

Responding to COVID-19 in African Countries:

Executive Summary of Polling Results: Guinea

August 2020



INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact societies across health, financial and day to day life.

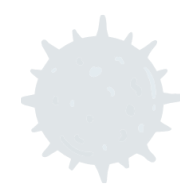
This document provides the findings from public opinion polls in Guinea to understand the public's knowledge, risk perception, attitudes, access to information, reactions, behaviors and practices related to COVID-19.

This Executive Summary is supplemented by an Appendix with the results should readers require additional detail.

METHODOLOGY

The public opinion polls were conducted from 6 August to 18 August 2020. The polling was conducted by telephone.

Samples were drawn to be nationally representative of each Member State; weighting was applied by gender and region to align the final data with the population. The national unweighted sample size in Guinea is 1,283 interviews.



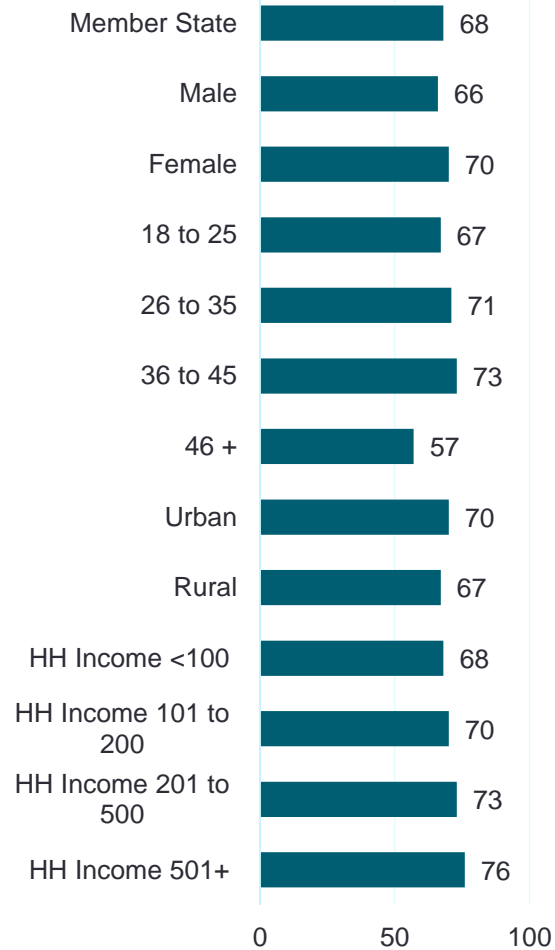
Key Findings

- **PHSM support and adherence:** Support for most PHSMs is high among survey respondents, especially for personal preventive measures such as washing hands and wearing a face mask. Self-reported adherence was lower than support, particularly for measures that restrict economic activity.
- **Risk perceptions and information:** Only one in five survey respondents in Guinea believe they are at risk for contracting COVID-19, a lower proportion than in other African Union (AU) Member States surveyed. Close to half of all respondents hold misconceptions or believe rumors or myths that could undermine adherence to PHSMs.
- **Essential health services:** A high proportion of households that needed medical care have had difficulty accessing health care visits (41%) or medicines (55%), and people with longstanding illnesses are particularly affected.
- **Economic burden and food security:** The vast majority of respondents (87%) report having lost income compared to last year, and three-quarters are facing difficulty accessing food. One in four respondents in Guinea reported receiving government support in the previous month. Most of this was in the form of subsidies for services.

Information, Perception & Misinformation

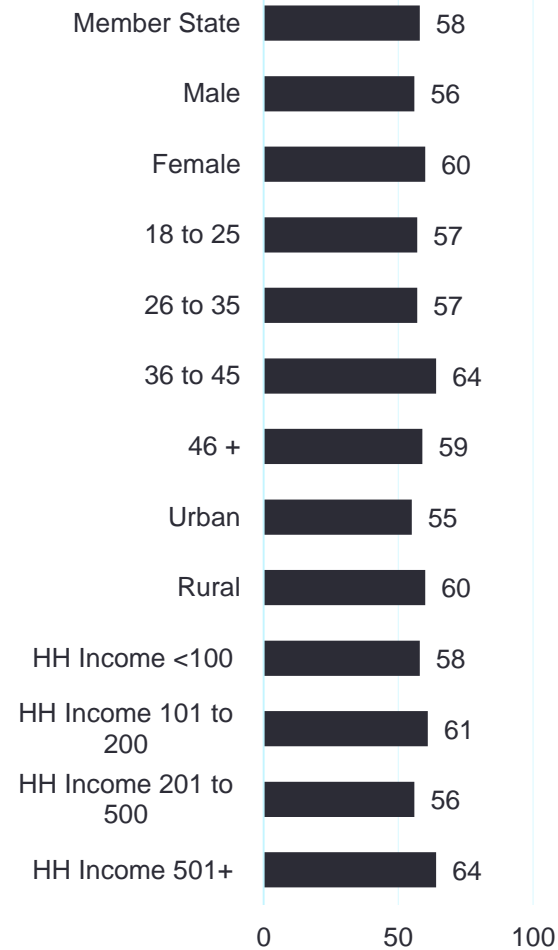
Preventive Measures

- % True for ALL three statements:**
- Washing hands helps prevent getting COVID-19
 - Infected people may not show symptoms for 5 to 14 days
 - Wearing a face mask when around other people prevents the spread of COVID-19



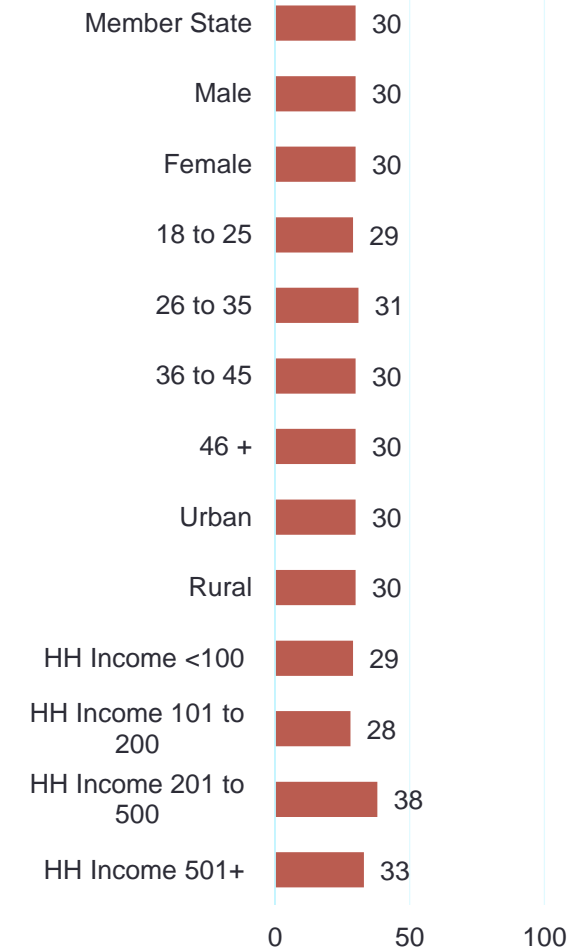
Reaction to Recovered Patients

- % True (one statement):**
- People who have recovered from COVID-19 should be avoided to prevent spreading it.



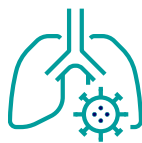
Misinformation

- % True for BOTH statements:**
- Foreigners are discrediting African medicines which could cure COVID-19
 - Foreigners are trying to test vaccines on us

