

III Survey of the impact of COVID-19 among key populations in Latin America and the Caribbean



Migrants



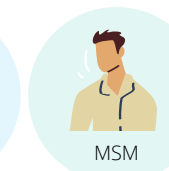
Indigenous P.



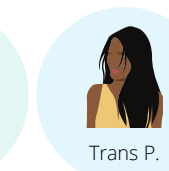
Youth



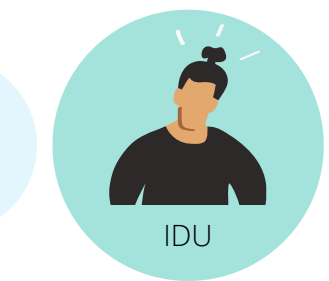
Sex Workers



MSM



Trans P.



IDU

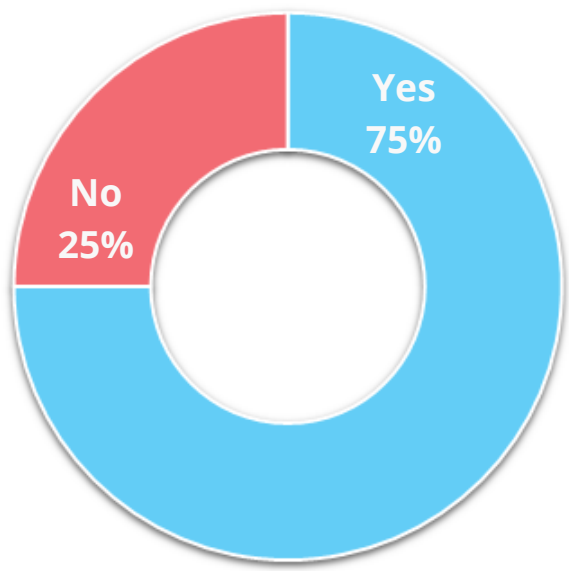


Afro-descendants

Drug Users



PROTECTION AGAINST COVID-19

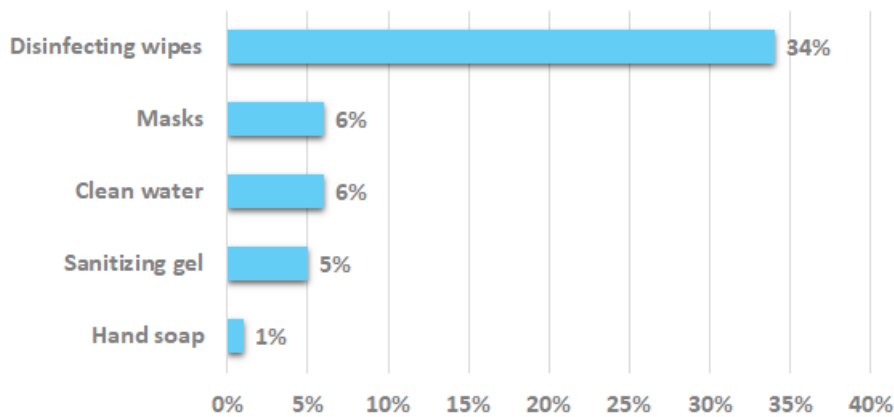


3 in 10 drug users did **NOT** have enough **information about COVID-19**.

At the time of responding, **13%** of drug users had been **tested for COVID-19**, out of which **23%** had been **positive** for the virus.

The **main sources of COVID-19 information** for drug users were the **Health Ministries' official social media accounts** (63%), followed by **television**.

8 in 10 drug users stated they would like to receive **more information** about the **diagnostic tests and treatment** of COVID-19.



Protection measures against COVID-19 **drug users** did **NOT** have access to

3 in 10 drug users did **NOT** have access to masks during the COVID-19 pandemic.



ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES AND TREATMENT

2 in 10 drug users stated they had been **denied access to a care service**, including **health services**.

6 in 10 drug users who responded to the survey stated they were a **person living with HIV**.

67% stated that their **viral load was suppressed**, **17%** stated that it **wasn't** and **16%** did **not know** the state of their **viral load**.

2% of the **drug users** who responded to the survey declared that they were **NOT** on **antiretroviral treatment**.



