

Research findings dissemination program of online survey on 'women's workload during COVID 19 Lockdown



WOREC

15 June, 2020

Researchers

Shristi Kolakshyapati, Binita Pandey, Bindu Sharma, Elawati K.C.

Support : Lubharaj Neupane, Rajyalaxmi Gurung

CONTENTS

A) Problem statement, objectives, methodology and limitations

B) Key findings

(1) Demographic information of respondents

(2) Analysis of major findings

(2.1) Situation of women's workload impacted by COVID 19 lockdown

(2.1.1.) Differences on work burden among women on basis of marital Status

(2.2) workload of women and other family members

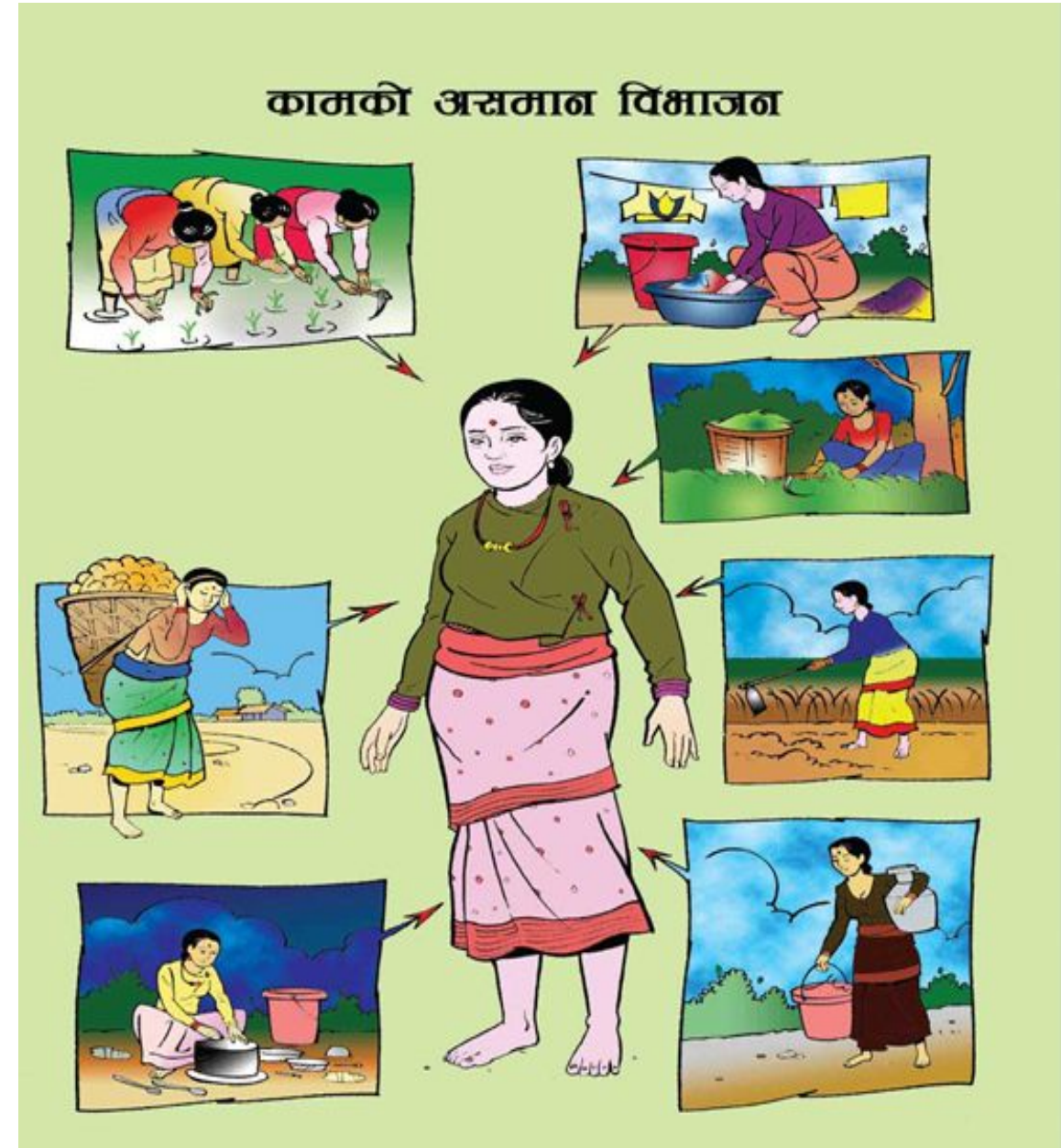
(2.3) Effect on Women Due to Lockdown

(3) Conclusion

(4) Recommendation

PROBLEM STATEMENT

- As outbreak of COVID-19 virus, the pandemic has affected all aspects of human life including the world of work, the women workers who work in both domains (private and public) are among the worst hit in terms of increased workload. For them, the crisis has increased their working hours on “**work from home and work for home**”.
- The working time of women executing at both private and public domains have been increased during this lock down period.
- This study has generated evidence-based fact findings which need special attention during this pandemic.



