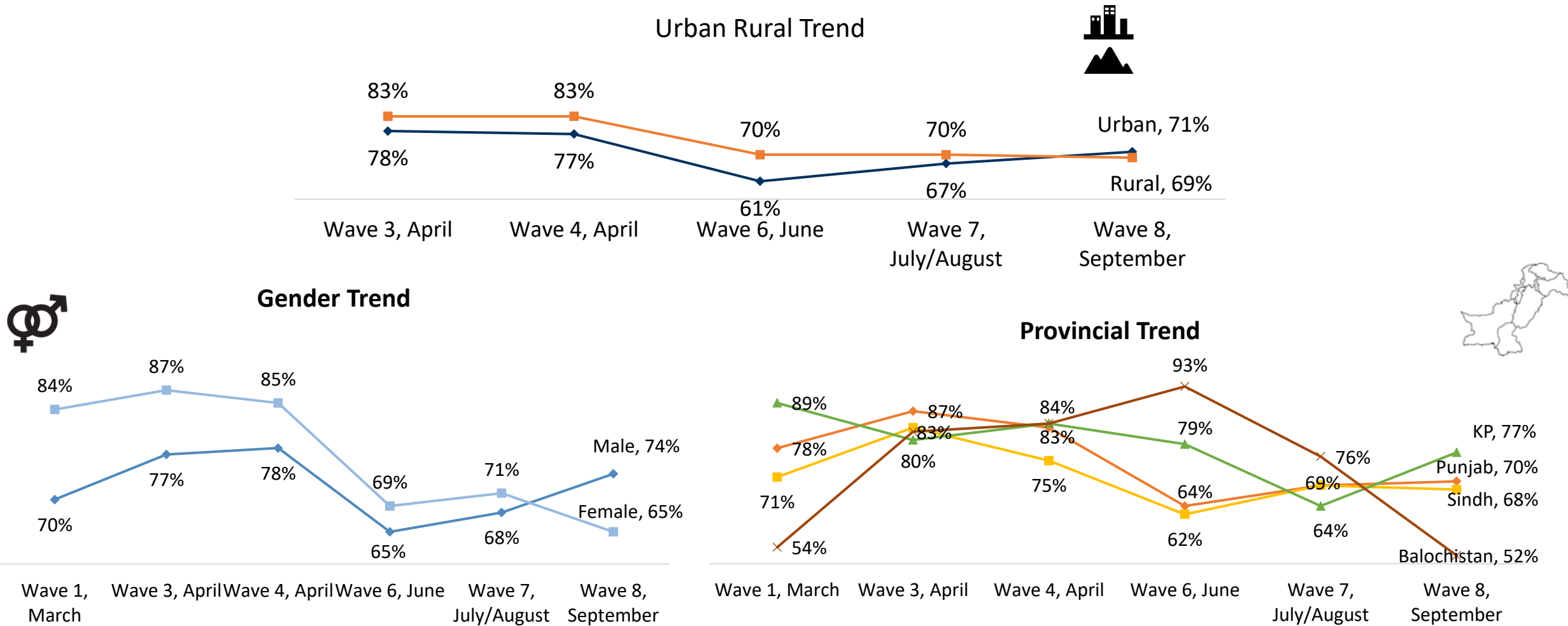
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO ENJOY UNUSUAL LEVELS OF POPULATION SUPPORT WITH RESPECT TO ITS COVID-19 PERFORMANCE : support is across the political divide , showing that people make a distinction in economic/ social/political and health related interventions by the Fed Govt (praising on health and giving negative marks on economy/social and political performance)

Question: *To what extent do you agree/disagree that the Federal Government of Pakistan is controlling the Coronavirus situation very well?*



SINCE AUGUST, 24% FALL AMONG RESPONDENTS FROM BALOCHISTAN WHO AGREE THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS CONTROLLING THE CORONAVIRUS SITUATION WELL

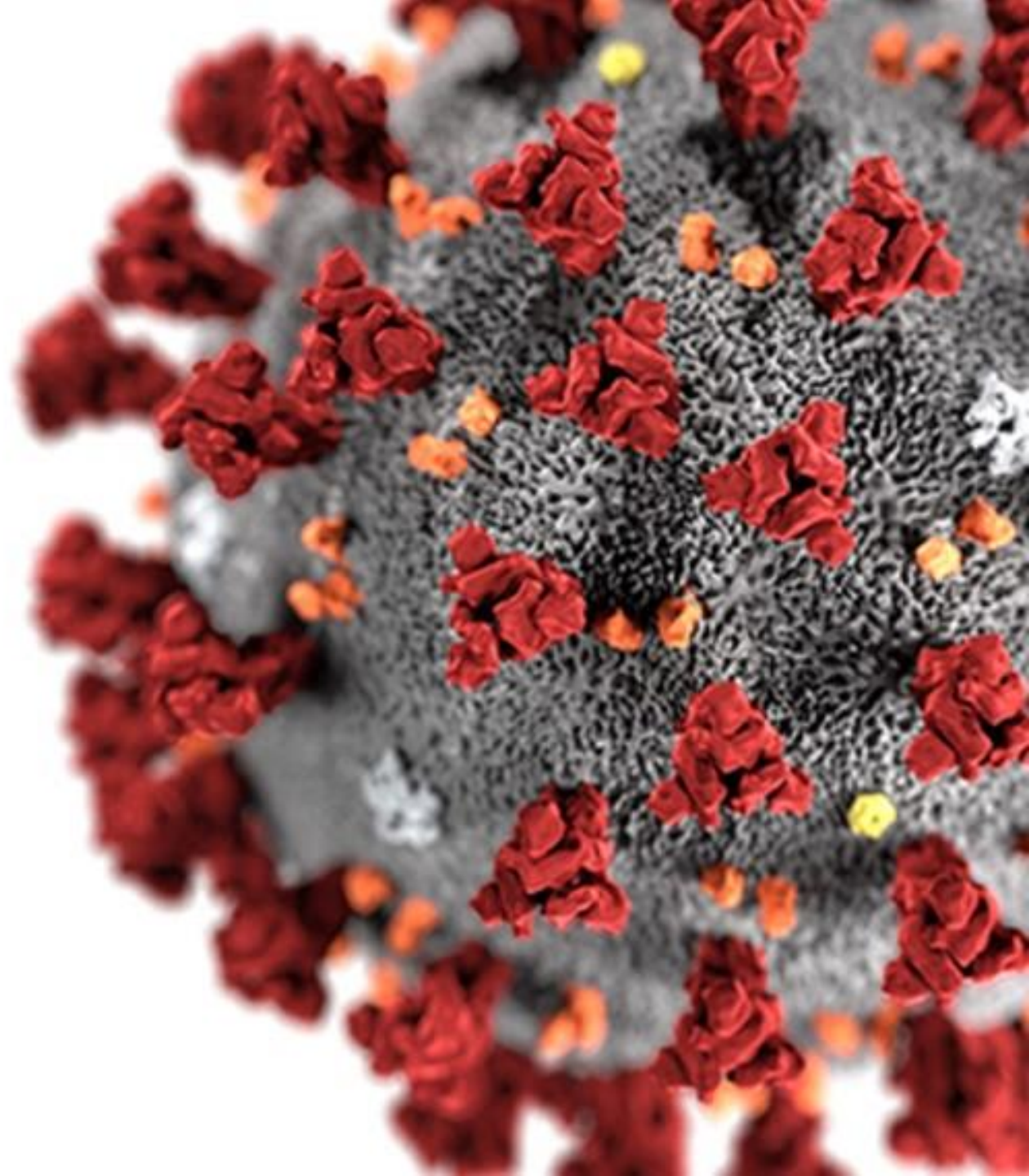
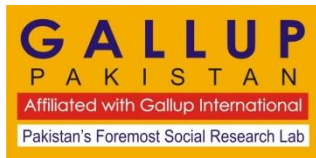
Question: *To what extent do you agree/disagree that the Federal Government of Pakistan is controlling the Coronavirus situation very well?*