3 in 10

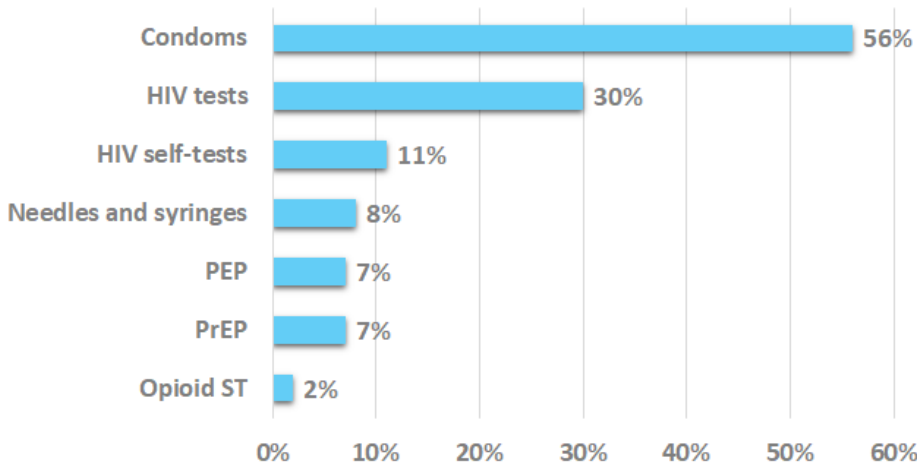
drug users received enough **antiretroviral treatment (ART)** to last **one month or less**.

3 in 10

drug users received enough **antiretroviral treatment (ART)** to last **two months**.

4 in 10

drug users received enough **antiretroviral treatment (ART)** to last **three months or more**.



Need for **preventive measures against HIV** during the COVID-19 pandemic.

6 in 10 drug users needed **condoms as a preventive measure against HIV** during the COVID-19 pandemic.

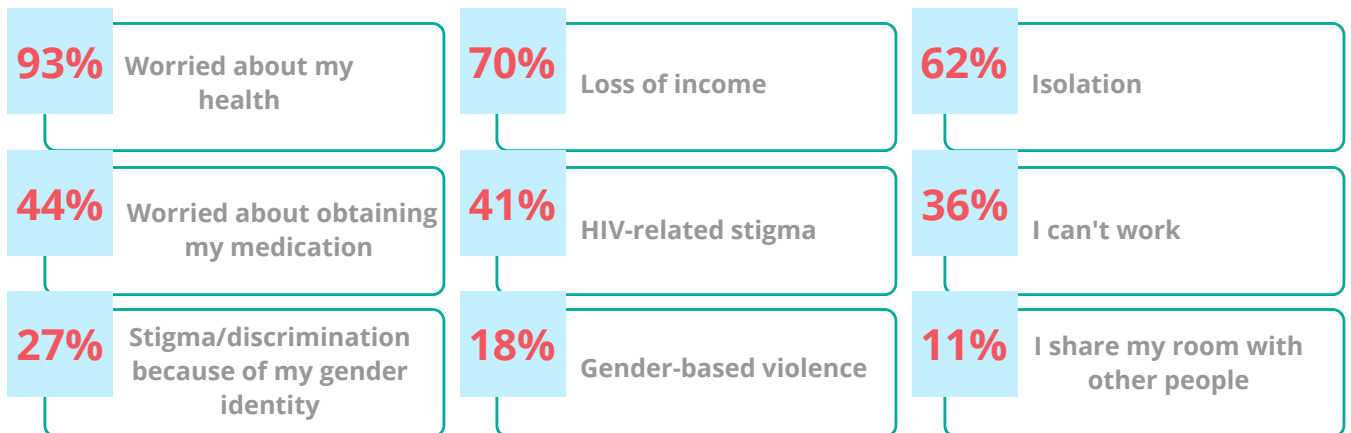
65% of drug users expected to receive **HIV testing and counseling** from **government organizations** during the COVID-19 pandemic.

67% of drug users expected **better ARV delivery mechanisms** from **government organizations** during the COVID-19 pandemic.