OBJECTIVES

- **Key Objective** : To generate an overview of the scenario of women working in both domains private and public spaces to see if their workload has been increased during lockdown.
 - To assess the information on the situation of work redistribution in household chores and care work during lockdown after the emergence of covid-19 in Nepal.
 - To analyze the impact of care work burden in the quality of work of women and mental stress for women while working from home.
 - To analyze the perception on work load of women that are taken under the survey
 - To support WOREC's ongoing campaign on Recognition of Unpaid Care Work of Women

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- Online questionnaire Survey (3 minutes to 5 minutes), Telephone Interview
- Google form, Convenient Sampling
- Consent of respondent was taken and anonymity was duly maintained.
- Responses were collected for 8 days (May 3 to May 10, 2020)
- Data analysis was done from Google form and SPSS .
- **Respondents:**
 - A total of 317 responses from 29 districts of all 7 Provinces
 - The average age range of the survey respondents was 21 to 35 years.

LIMITATIONS

Subjective Limitations:

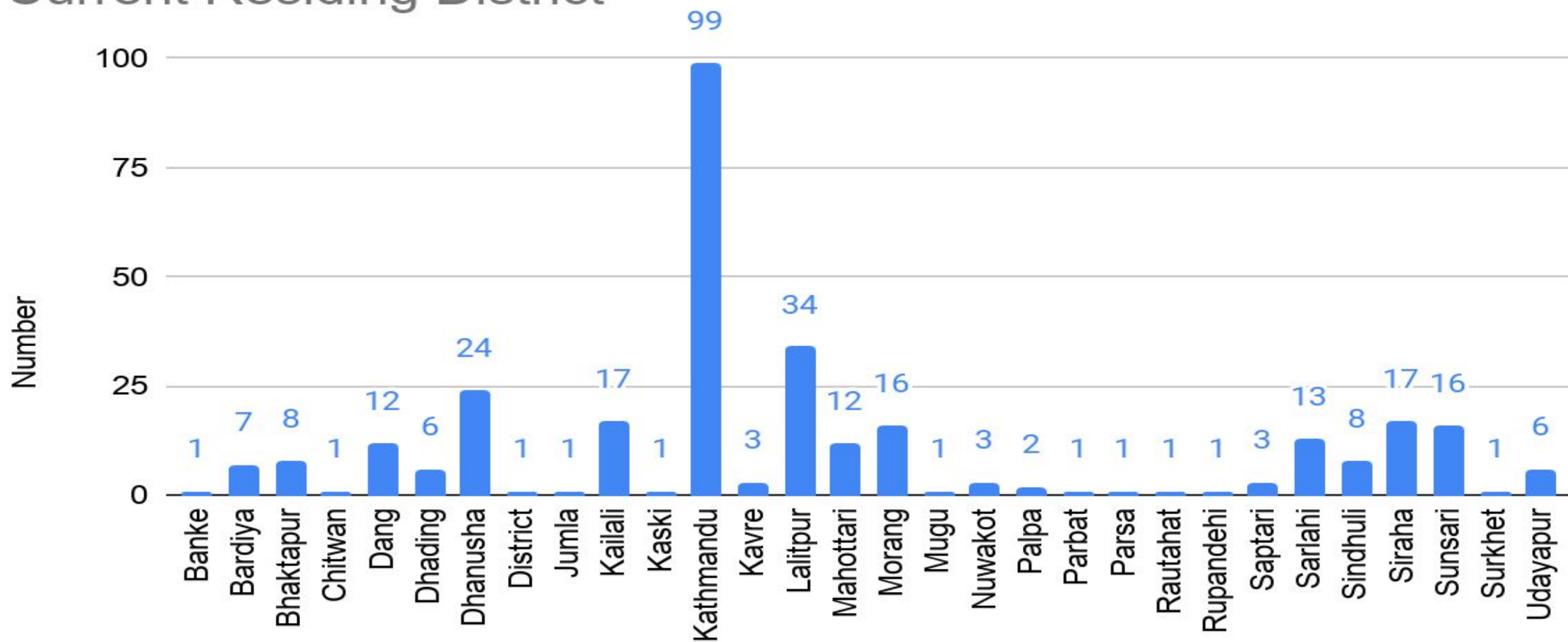
- This study does not include women working in the all sectors. It has only targeted the workload of women working in both public and private domains.
- It has only studied and analyzed the impacts/effects of COVID-19 lockdown in women's workload.