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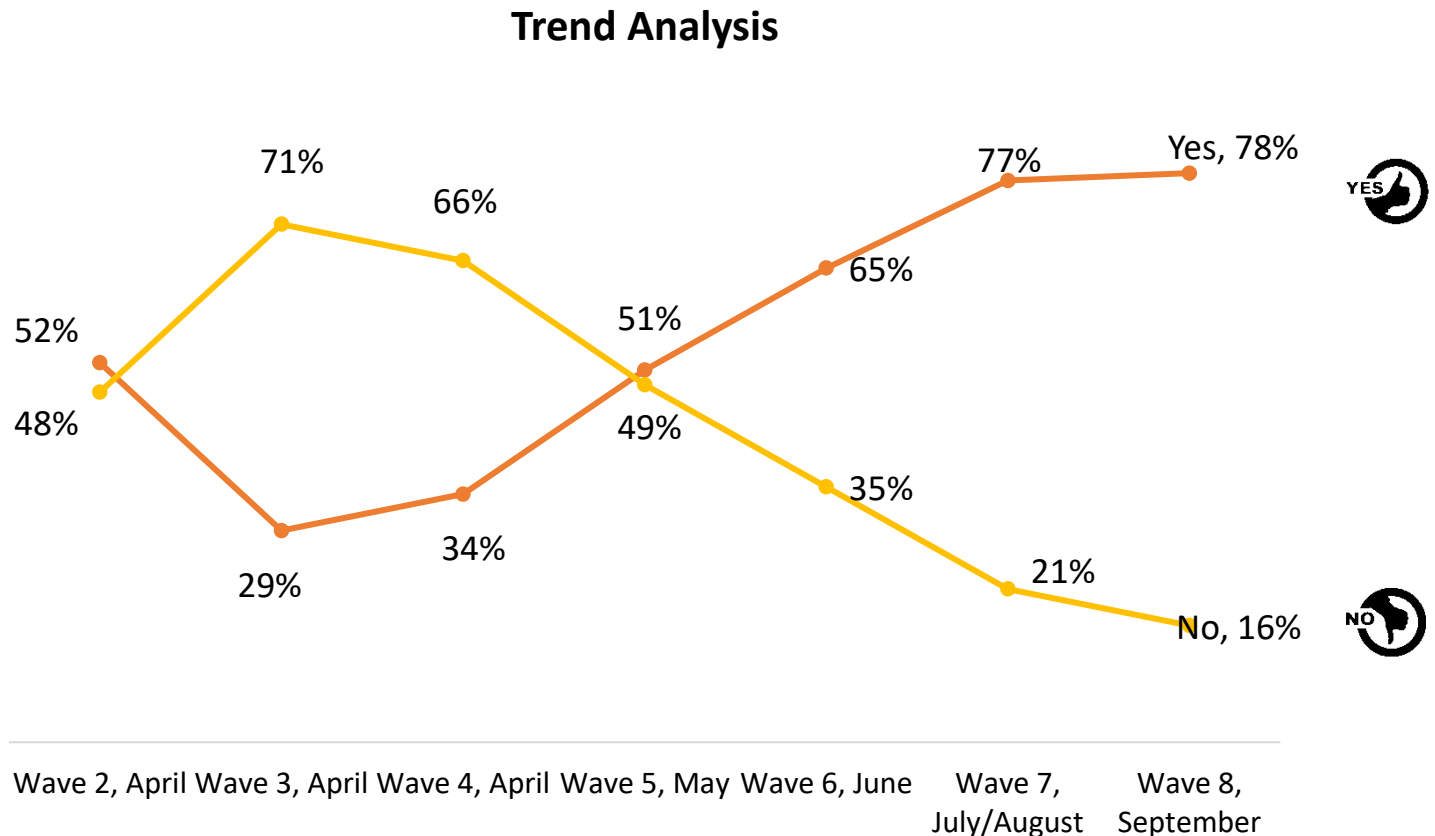
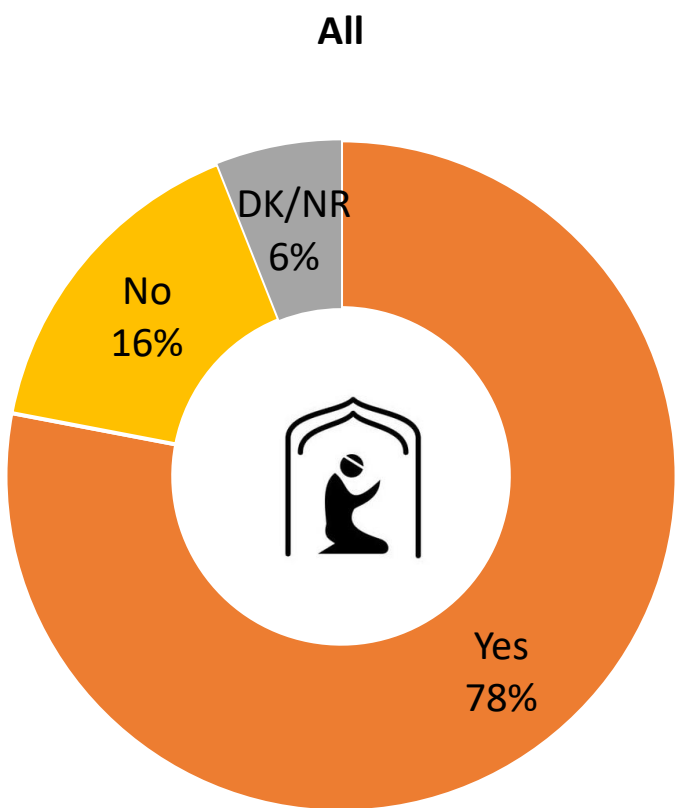
Source: Gallup Pakistan Coronavirus Attitude Tracker Survey 2020, Wave 8

SECTION III: **SOCIAL BEHAVIOR IN** **RESPONSE TO THE** **OUTBREAK OF COVID-19**

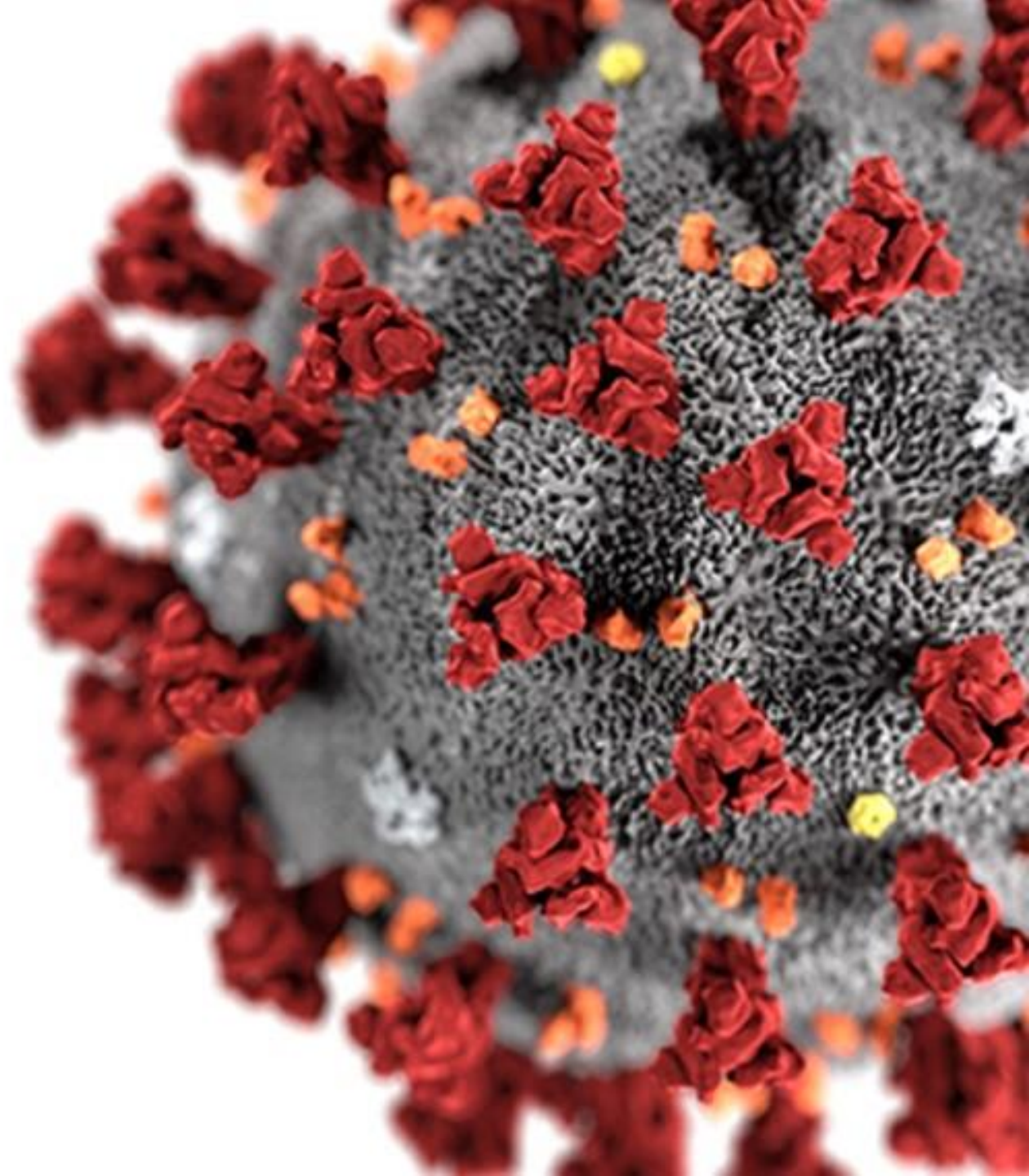
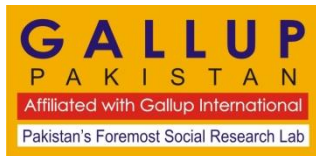