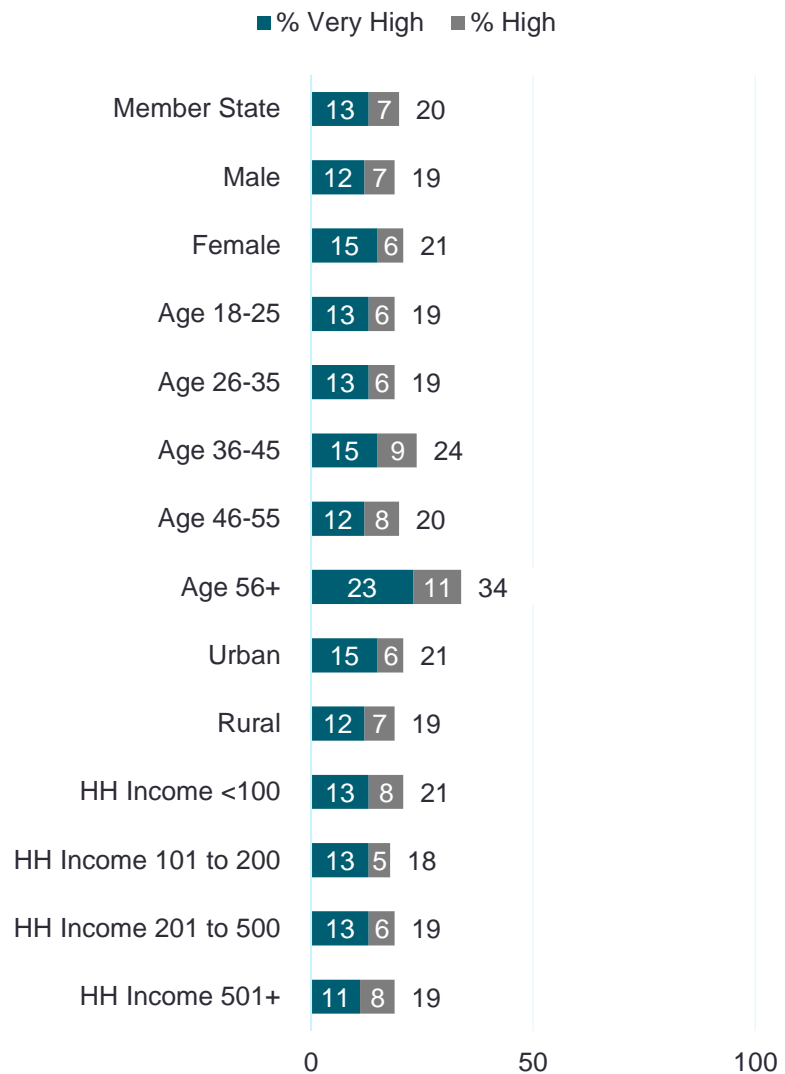


Q2. I'm going to read things people have said about coronavirus or COVID-19. Please tell me if you think each is definitely true, probably true, probably false, or definitely false. If you don't know, say so. (True = Definitely + Probably True)

Risk Perceptions



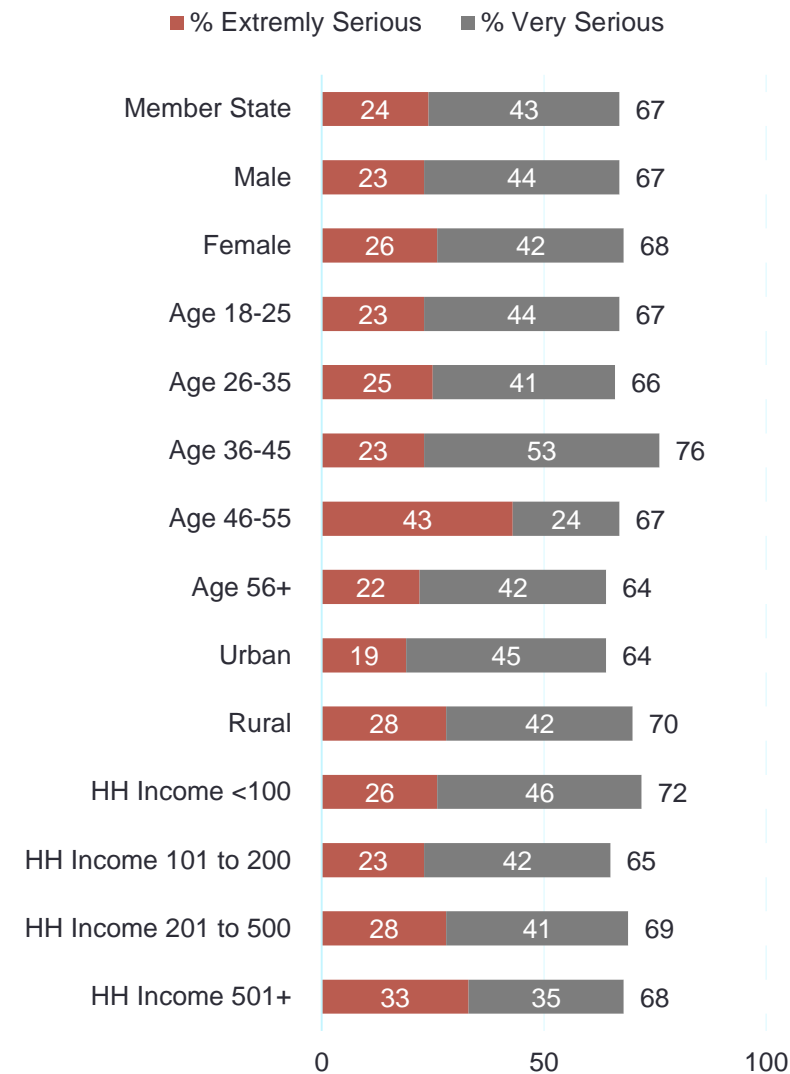
Perceived risk of catching COVID-19:



Q8. Please indicate what you think your level of risk of catching coronavirus or COVID-19 is: Very high, High, Medium, Low, Very Low, Don't know



Perceived severity of COVID-19 on health:



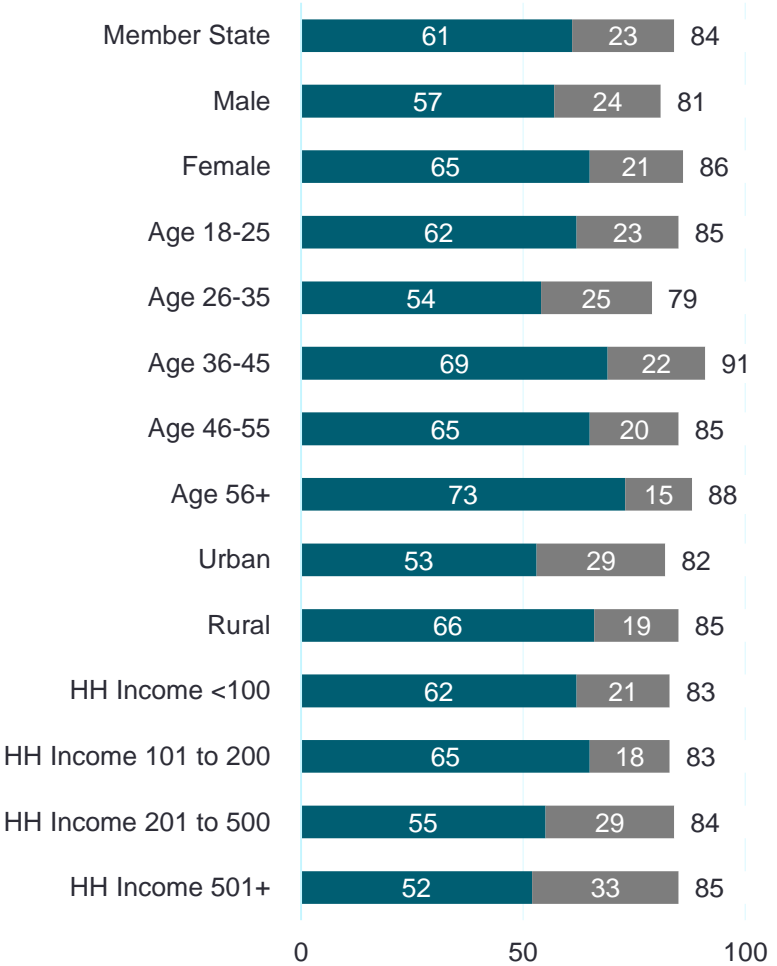
Q9. If you were infected by coronavirus or COVID-19, how seriously do you think it would affect your health? Not at all seriously, Somewhat seriously, Very seriously, Extremely seriously, Don't know / no response

Satisfaction and Trust with the COVID-19 Response



Satisfaction with Government response to COVID-19:

■ % Very Satisfied ■ % Somewhat Satisfied

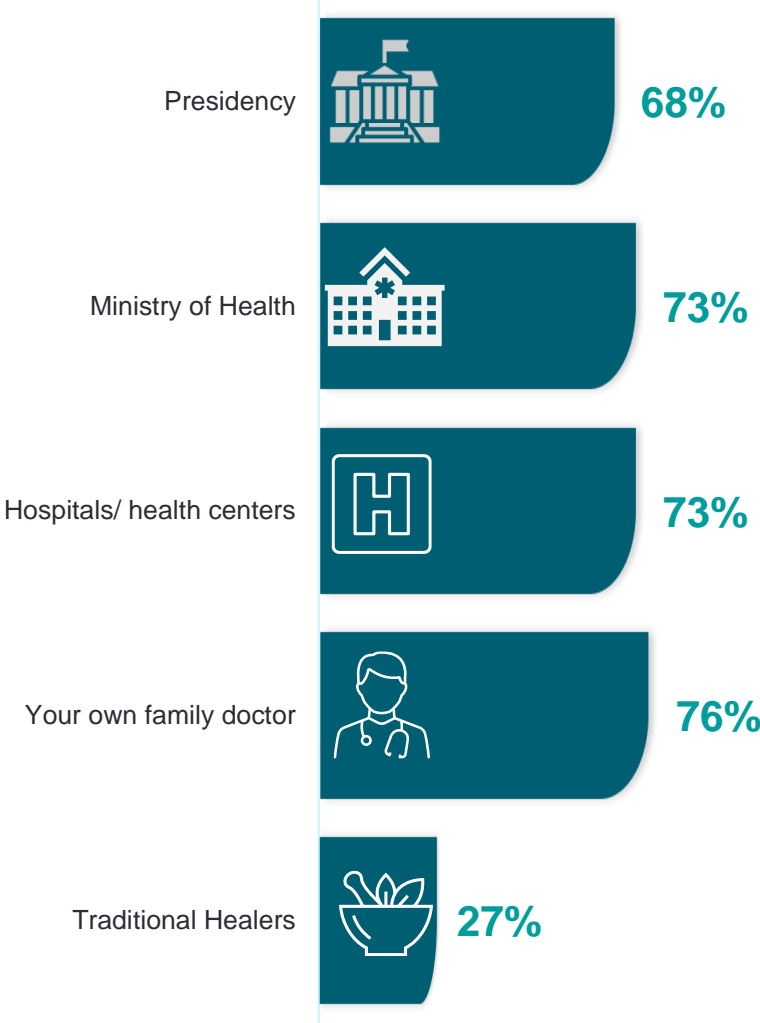


Q11. How satisfied are you with your (Guinea Conkary) government's response to coronavirus or COVID-19? Very satisfied, Somewhat satisfied, Somewhat dissatisfied, Very dissatisfied, Don't know / not sure



Trust in handling of the coronavirus in Guinea Conakry:

% Trust a great deal + fair amount



Q12. To what extent, if at all, do you trust each of the following individuals and organizations' handling of the coronavirus in Guinea Conkary? A great deal, A fair amount, Not very much, Not at all, Don't know, Not heard of organisation, Not applicable.

SUMMARY OF Public Health and Social Measures (PHSMs)

Public Health and Social Measures (PHSMs)

	Adherence: level to which these activities describe “you personally”				Support: perception of necessity		
	<i>Completely applies</i>	<i>Mostly applies</i>	<i>Sometimes applies</i>	<i>Does not apply to me</i>	<i>Absolutely necessary</i>	<i>Somewhat necessary</i>	<i>Not really necessary</i>
Wear a face mask in public when near others	72	10	13	5	82	14	4
Wash more often than they used to	68	10	19	10	85	13	2
Avoid handshakes and physical greetings	50	11	24	14	69	18	12
PERSONAL PHSMS: SUMMARY	63	10	19	10	79	15	6
Stop joining public gatherings and places of entertainment	51	10	23	15	59	21	19
Stop going to the church/mosque	50	9	17	24	37	21	42
PUBLIC GATHERING PHSMS: SUMMARY	51	10	20	20	48	21	31
Reduce the number of times going to the market or grocery store	26	11	38	25	44	26	30
Staying home instead of going to work, school or other regular activities	23	8	29	41	26	22	51
MOBILITY PHSMS: SUMMARY	25	10	34	33	35	24	41

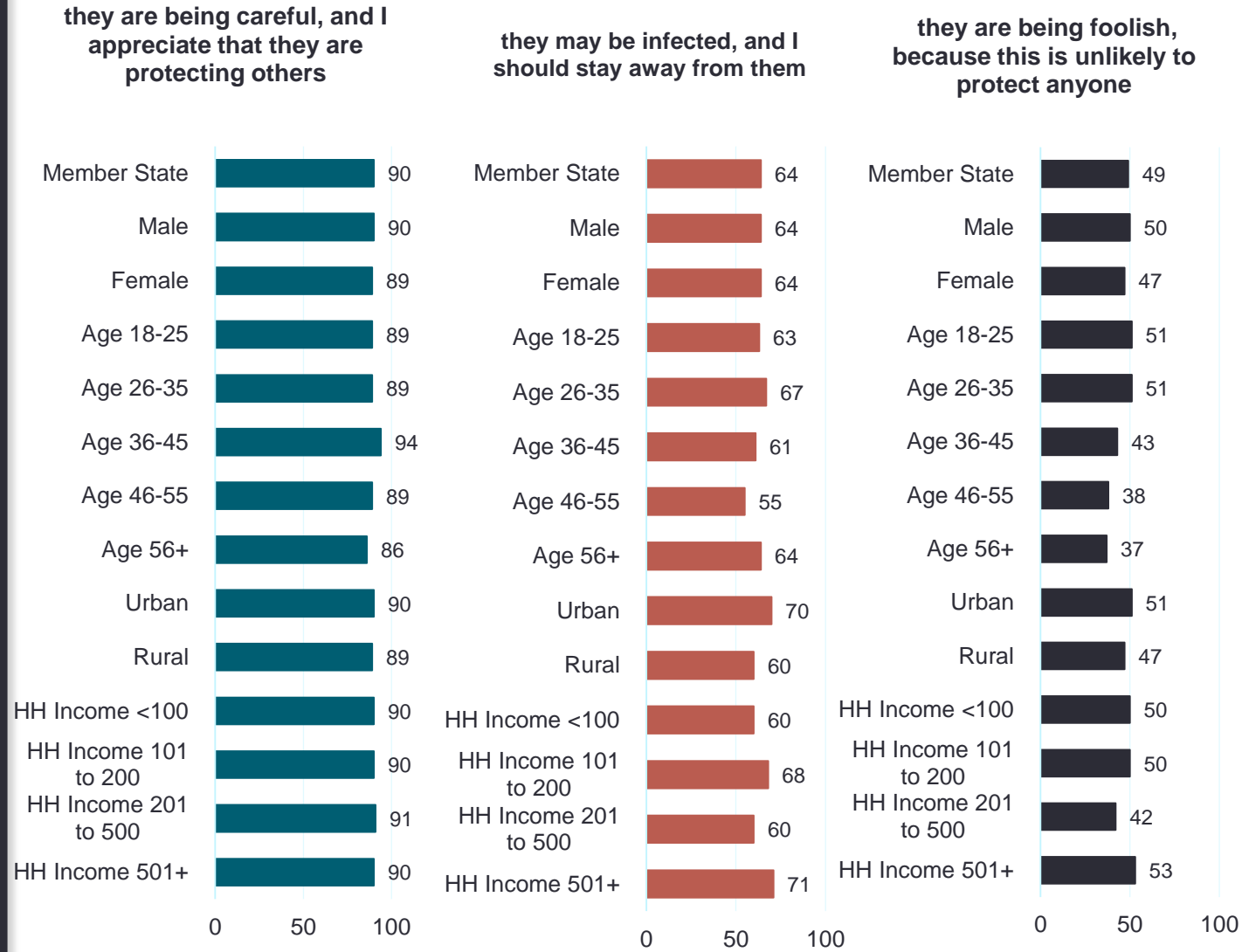
Please see Appendix for detail by country

Q13. Over the past seven days, to what extent do each of the following describe you personally?

Q14. Thinking of the last four weeks, was asking people to do each of the following absolutely necessary, somewhat necessary, or not really necessary to limiting the spread of COVID-19 in Guinea Conkary?

Face masks: Perceptions, Use and Attitudes

When other people wear face masks near me, I think...



99% have a face mask ready to wear

Adherence:
Wear a Face Mask in Public Around Others:
Completely applies: 72%
Mostly applies: 10%

Q4. Do you have a face mask of any kind that is ready for you to wear?
 Q13g. Over the past seven days, to what extent do each of the following describe you personally?: G) Wearing a face mask in public when near others

Q3. I would now like to ask your opinion about face masks, which some people are wearing at the moment. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Showing % agree (Strongly + Somewhat agree)

Impact on Health Care Services



Missed, Delayed or Skipped Health Care Services:

% Yes: (among those requiring services)	42%
People with longstanding illness	42%
Women	40%
Low Income (HH Income <100)	41%
High Income (HH Income 501+)	47%
Urban	45%
Rural	40%

Base = require services (50%)



Difficulty accessing medications:

% Much More Difficult (among those requiring medications)	37%
People with longstanding illness	40%
Women	37%
Low Income (HH Income <100)	43%
High Income (HH Income 501+)	32%
Urban	36%
Rural	38%

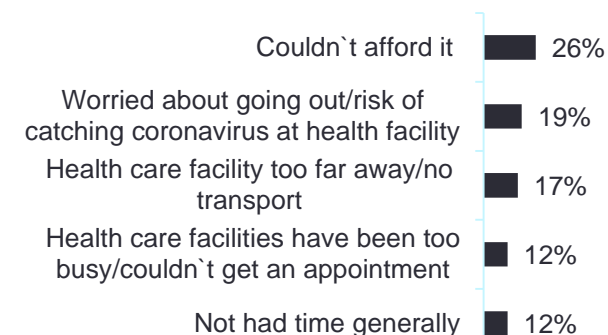
Base = require medication (96%)

Q21. Have you or any other person in your household delayed, skipped or been unable to complete health care visits since the COVID-19 crisis?