Data collection limitations:

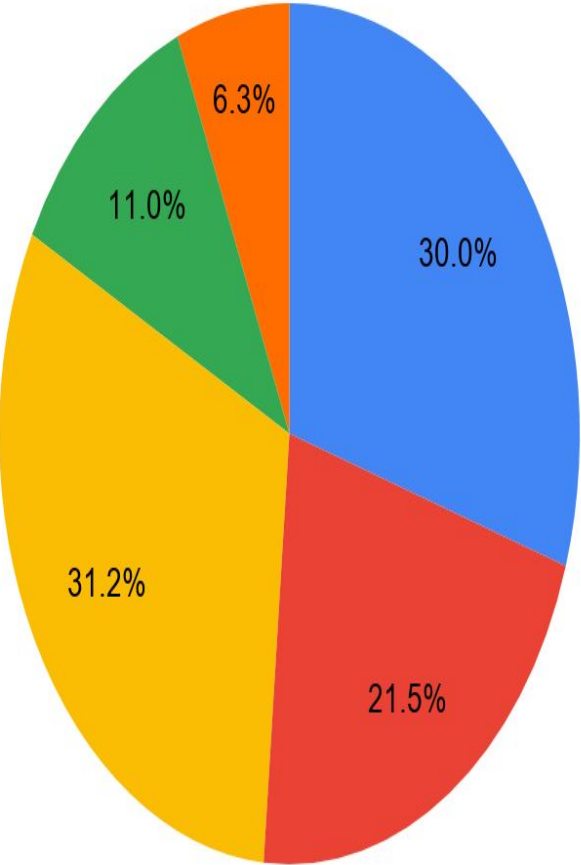
- Inaccessibility to reach to women having no internet access,
- No possibility of two-way communication between researchers and respondent for clarification, and
- Possibility of group biases and researcher's individual biases during phone interview.

1. Respondents' Demographic Details

Current Residing District

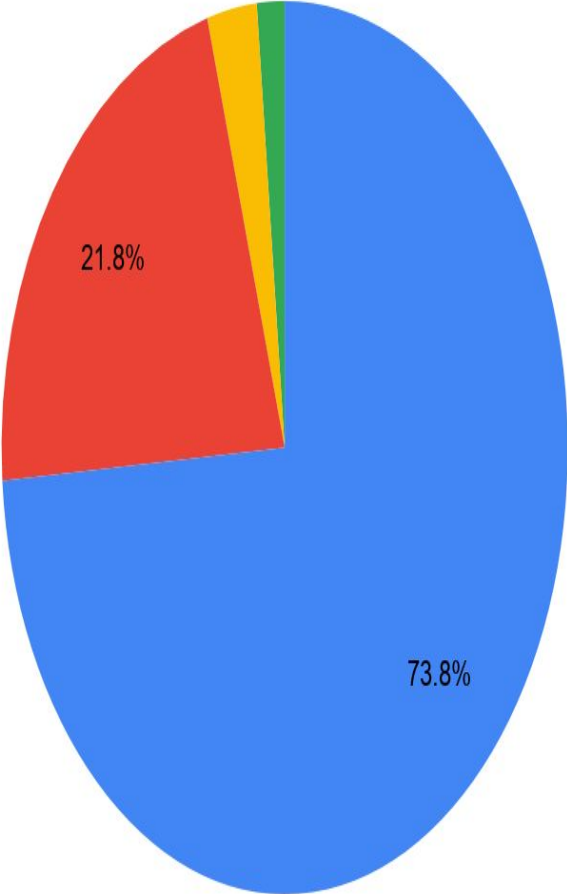


Caste / Ethnicity



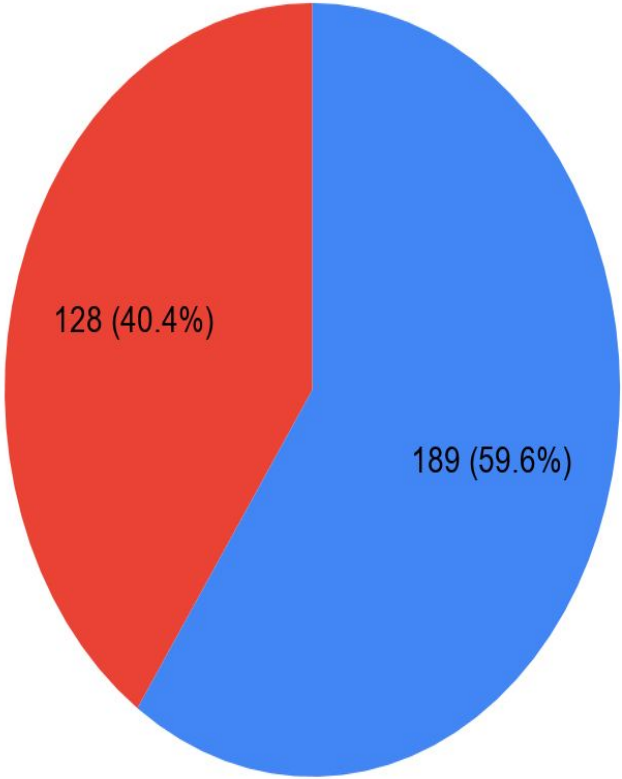
- Indigenous
- Chettri
- Brahmin
- Others
- Dalit