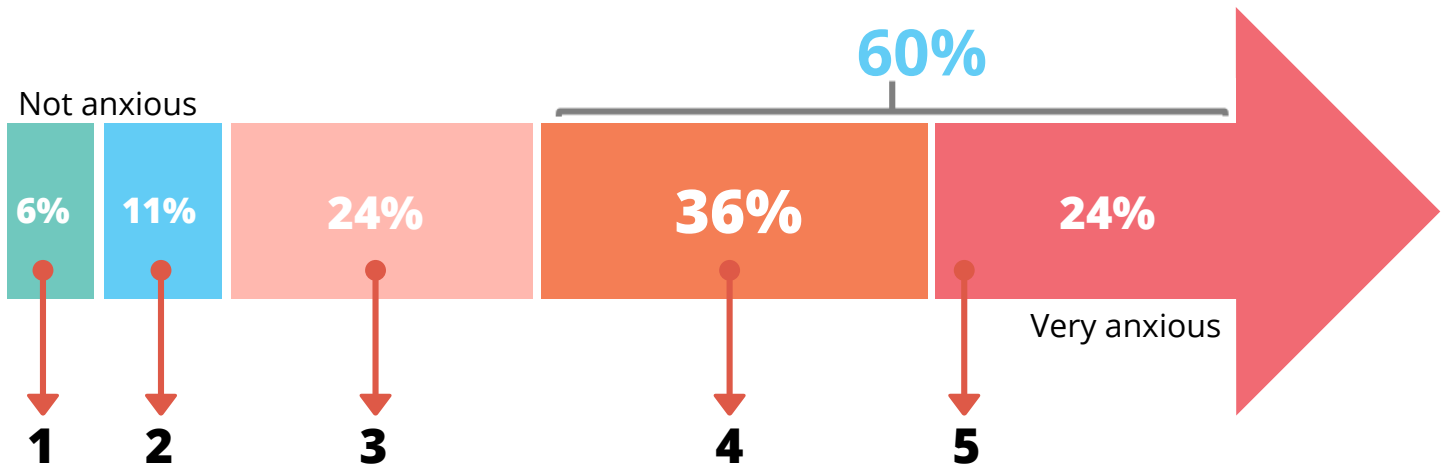
MENTAL HEALTH AND SUPPORT

Concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic

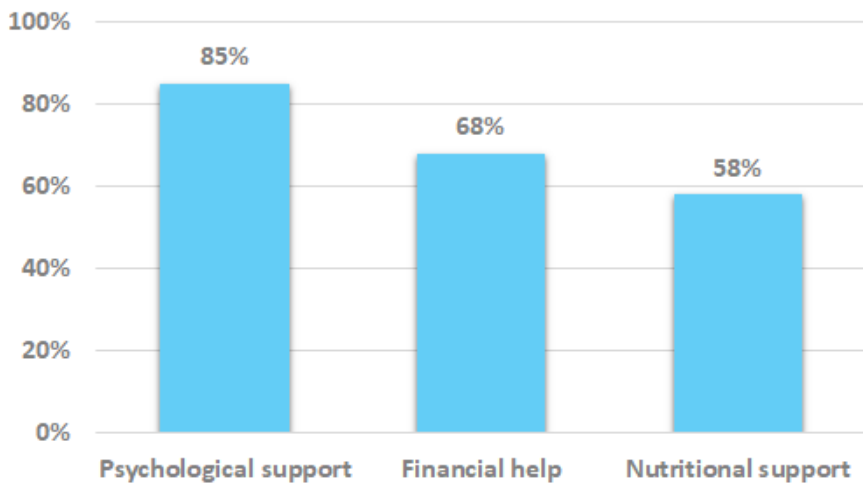


9 in 10 drug users were **worried about their health**.
7 in 10 drug users were **worried about the loss of their income**.
6 in 10 drug users were **worried about self-isolating**.

How anxious due to the COVID-19 pandemic are you?



6 in 10 drug users who responded to the survey reported the **two highest levels of anxiety**.



Services that **drug users** expected to receive from **government organizations** during the COVID-19 pandemic.

9 in 10

drug users expected to receive **psychological support**.

7 in 10

drug users expected to receive **cash aid and transfers**.

6 in 10

drug users expected to receive **nutritional support**.