SINCE WAVE 5, A STEADY RISE IN THE PROPORTION OF PAKISTANIS OBSERVED WHO REPORT A MALE FAMILY MEMBER OFFERING JUMMAH IN A MOSQUE. 78% REPORTED THE SAME IN SEPTEMBER

Question: Did any male member of your household go for Friday prayers last Friday?

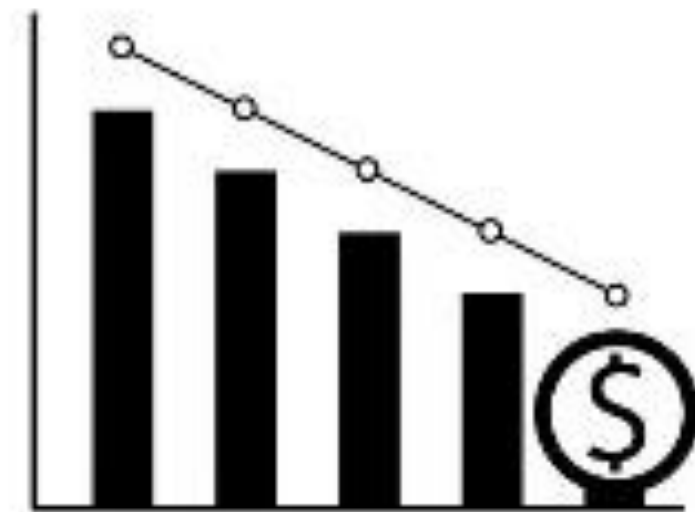
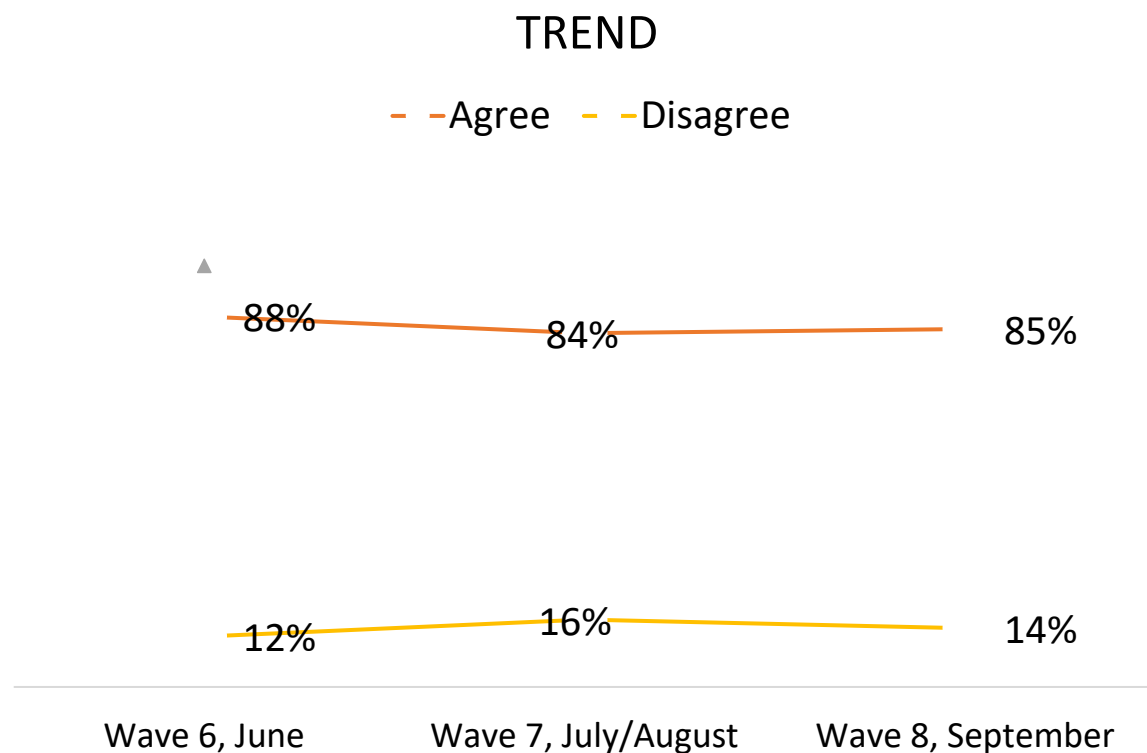