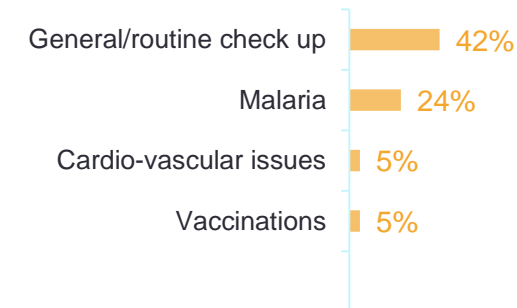
Q24. Has the COVID-19 crisis made it more difficult to obtain medications you need for you or your household or has it had no impact? If you do not need medications, please say so.



Reason for Missed, Delayed or Skipped Services:



Types of services missed, delayed or skipped:



Q22. Why have you or another person in your household delayed, skipped or been unable to complete health care visits since the COVID-19 crisis?

Q23. And do you mind if I ask what those delayed, missed or not completed health care visits were for?

Economic and Food Relief Measures



Barriers and Difficulties Purchasing Food

	Total	Male	Female	Urban	Rural	HH income < 100USD	HH income 500+
EXPERIENCED 'ANY' BARRIER ONE DAY OR MORE:	75	72	78	73	76	80	65
<i>Experienced 1 day or more:</i>							
...had difficulties in going to food markets due to restrictions imposed	35	33	37	33	34	38	28
...had difficulties in buying food due to most food markets being closed?	36	34	39	33	37	42	34
...been unable to buy the amount of food you usually buy because of shortages in the markets	47	46	48	47	48	52	44
...been unable to buy the amount of food you usually buy because the price was too high?	59	55	63	57	63	67	45
...been unable to buy the amount of food you usually buy because your income has dropped?	51	48	57	54	53	57	46

Q17. In the past 7 days, how many days have you or someone in your household experienced any of the following?



Impact on Income: % Reporting Income is Smaller than last year	84%
Women	83%
Men	85%
Low Income (HH Income <100)	88%
High Income (HH Income 501+)	73%
Urban	83%
Rural	85%

Q18. How does the amount of money you made in the past 7 days compare to the amount you made this time last year? Is it... Bigger, Smaller, Stayed the Same, Don't make any, Don't know.



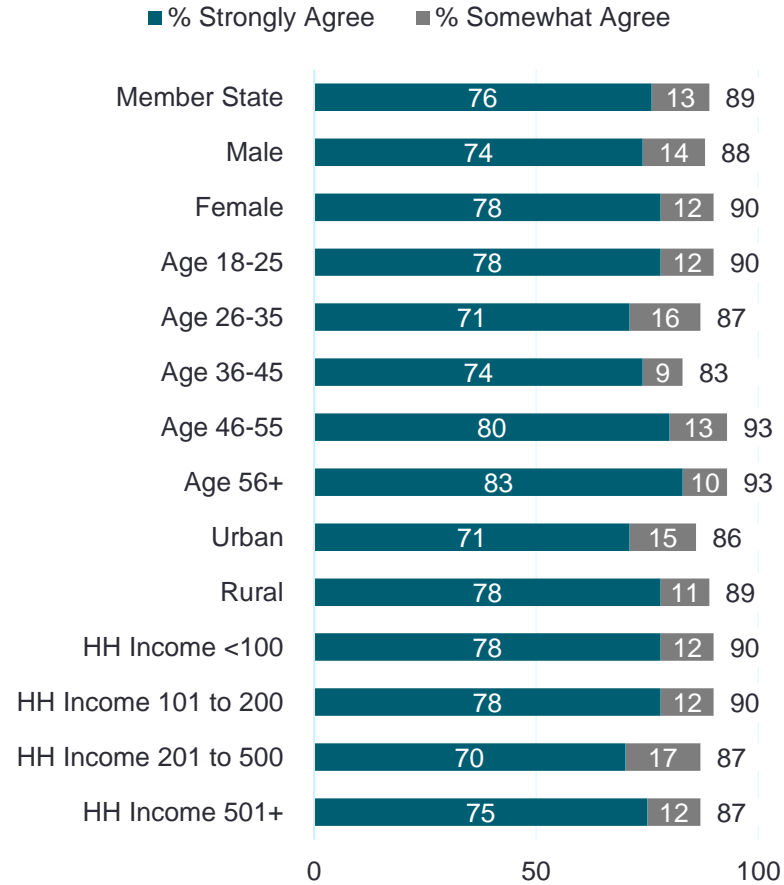
Impact on Unpaid work: % Reporting More Hours on Unpaid Work	27%
Women	29%
Men	25%
Low Income (HH Income <100)	29%
High Income (HH Income 501+)	21%
Urban	26%
Rural	28%

Q19. Since the crisis began, have you had a change in your hours spent on unpaid work, such as childcare, care of the elderly and housework? More hours, less hours, no change in hours, don't know.

Concerns about resuming normal activities



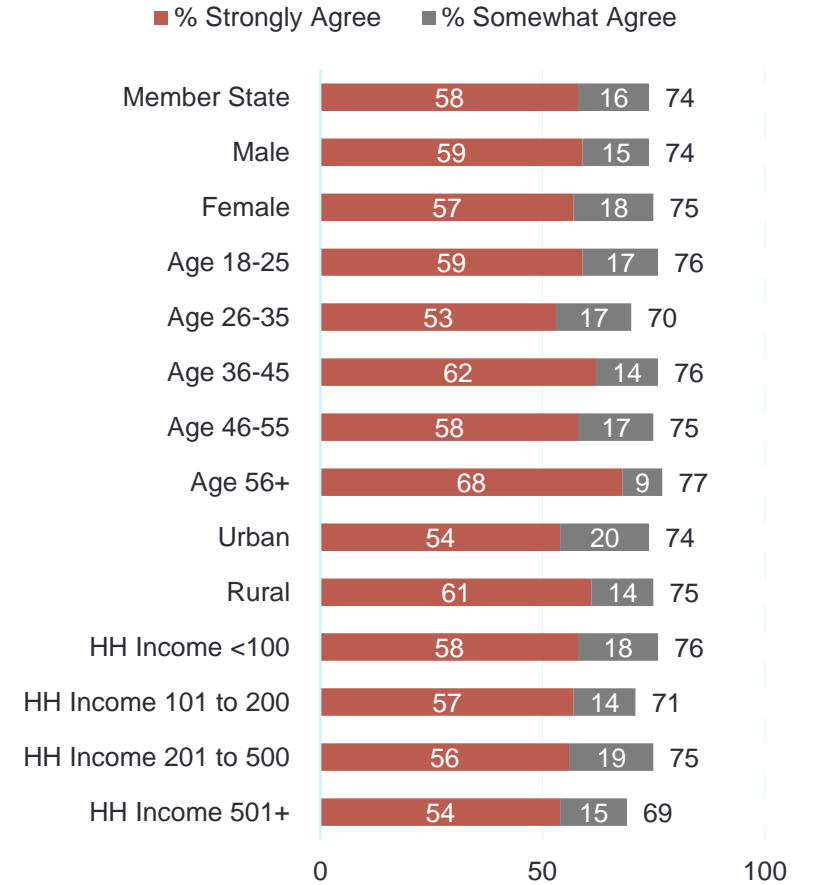
Thinking about resuming normal activities after the lockdown makes me feel very anxious



Q15. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



I would feel comfortable taking public transportation such as local buses or trains if it was not too busy