SOCIAL PROTECTION



7 in 10 people reported their **income has decreased** due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

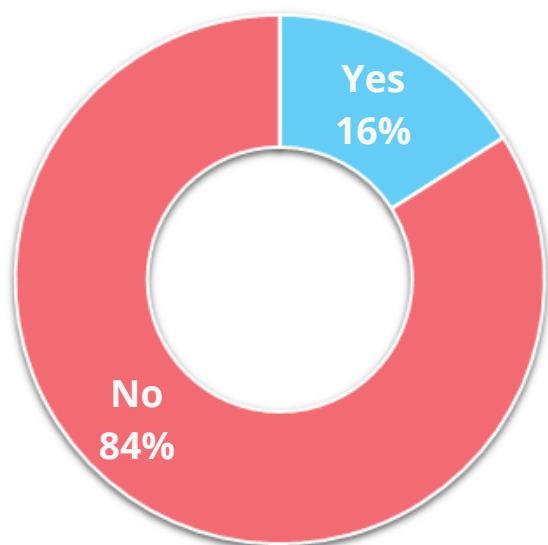


4 in 10 people reported losing **75% or more of their income**.



1 in 10 people reported losing **100% of their income**.

Drug users who reported they had **NOT** benefited from any **social protection or support measures** offered by their government.



8 in 10 drug users reported they did **NOT** benefit from any **social protection or support measure** offered by their government.

Of the **drug users** who did benefit from some kind of **support offered by their government**, **44%** reported the **financial aid** was **less than 100 USD**.



HUMAN RIGHTS, STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION

3 in 10 drug users who responded to the survey stated they had experienced **stigma and discrimination** during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Causes of stigma and discrimination

22%

Because I am a person living with HIV

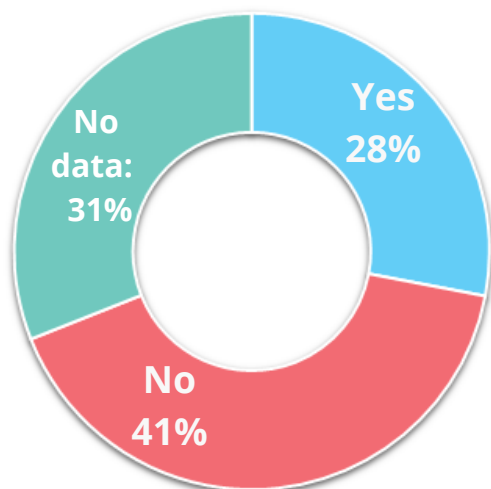
17%

Because I am homosexual

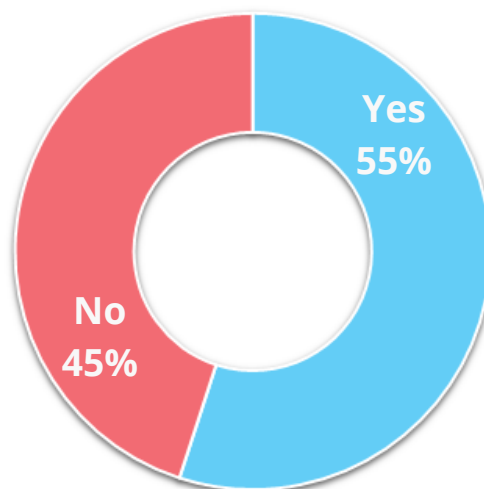
4%

Because I am transgender

2 in 10 drug users have **suffered discrimination** because their **gender identity and expression** do **NOT** match their **official country IDs**.



4 in 10 drug users do **NOT** know of any **reliable mechanisms to report situations of stigma and discrimination**.



5 in 10 drug users do **NOT** know of any **support or peer network** where they can get **help or information** during the COVID-19 pandemic.

*METHODOLOGY: Information based on 101 surveys of people who identified as drug users and who were residents of 17 of the 29 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean in which the survey was available. The survey was conducted between July 14th and August 26th, 2020. Some of the responses analysed are not representative of the overall population. Limitations: The survey was conducted online, limiting the participation of people with low connectivity, or those who don't know how to use electronic equipment. This work was carried out thanks to the support of Red Somos.