SECTION V: **COVID-19 AND** **ECONOMIC IMPACT ON** **HOUSEHOLDS**



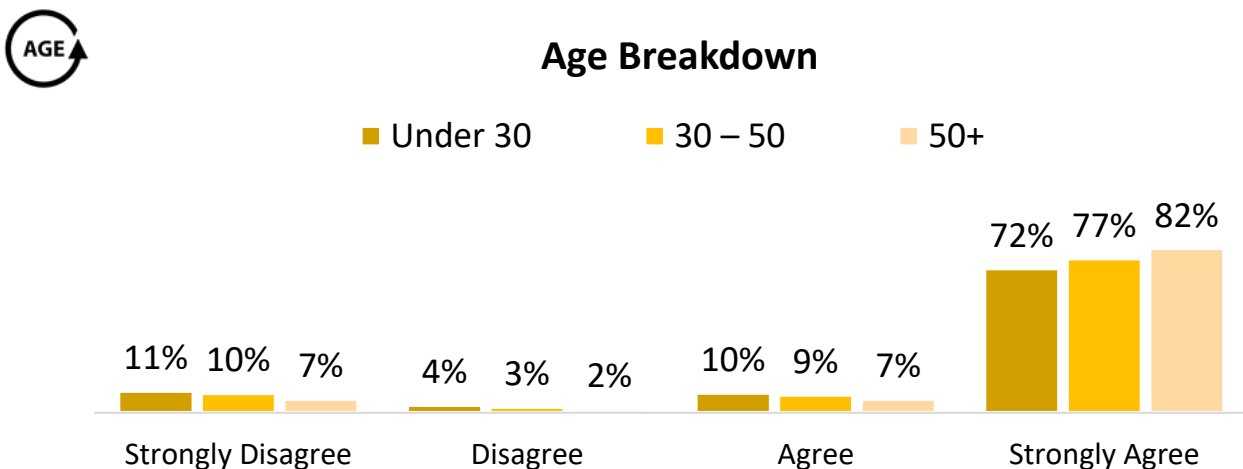
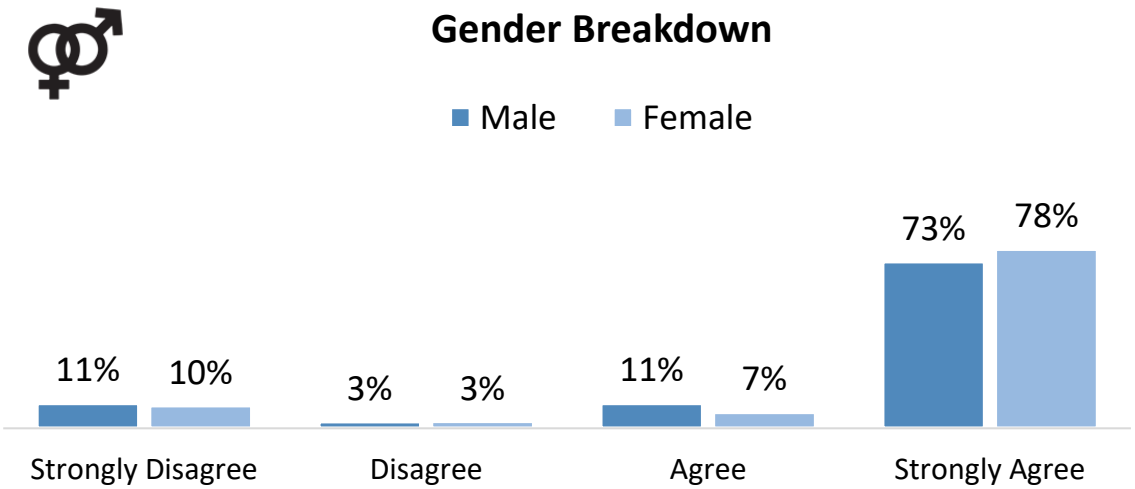
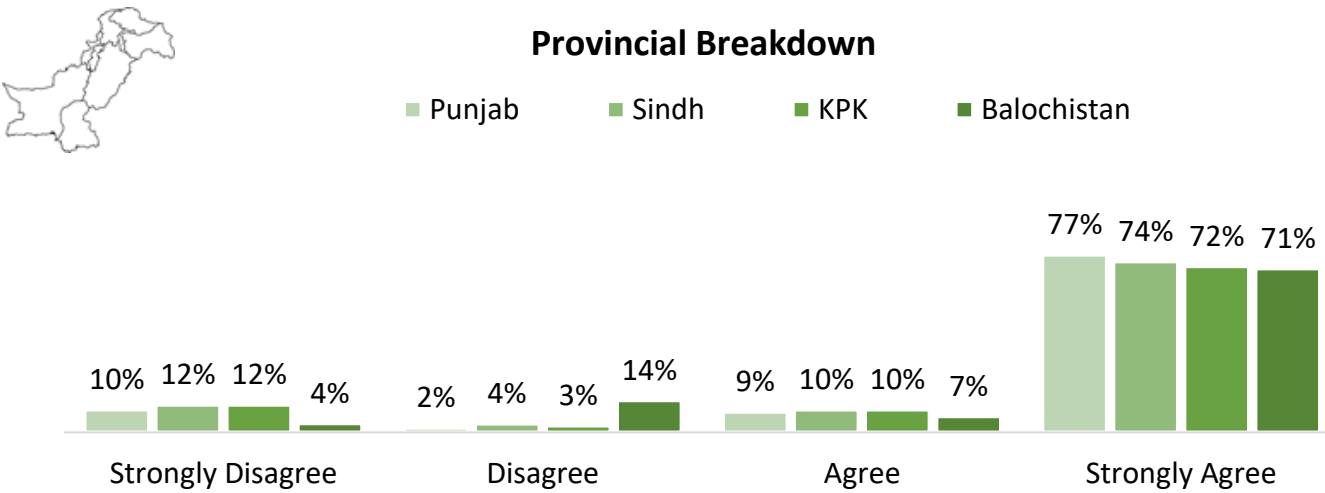
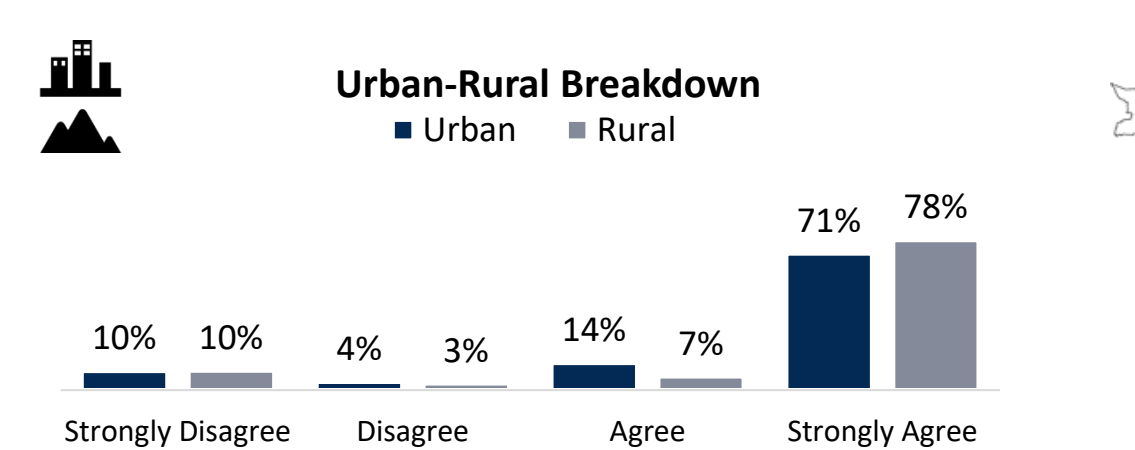
A SIGNIFICANT MAJORITY OF PAKISTANIS (85%) CONTINUE TO CLAIM THAT THEIR HOUSEHOLD INCOME HAS DECREASED SINCE THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC IN PAKISTAN, A TREND CONSISTENT WITH EARLIER TWO WAVES

Question: How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - My household income has decreased since COVID-19 started'



RESPONDENTS FROM PUNJAB (77%) AND THOSE AGED 51+ (82%) MOST LIKELY TO SAY THAT THEIR HOUSEHOLD INCOME HAS FALLEN SINCE THE START OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Question: How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - My household income has decreased since COVID-19 started

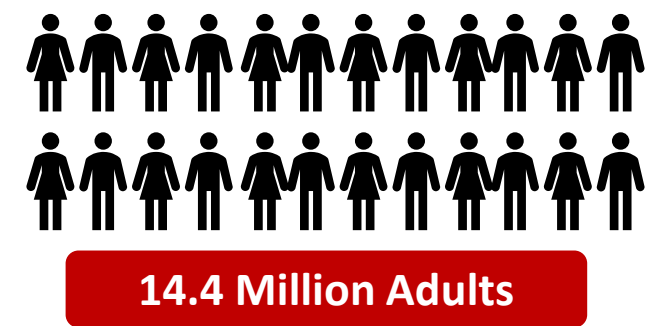
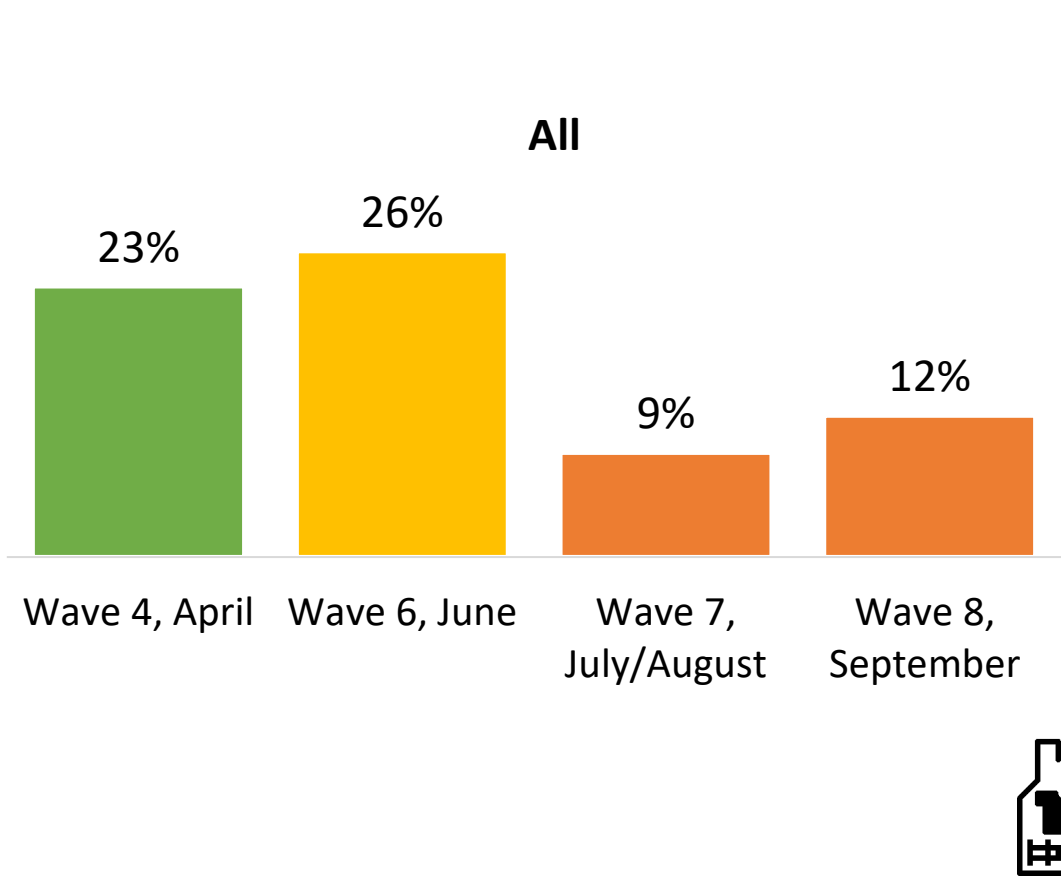