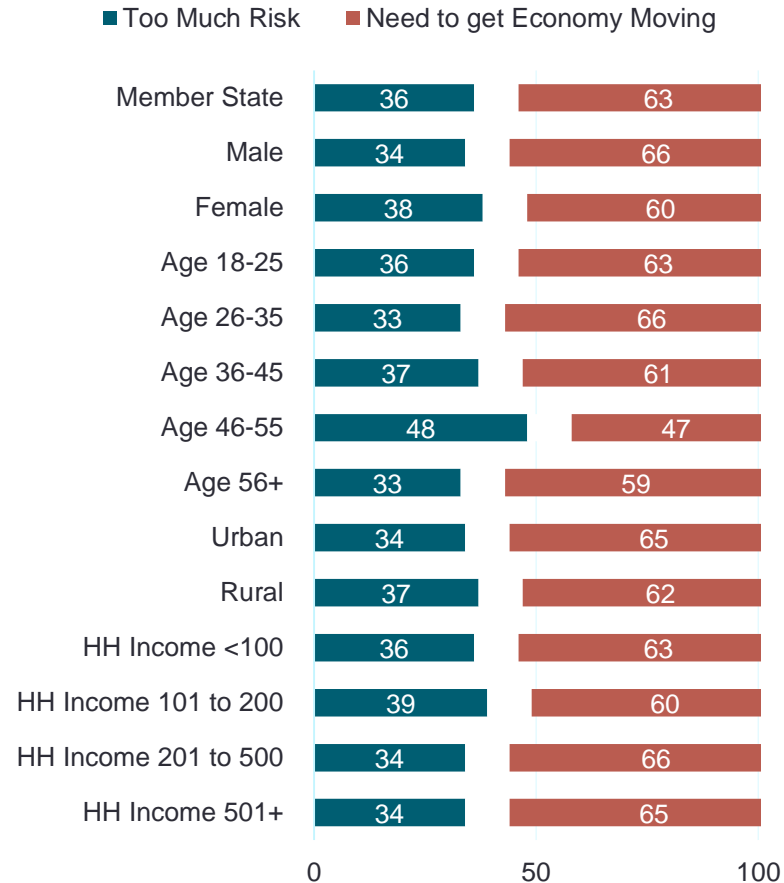


Q15. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

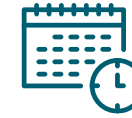
Expectations about COVID-19



Loosening Restrictions: “too risky to loosen restrictions” versus “there is a low risk and need to get economy moving”



Q16. Some people say that loosening restrictions now puts too many people at risk of contracting COVID-19 and we need to wait at least a few more weeks. Other people say that the health risk is minimal if people follow social distancing rules and we need to get the economy moving again. Which is closer to your point of view?



It will be at least six months before COVID-19 is contained



Q15. To what extent to you agree or disagree with the following statements?

For more information, contact:

Stephanie Salyer, DVM, MPH
Africa-CDC
stephanies@africa-union.org

Nandita Murukutla, PhD
Vital Strategies
nmurukutla@vitalstrategies.org



Partnership for Evidence-Based
Response to COVID-19

Additional Methodology Details

- The public opinion polling was conducted using a telephone interviewing methodology.
- The questionnaire was developed by Resolve to Save Lives, Ipsos and members of the PERC consortium.
- The polling program was approved by local review boards and all respondents gave explicit permission to participate in the polling.
- Note that where referenced, income categories should be interpreted as indicative as sample sizes vary and income reporting can be subject to bias.
- The weighted sample sizes for the demographic breaks in this report are as follows:

	Total	Male	Female	18-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56+	Urban	Rural	Under 100	101 - 200	201 - 500	501+
Base: All	1200	606	594	601	360	141	59	39	473	727	473	220	188	71

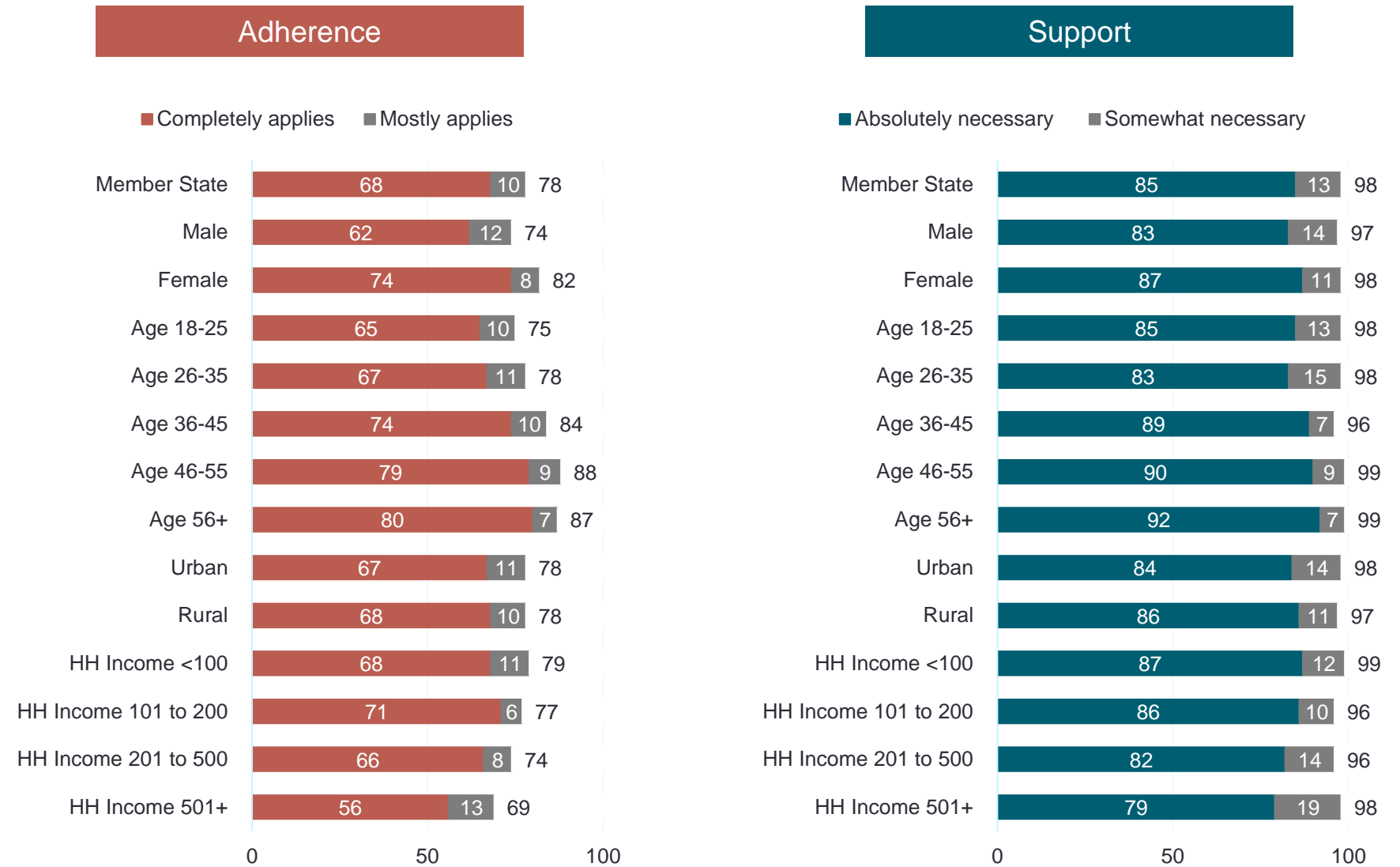
- The percentages reported in this document may be different from percentages reported in other PERC products and communication of this data. Differences may be reconciled by investigating the denominator used, as indicated in each instance of use.



Partnership for Evidence-Based
Response to COVID-19

PERSONAL Public health and social measure (PHSM)