Marital Status



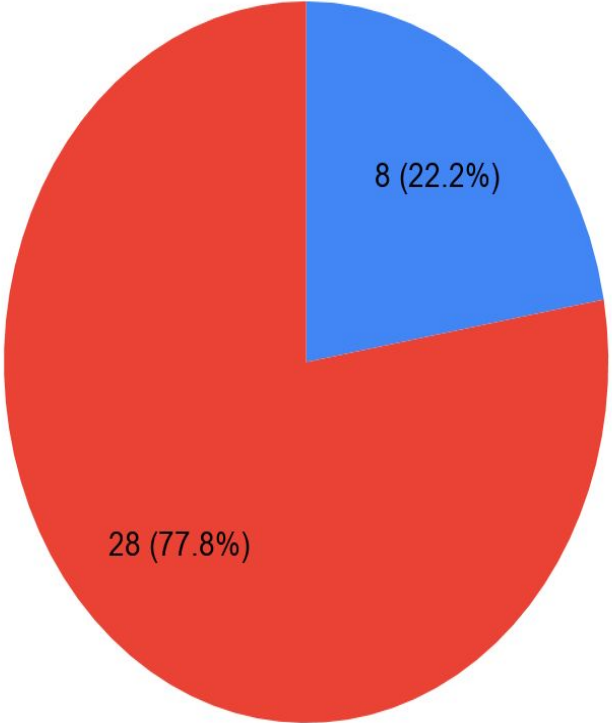
- Married
- Unmarried
- Divorced
- Widow