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Source: Gallup Pakistan Coronavirus Attitude Tracker Survey 2020, Wave 8

AFTER HAVING REDUCED FROM A PEAK OF 26% IN JUNE,SLIGHT RISE (3%) IN PROPORTION OF PAKISTANIS WHO CLAIM TO HAVE REDUCED THE NUMBER OR SIZE OF MEALS FOR SOME FAMILY MEMBERS TO COVER THEIR HOUSEHOLD'S BASIC NEEDS

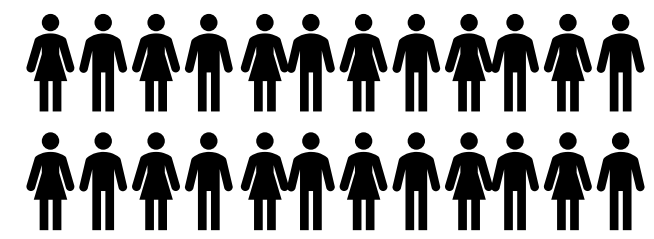
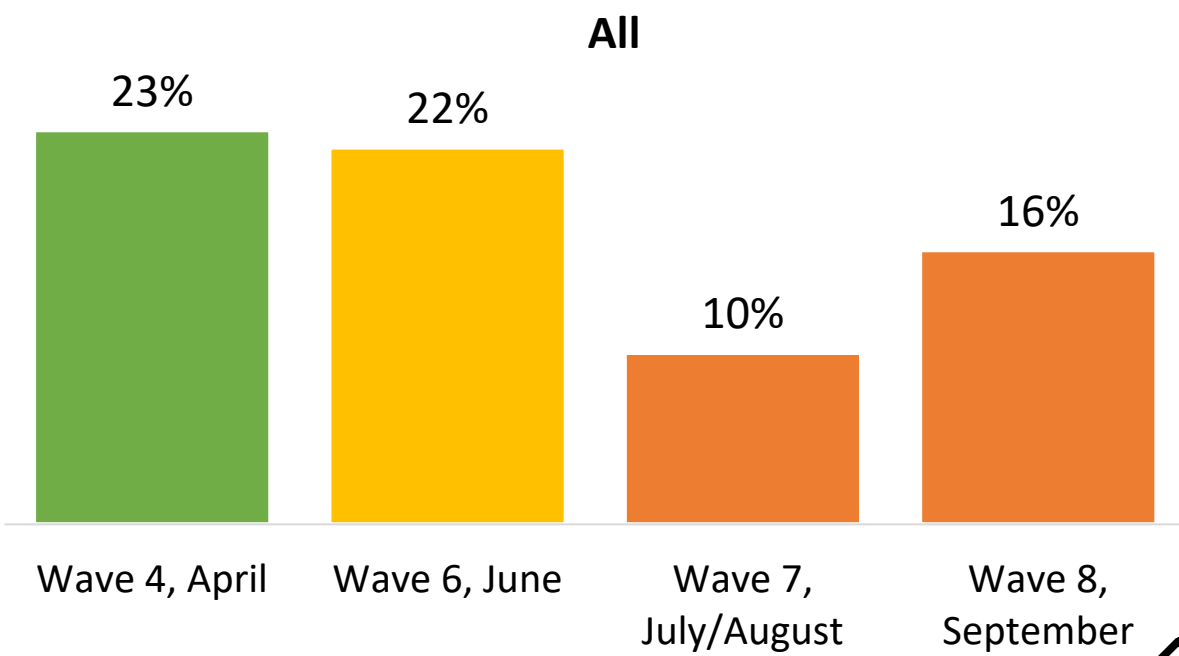
Question: In the past 7 days, did you 'Reduced the number or size of meals for some household members' to cover your household's basic needs? (only reporting percentage of people who agreed)



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After having come down from a peak of 22% in June, rising by 6% from August 2020 level , 16% Pakistanis say they are RELYING ON LESS PREFERRED OR INEXPENSIVE FOOD ITEMS TO COVER BASIC HOUSEHOLD NEEDS IN THE PAST 7 DAYS

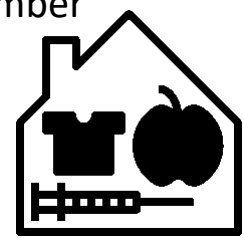
Question: In the past 7 days, did you 'Rely on less preferred and less expensive foods' to cover your household's basic needs? (only reporting percentage of people who agreed)



19.2 Million Adults

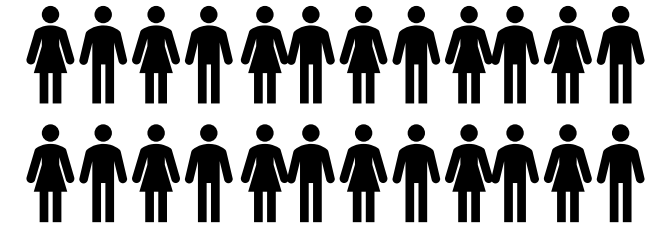
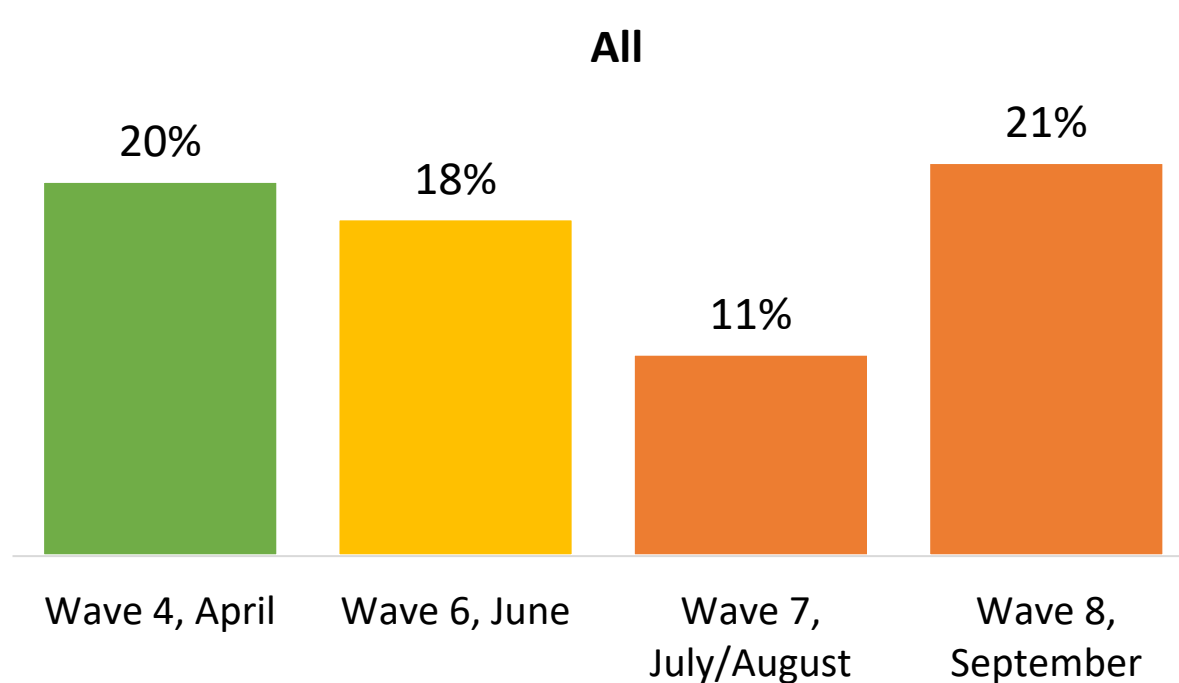