Washing my hands many times per day

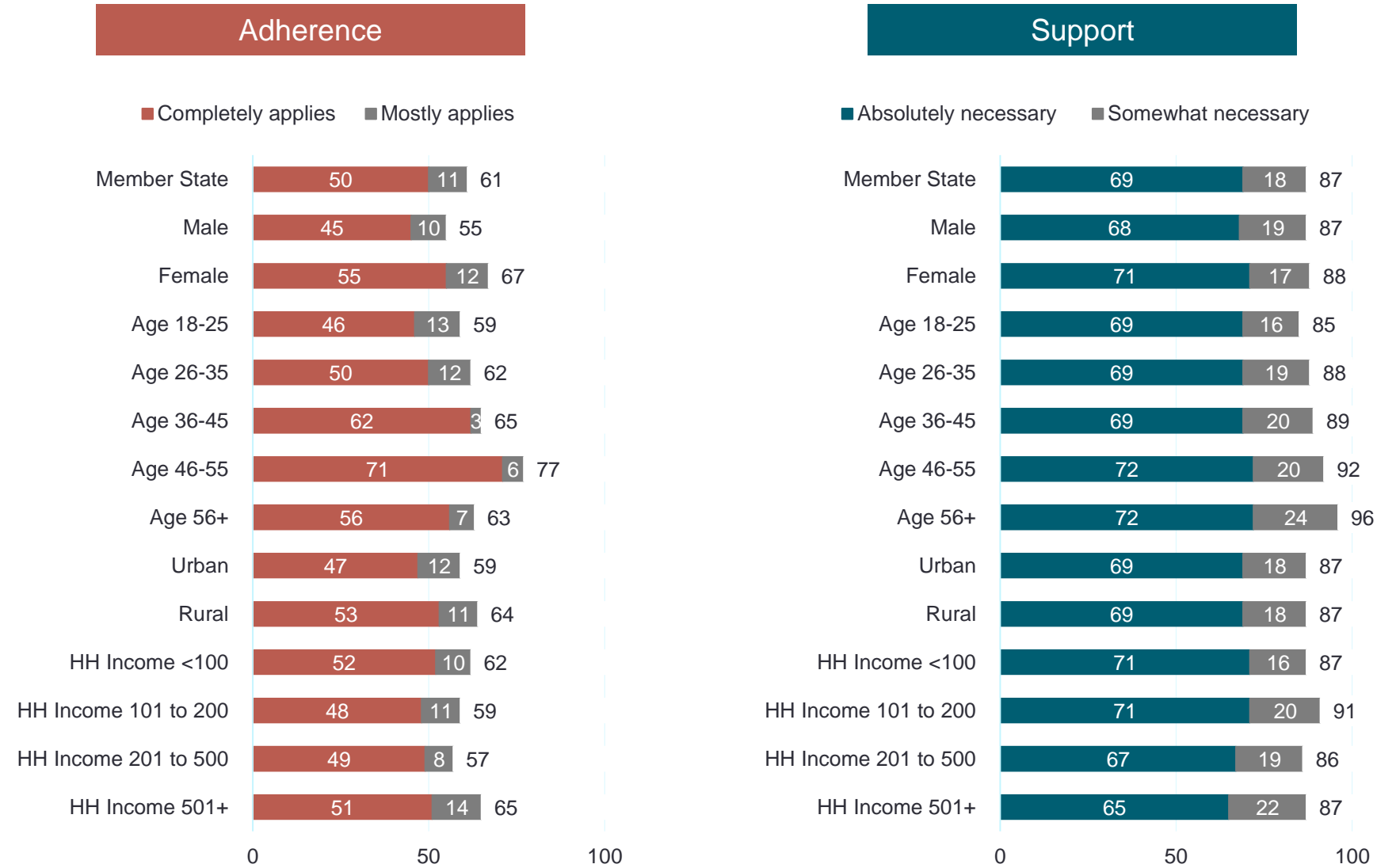


Q13. Over the past seven days, to what extent do each of the following describe you personally?: Washing my hands with soap or using hand sanitizer many times per day

Q14. Thinking of the last four weeks, was asking people to do each of the following absolutely necessary, somewhat necessary, or not really necessary to limiting the spread of COVID-19 in Guinea Conakry?: ...wash their hands with soap or use hand sanitizer more often than they used to

PERSONAL Public health and social measure (PHSM)

Avoiding handshakes and physical greetings

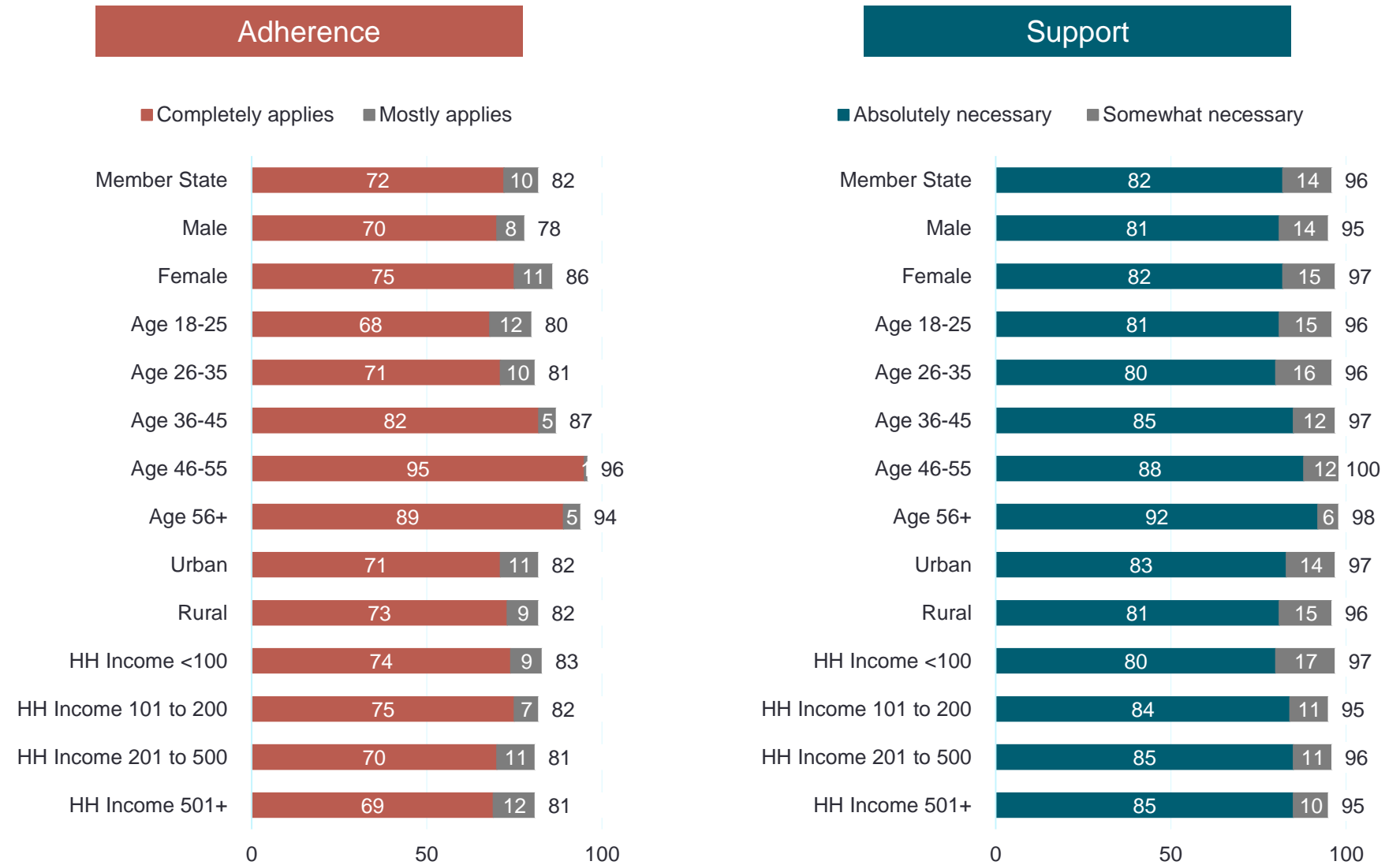


Q13. Over the past seven days, to what extent do each of the following describe you personally?: Avoiding handshakes and physical greetings

Q14. Thinking of the last four weeks, was asking people to do each of the following absolutely necessary, somewhat necessary, or not really necessary to limiting the spread of COVID-19 in Guinea Conkary?: Avoiding handshakes and physical greetings

PERSONAL Public health and social measure (PHSM)