Family Type



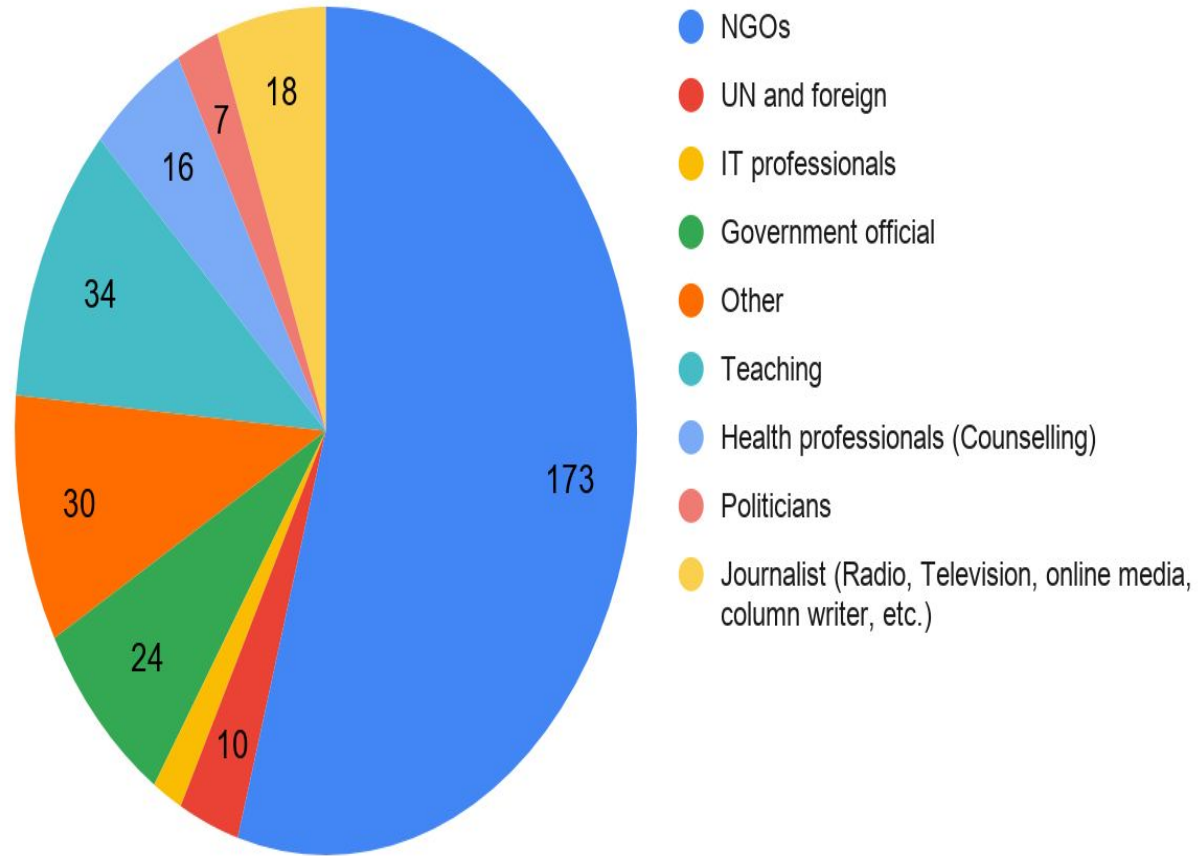
- Nuclear
- Joint

Children

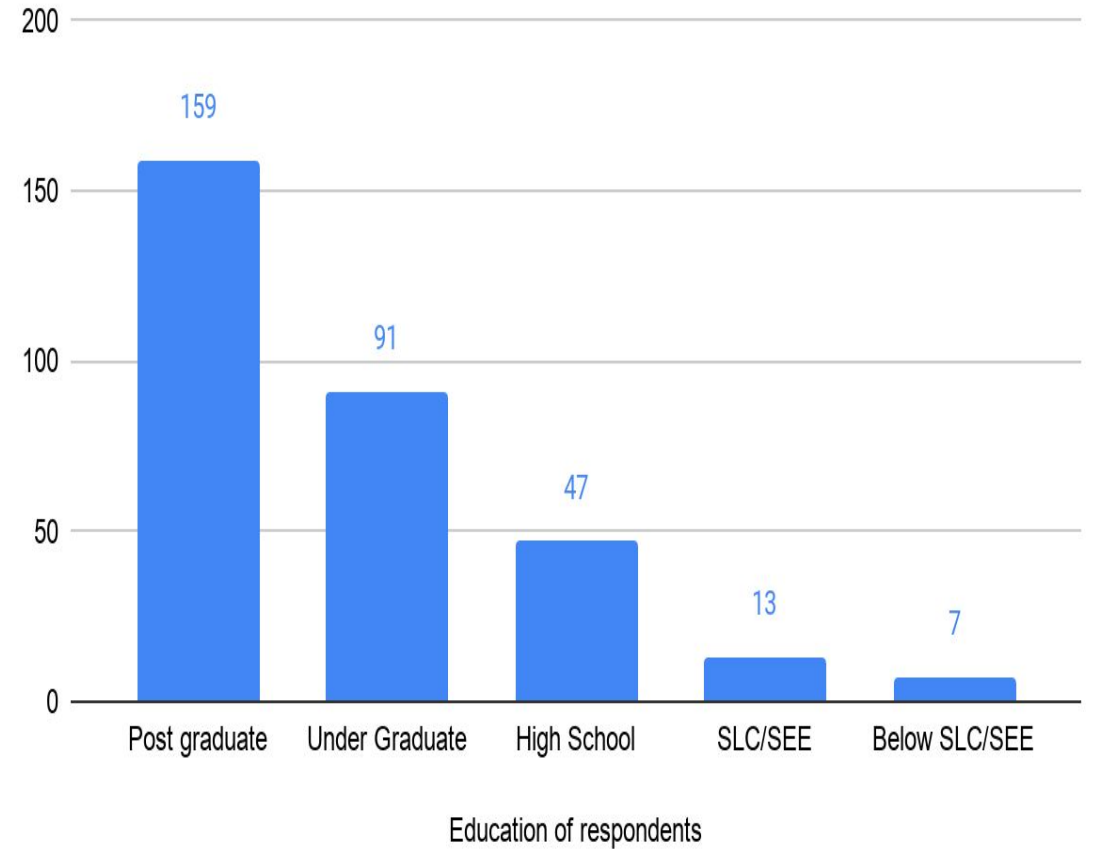


- No
- Yes

Occupation



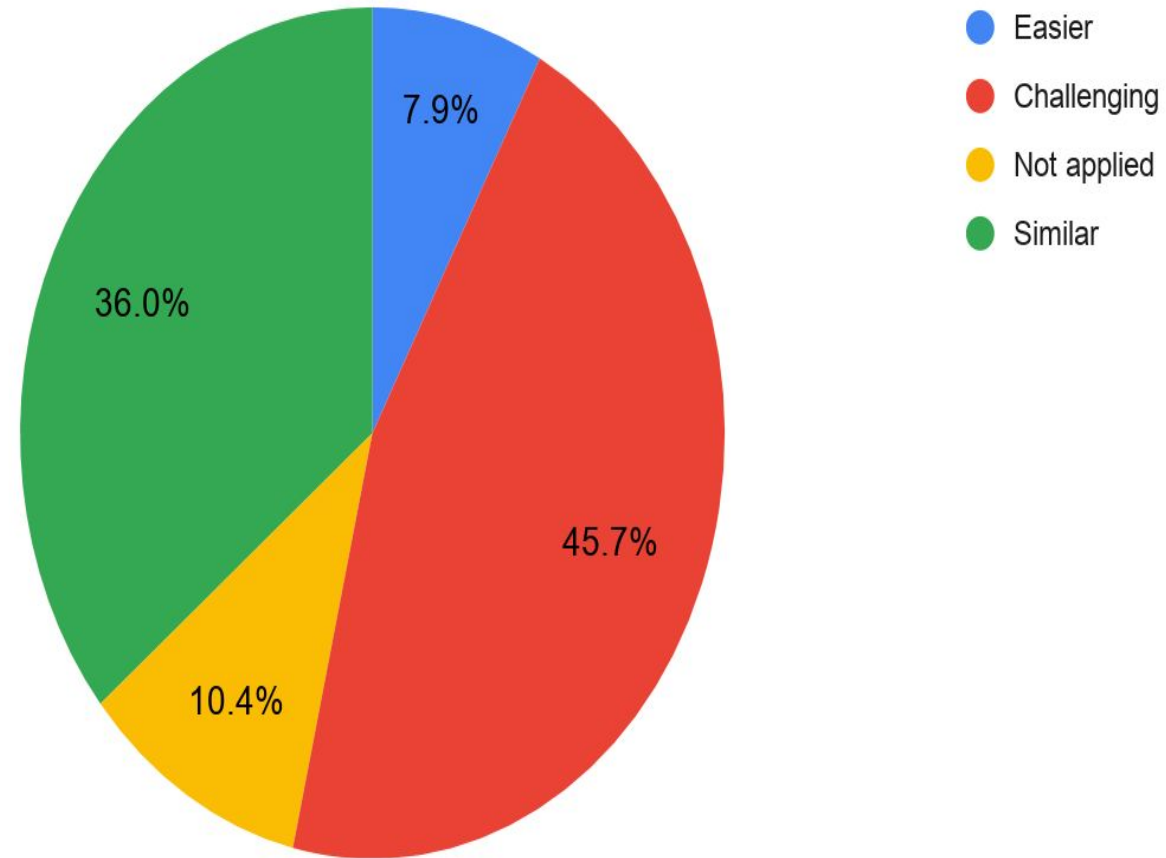