5.1 Million Households



SINCE AUGUST, PROPORTION OF PAKISTANIS WHO SAY THEY HAVE BORROWED FOOD OR ASKED FOR HELP FROM A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN THE PAST 7 DAYS TO COVER THEIR HOUSEHOLD'S BASIC NEEDS HAS NEARLY DOUBLED

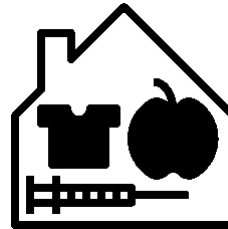
*Question: In the past 7 days, did you 'Borrow food or ask for help from a friend or relative' to cover your household's basic needs?
(only reporting percentage of people who agreed)*



25.2 Million Adults

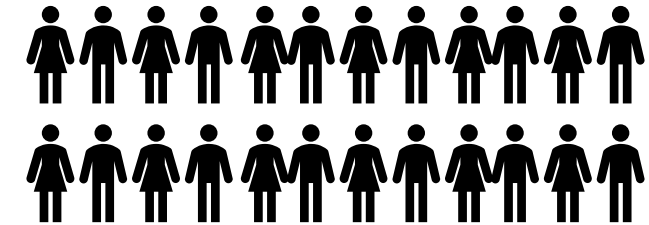
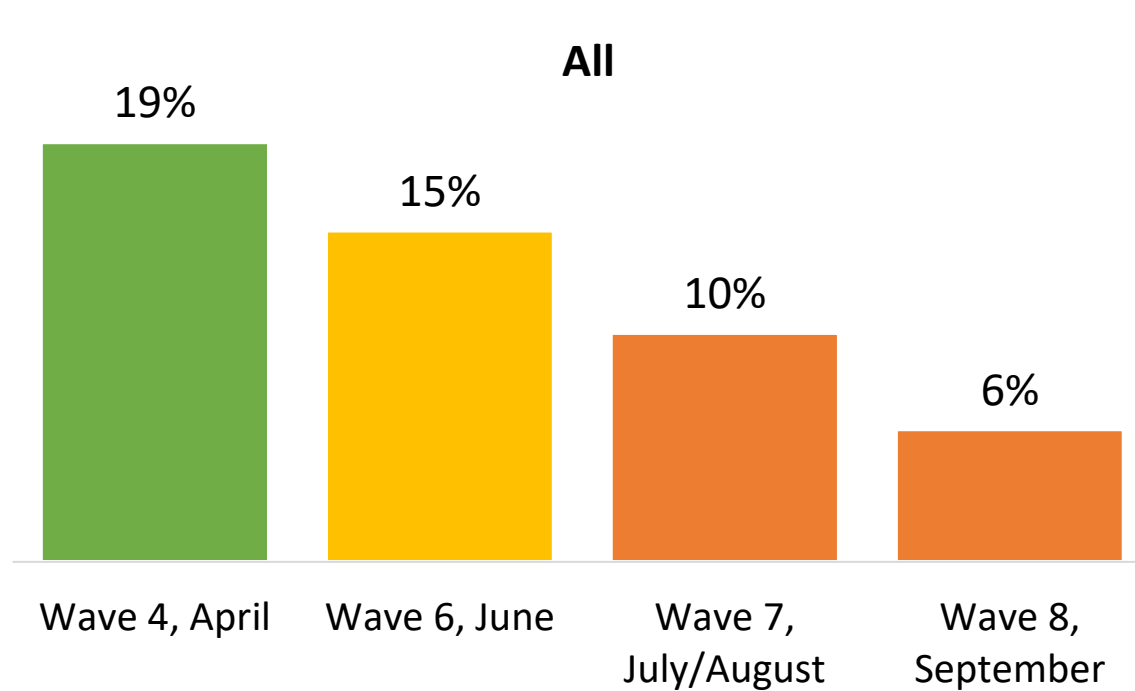


6.7 Million Households



DECLINING NUMBER OF PEOPLE ARE SAYING THEY ARE LEANING ON THEIR SAVING PERHAPS SHOWING THAT SAVINGS ARE ALREADY RUN OUT

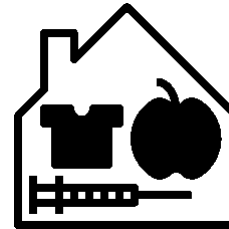
*Question: In the past 7 days, did you 'Use cash or bank savings' to cover your household's basic needs?
(only reporting percentage of people who agreed)*



7.2 Million Adults

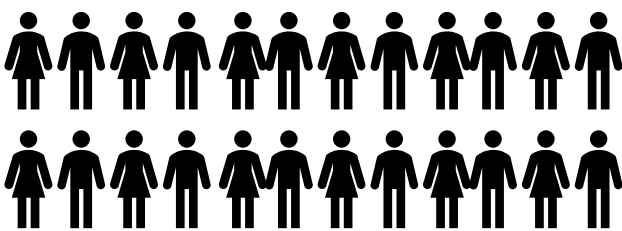
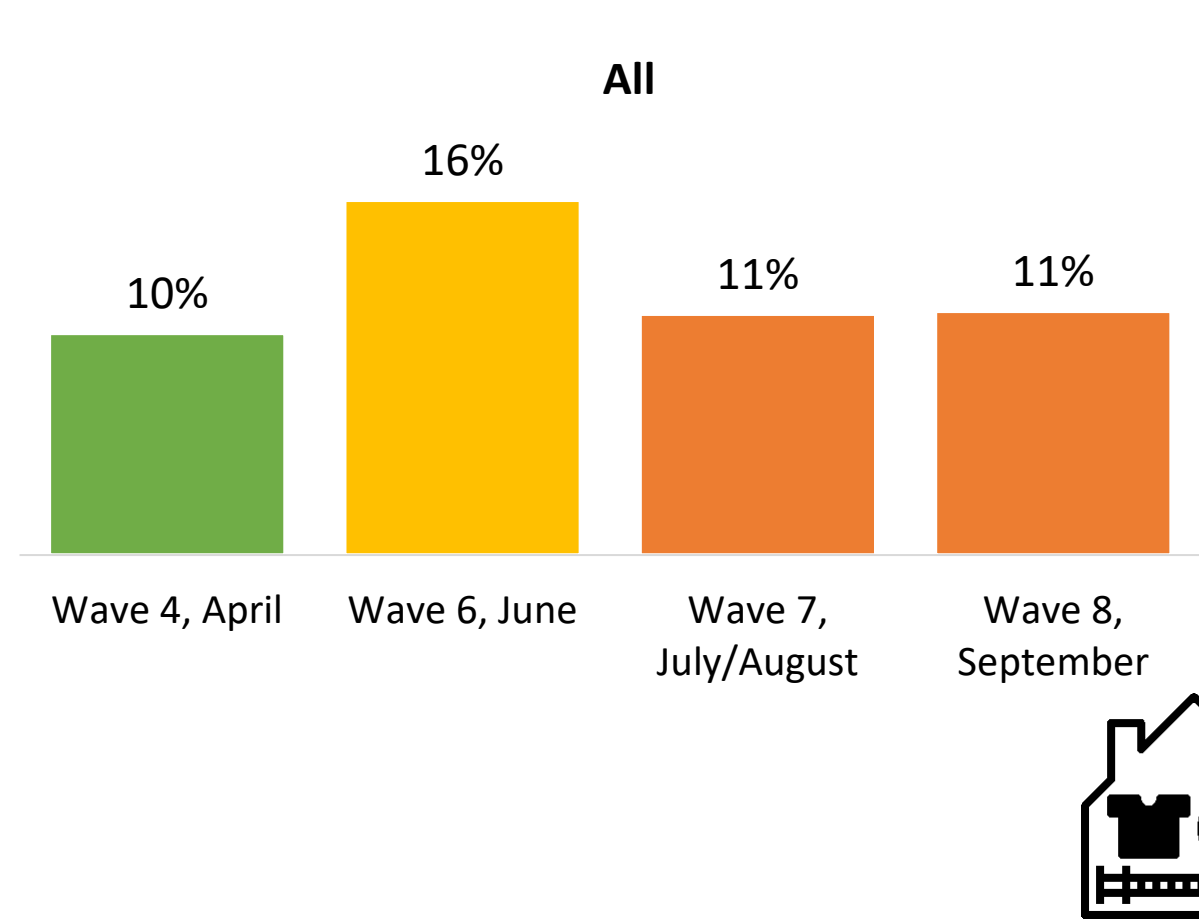