Wearing a face mask in public when near others

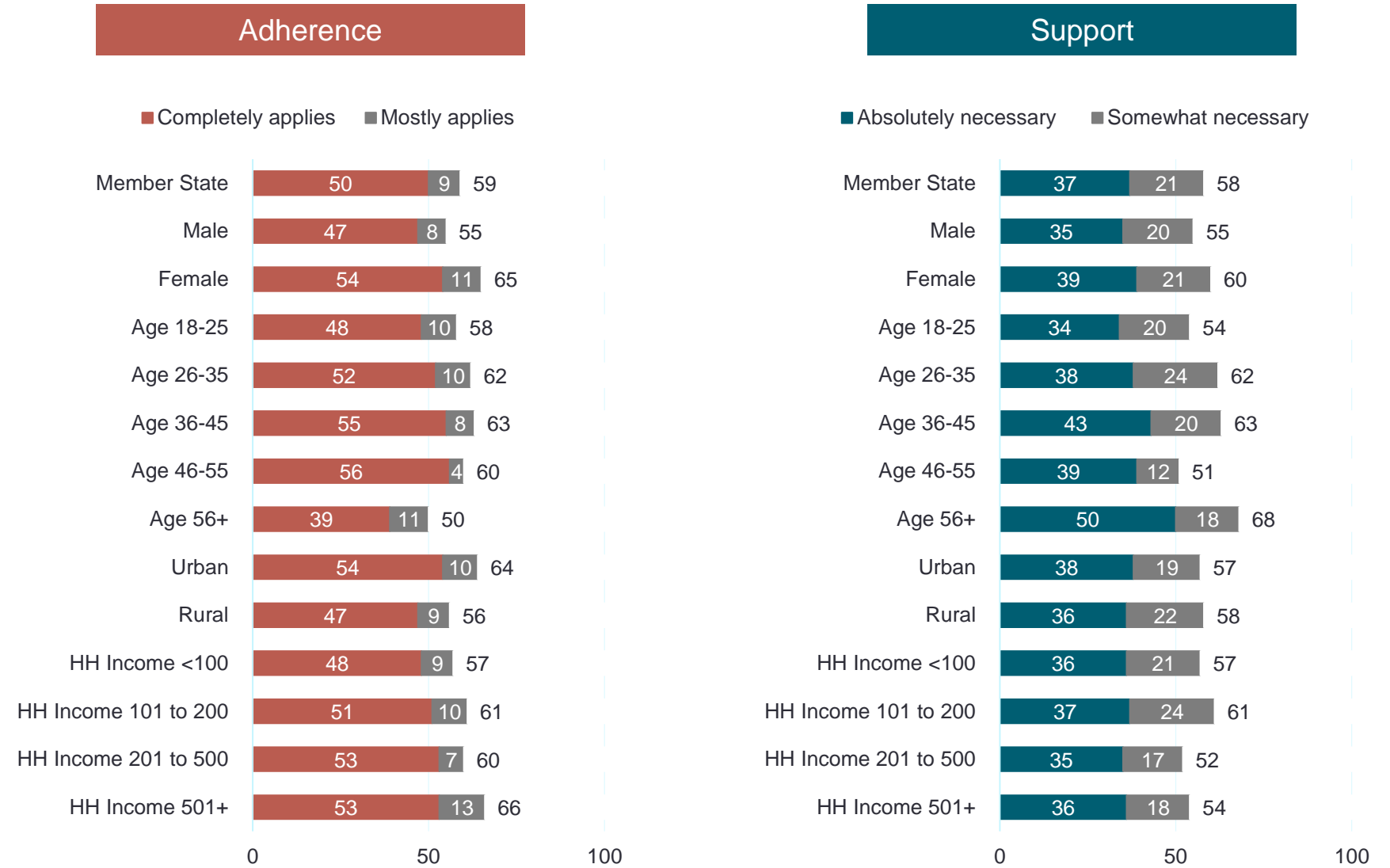


Q13. Over the past seven days, to what extent do each of the following describe you personally?: Wearing a face mask in public when near others

Q14. Thinking of the last four weeks, was asking people to do each of the following absolutely necessary, somewhat necessary, or not really necessary to limiting the spread of COVID-19 in Guinea Conkary?: Wearing a face mask in public

PUBLIC GATHERING Public health and social measure (PHSM)

Avoiding the church/mosque



Q13. Over the past seven days, to what extent do each of the following describe you personally?: Avoiding the church/mosque

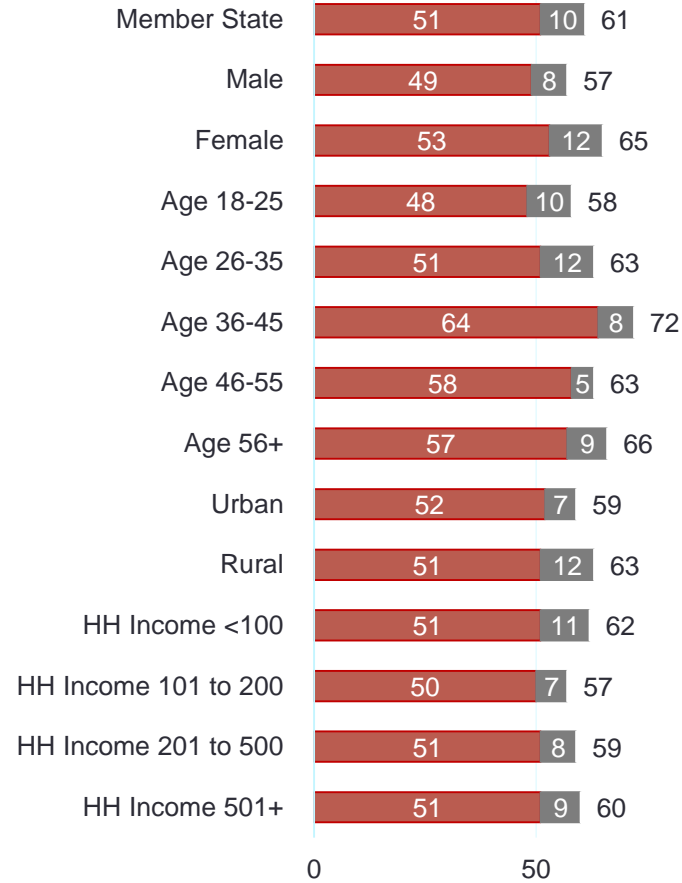
Q14. Thinking of the last four weeks, was asking people to do each of the following absolutely necessary, somewhat necessary, or not really necessary to limiting the spread of COVID-19 in Guinea Conkary?: Avoiding the church/mosque

PUBLIC GATHERING Public health and social measure (PHSM)

Avoiding public gatherings and places of entertainment

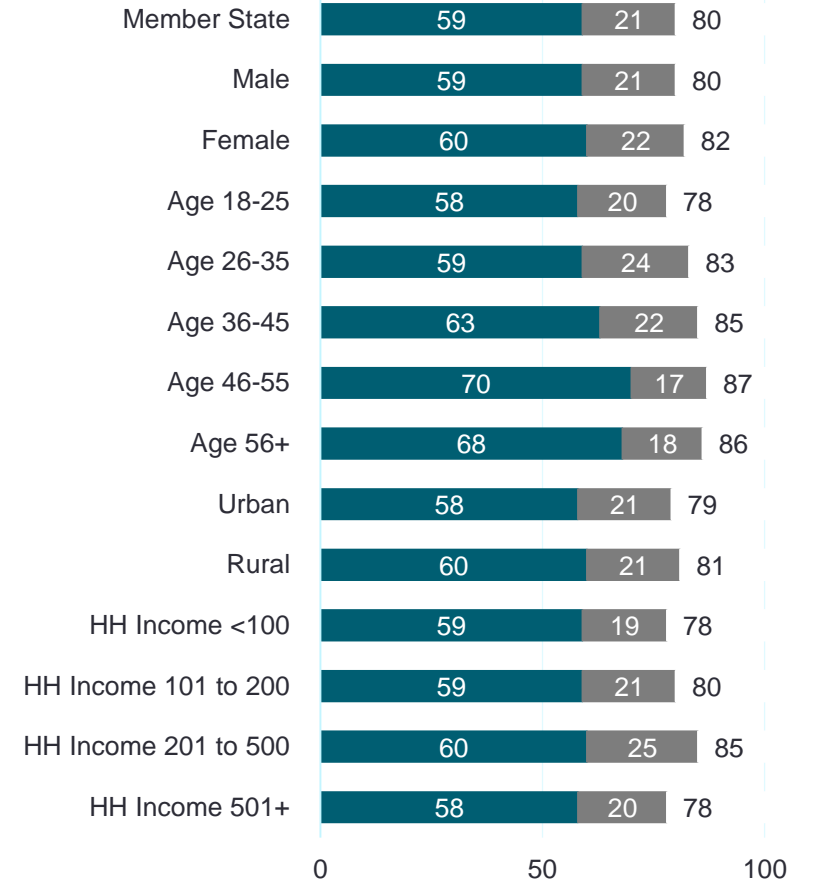
Adherence

■ Completely applies ■ Mostly applies



Support

■ Absolutely necessary ■ Somewhat necessary



Q13. Over the past seven days, to what extent do each of the following describe you personally?: Avoiding public gatherings and places of entertainment

Q14. Thinking of the last four weeks, was asking people to do each of the following absolutely necessary, somewhat necessary, or not really necessary to limiting the spread of COVID-19 in Guinea Conkary?: Avoiding public gatherings and places of entertainment

MOBILITY Public health and social measure (PHSM)