Education



2. Analysis of major findings (Situational Analysis)

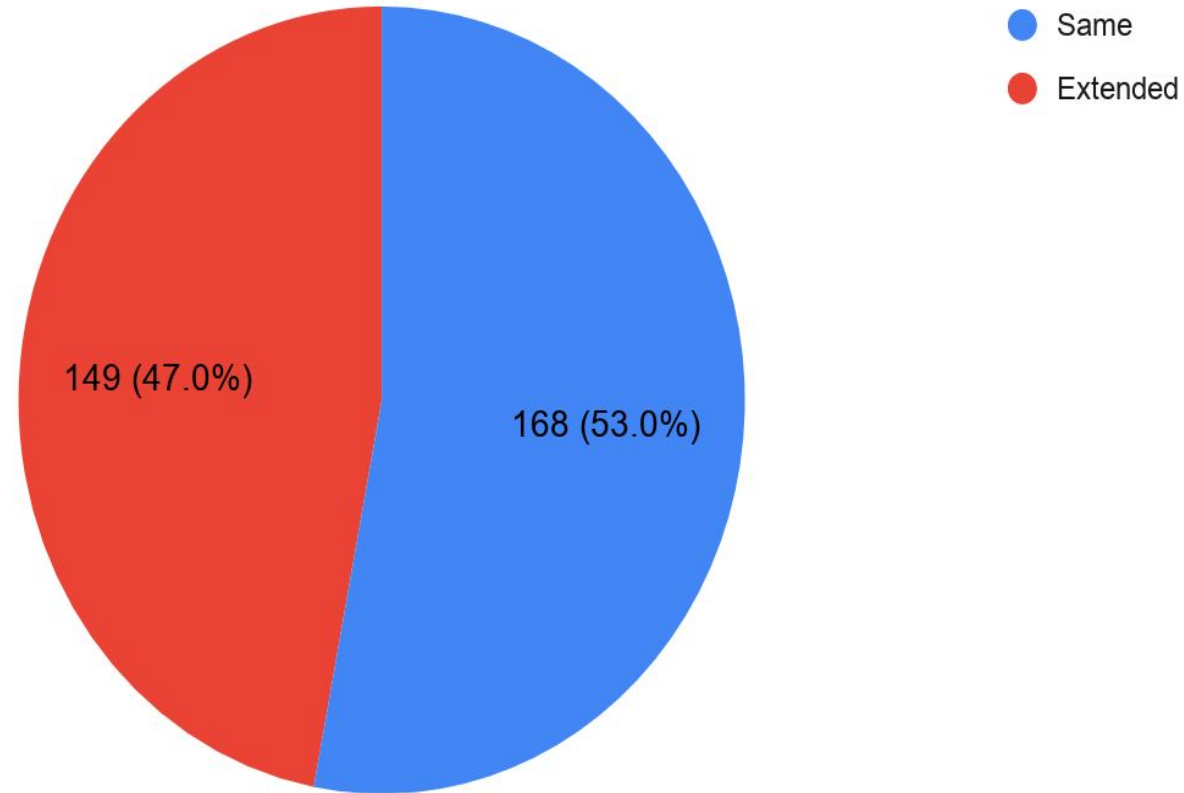
2.1. Analysis on the burden of work due to COVID-19 Lockdown