1.9 Million Households



11% PAKISTANIS STILL REPORT HAVING STARTED TO LOOK FOR WAYS TO EARN ADDITIONAL MONEY TO COVER THEIR HOUSEHOLD'S BASIC NEEDS

Question: In the past 7 days, did you 'Look for ways to earn additional money (e.g. work more hours, do an occasional job etc.)' to cover your household's basic needs? (only reporting percentage of people who agreed)



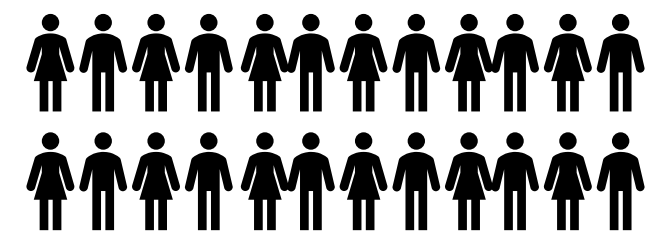
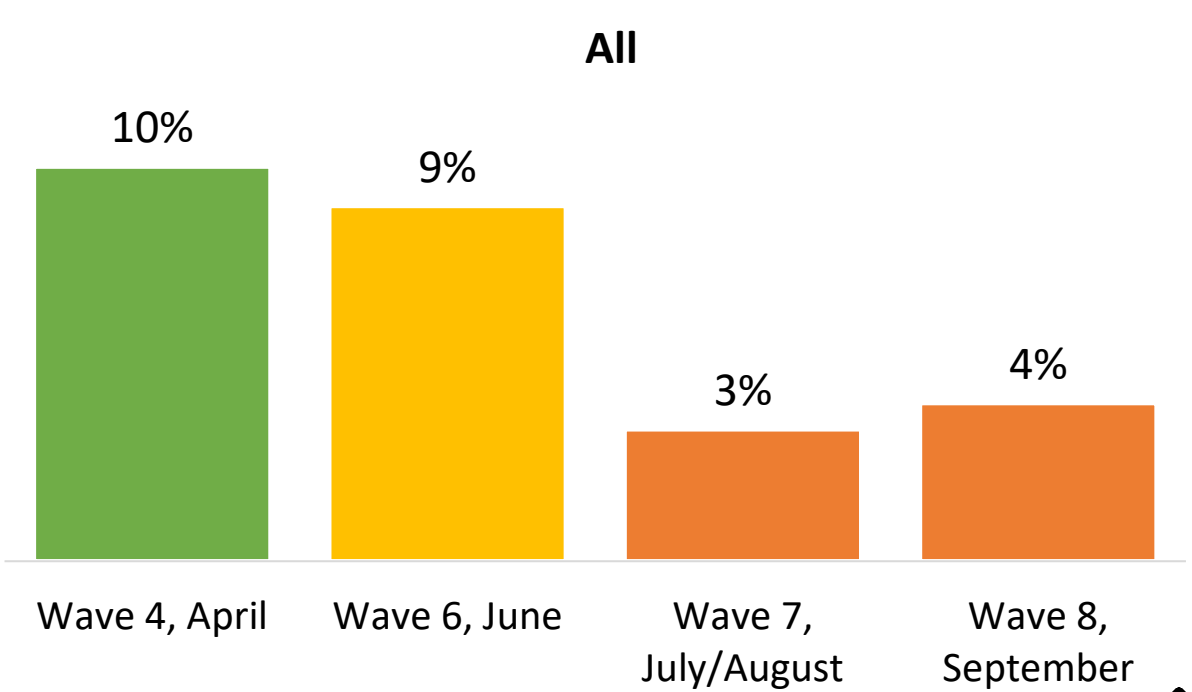
13.2 Million Adults



3.5 Million Households

A SMALL 1% RISE IN PEOPLE WHO SAY THEY ARE RELYING ON OUTSIDE HELP SURVIVE SINCE AUGUST 2020

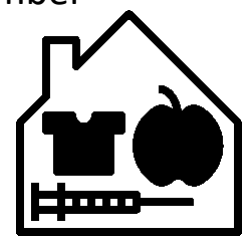
Question: In the past 7 days, did 'rely on government or NGO assistance to cover your household's basic needs?
(only reporting percentage of people who agreed)



4.8 Million Adults

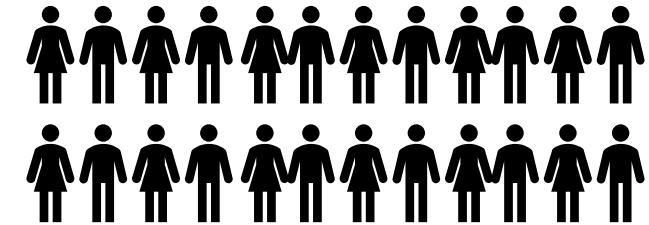
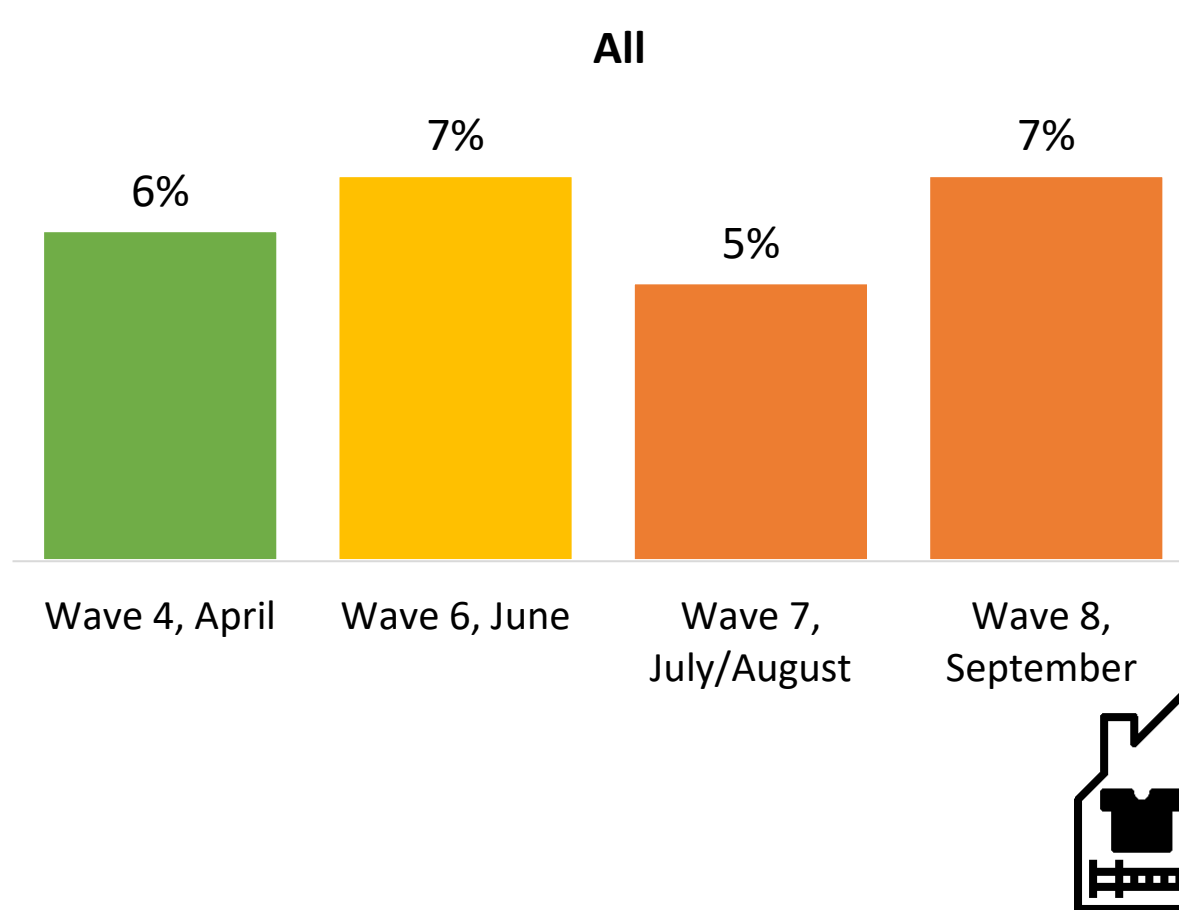