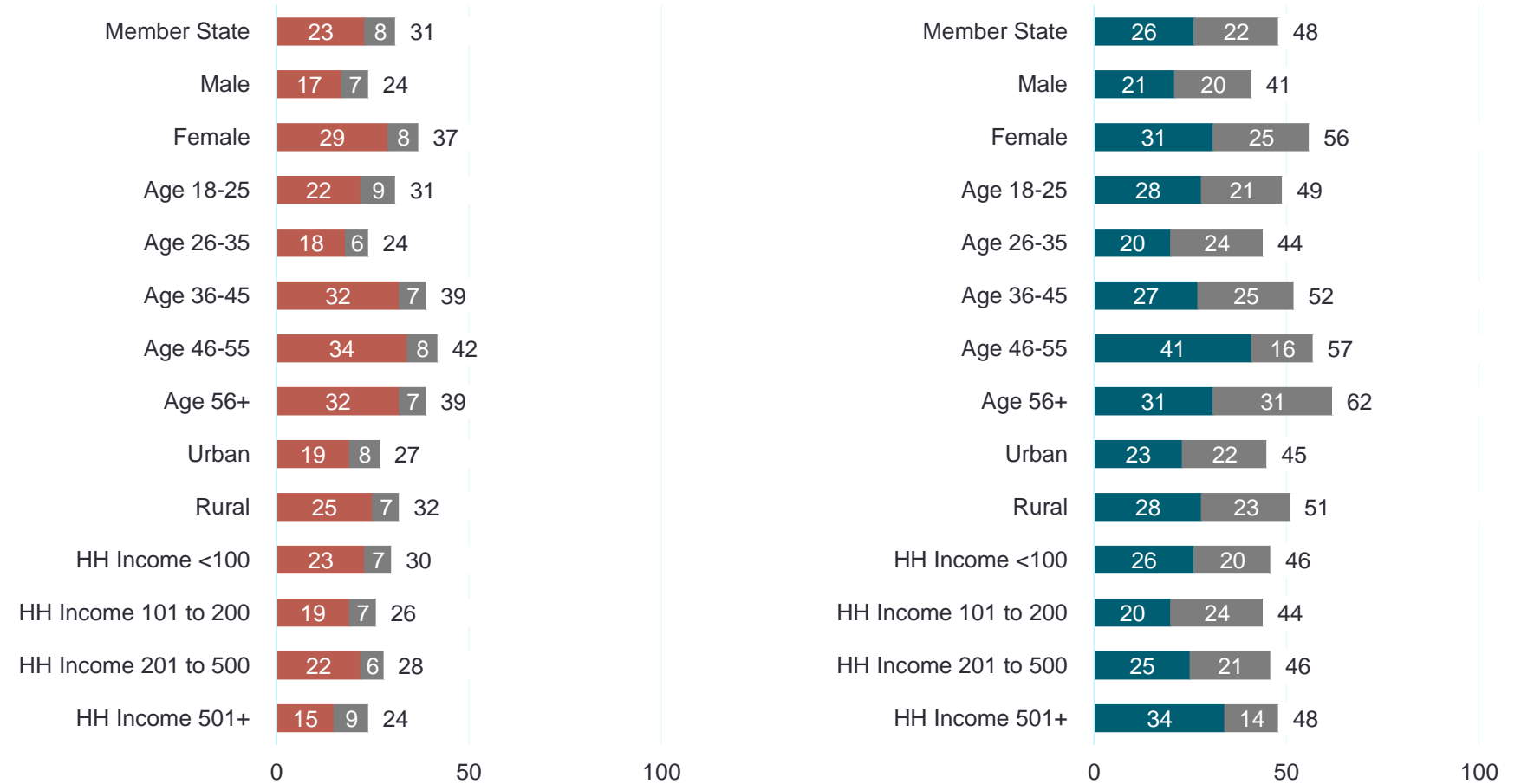
Staying home instead of going to work, school or other regular activities

Adherence

Support

■ Completely applies ■ Mostly applies

■ Absolutely necessary ■ Somewhat necessary



Q13. Over the past seven days, to what extent do each of the following describe you personally?: Staying home instead of going to work, school or other regular activities

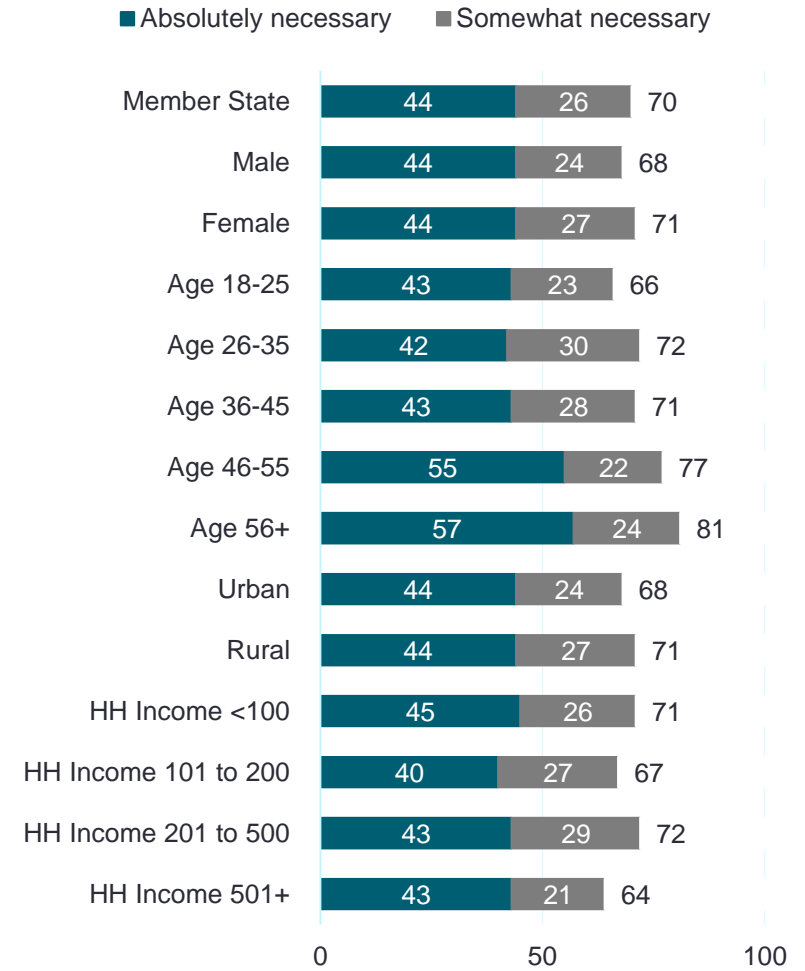
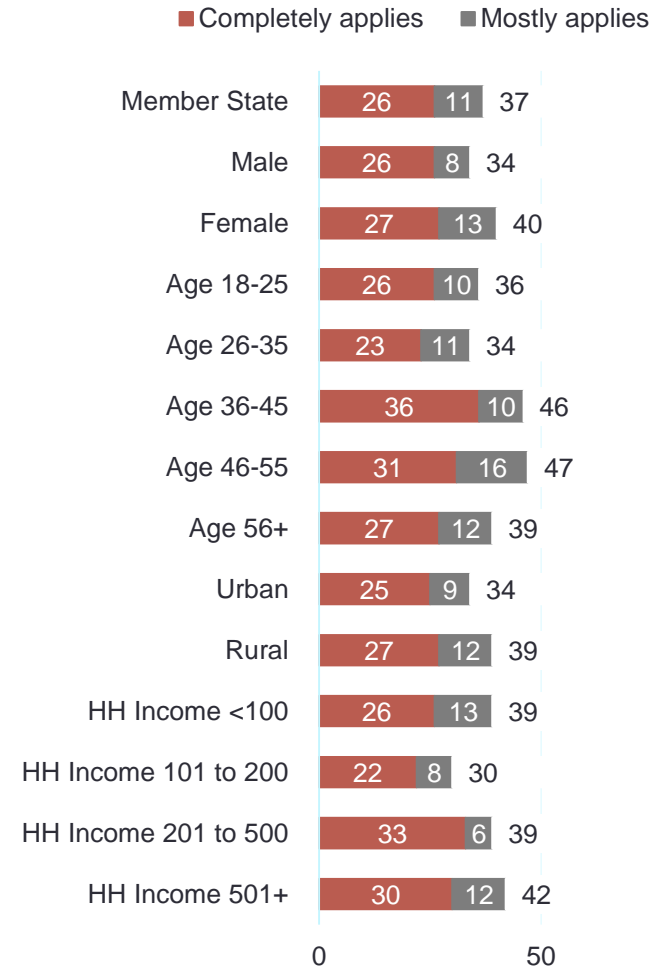
Q14. Thinking of the last four weeks, was asking people to do each of the following absolutely necessary, somewhat necessary, or not really necessary to limiting the spread of COVID-19 in Guinea Conkary?: Staying home instead of going to work, school or other regular activities

MOBILITY Public health and social measure (PHSM)

Reducing the number of times I go to the market or grocery store

Adherence

Support



Q13. Over the past seven days, to what extent do each of the following describe you personally?: Reducing the number of times I go to the market or grocery store

Q14. Thinking of the last four weeks, was asking people to do each of the following absolutely necessary, somewhat necessary, or not really necessary to limiting the spread of COVID-19 in Guinea Conkary?: Reducing the number of times I go to the market or grocery store