Burden of Work for home



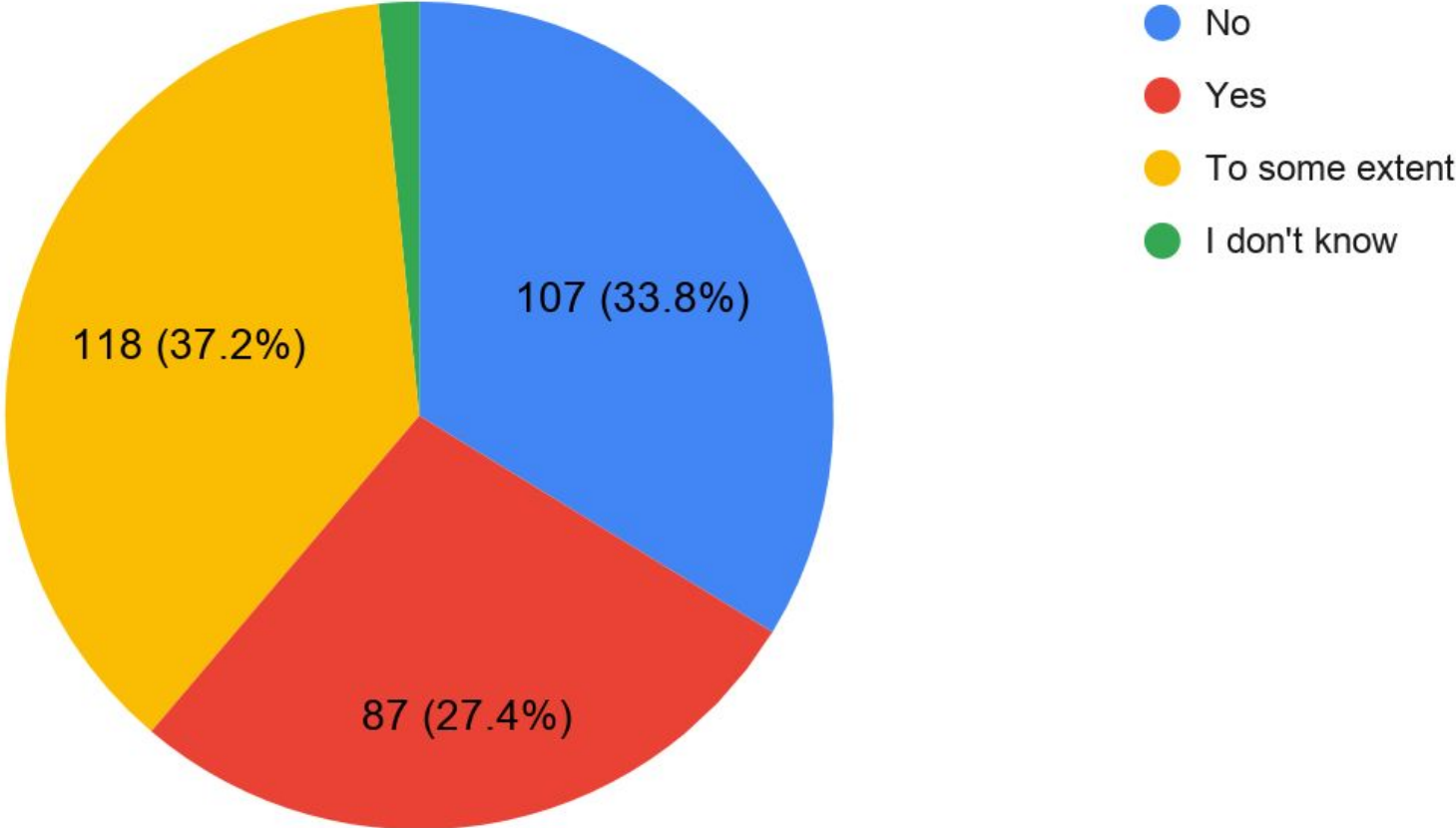
45.7 % of women claimed that “work for home” (household/care work) during the lockdown has been challenging because of the increased care work burden.

Office Workload while working from home



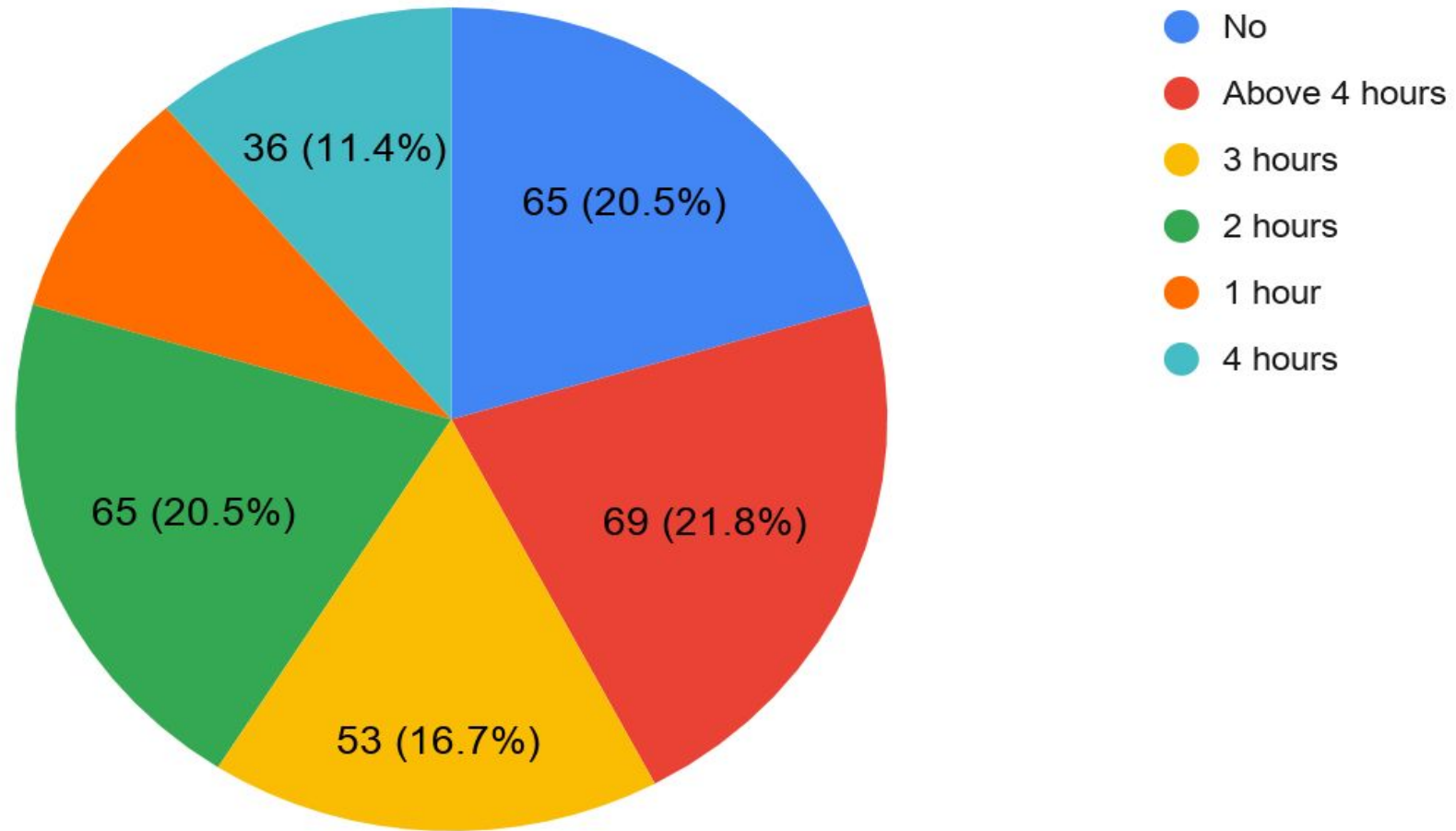
47% of the respondents stated that they had to extend their “work from home” (office work).