1.3 Million Households



2% RISE IN PEOPLE WHO ARE REPORTING SELLING ASSETS TO SURVIVE

Question: In the past 7 days, did you 'Sell assets' to cover your household's basic needs?



8.4 Million Adults



2.2 Million Households

GALLUP INDEX OF ECONOMIC VULNERABILITY AND WELL BEING KEY FINDING

Gallup's Index of Economic Vulnerability and Well being is measured through following questions. In the past 7 days, have you...

Index 1 : 'Reduced the number or size of meals for some household members' to cover your household's basic needs?

Index 2 : 'Relied on less preferred and less expensive foods' to cover your household's basic needs?

Index 3 : 'Borrowed food or ask for help from a friend or relative' to cover your household's basic needs?

Index 4 : 'Used cash or bank savings to cover your household's basic needs?

Index 5 : 'Looked for ways to earn additional money (e.g. work more hours, do an occasional job etc.)' to cover your household's basic needs?

Index 6 : 'Relied on government or NGO assistance to cover your household's basic needs?

On each of the above indices we see that vulnerability has increased between August and September. Gallup believes that this can be explained by following

1/ The cash transfer programme (Ehsaas) and its ameliorating effects are now waning off as people have consumed the money and are now unable to sustain a living through income opportunities.

2/ In August there was a lot of hope that re-opening will resolve the issue of economic slowdown and therefore an initial euphoria. As September came and went, there is increasing understanding that economy is not going back to pre-COVID times in terms of consumption and spending. Moreover, the pre-COVID economy was also not in great shape as the GDP growth rate was around 3%.

GOVT NEEDS TO STEP IN THESE EARLY STAGES OF ECONOMIC VULNERABILITY. For the non bankable poor (at the bottom of the pyramid), another cash transfer programme and for the rest of the segments tax breaks and other incentives to spend money and restart businesses will be crucial

METHODOLOGY



SAMPLE SIZE: 2106



CATI INTERVIEWS



ERROR MARGIN

±2 to 3% at 95% confidence level
for national level results



DATA COLLECTION

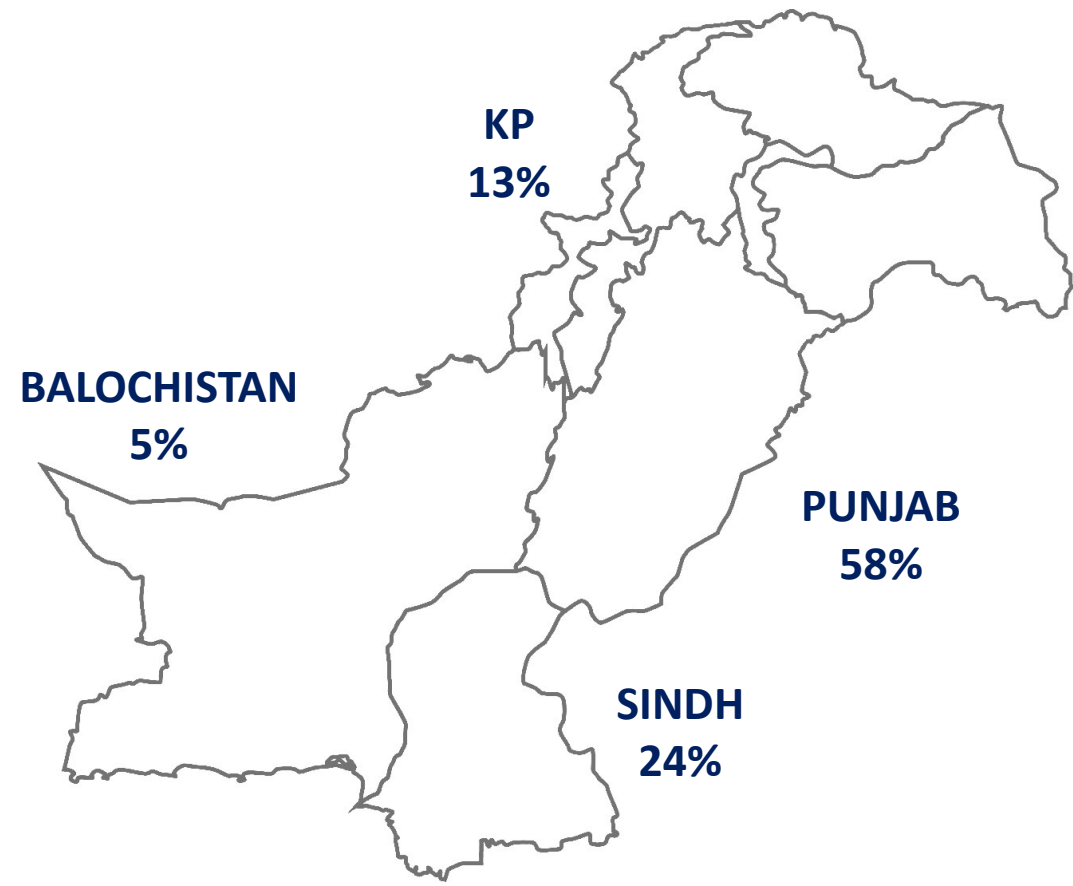
**9 September - 2 October
2020**

Detailed Note on Methodology

Gallup Pakistan's usual approach of fieldwork is conducting face-to-face interviews in households using geographical sampling. The sampling is done using the census as the frame. Due to coronavirus lockdown, as well as health and safety concerns, we have halted all face-to-face interviews, therefore CATI methodology has been employed.

This methodology uses Random Digit Dialling approach where all mobile phone numbers in Pakistan (130 million active sims) are the universe.

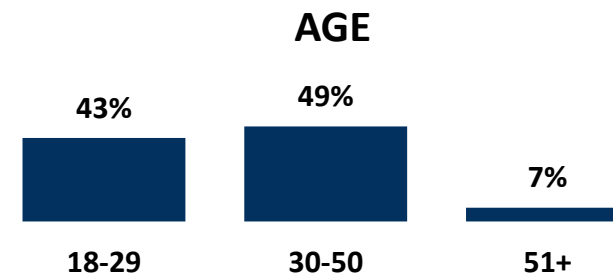
Exclusion in sample: According to PSLM (a government survey), 90% of households in Pakistan claim someone in their household owns a mobile phone. This means that 10% households are excluded from the sample.



**RURAL
65%**



**URBAN
35%**



**FEMALE
48%**



**MALE
52%**



Caution: Findings below the national level have significantly different error margin calculations. We advise use of the below national numbers only as telling broad direction of the results and not as statistically significant numbers.



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