Challenges on Balancing "Work from home" and "Work for Home"



64.66% (205) claimed that balancing both "work for home" and "work from home" has been a challenge.

Increase in workload by hour



79.5% respondents stated that the working hours have increased from 1 hour to more than 4 hours

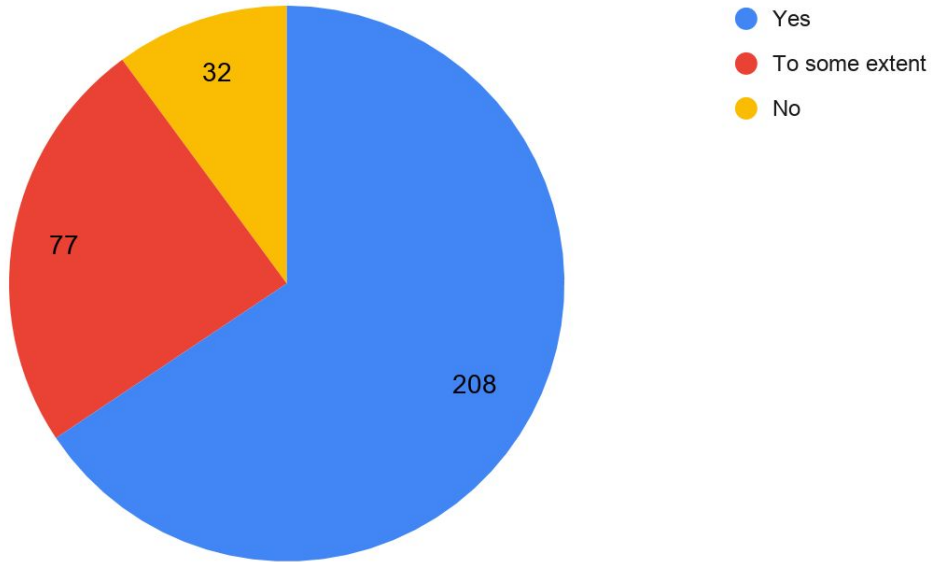
2.1.1 Differences on work burden among women on the basis of marital Status

Analysis on Burden of Work according to marital Status of women					
		Unmarried		Married	
		Count	%	Count	%
Work from home	Same	35	50.70%	128	54.70%
	Extended	34	49.30%	106	45.30%
Work for home	Not involved	15	21.70%	18	7.70%
	Similar	28	40.60%	79	33.80%
	Easier	4	5.80%	20	8.50%
	Challenging	22	31.90%	117	50.00%
Challenges on Balancing both	Yes	10	14.50%	72	30.80%
	To some extent	23	33.30%	90	38.50%
	No	35	50.70%	68	29.10%
	I don't know	1	1.40%	4	1.70%

- **“Work from home”**, Working hours for office have extended for majority of unmarried women yet they find it less challenging. (49.30% > 45.30%)
- **“Work for home”** is comparatively challenging to married women. (50% > 31.9%)
- Balancing **“Work from Home”** and **“Work for Home”** is comparatively challenging to married women (69.3% > 47.5%)

2.2 Workload of women and other family members

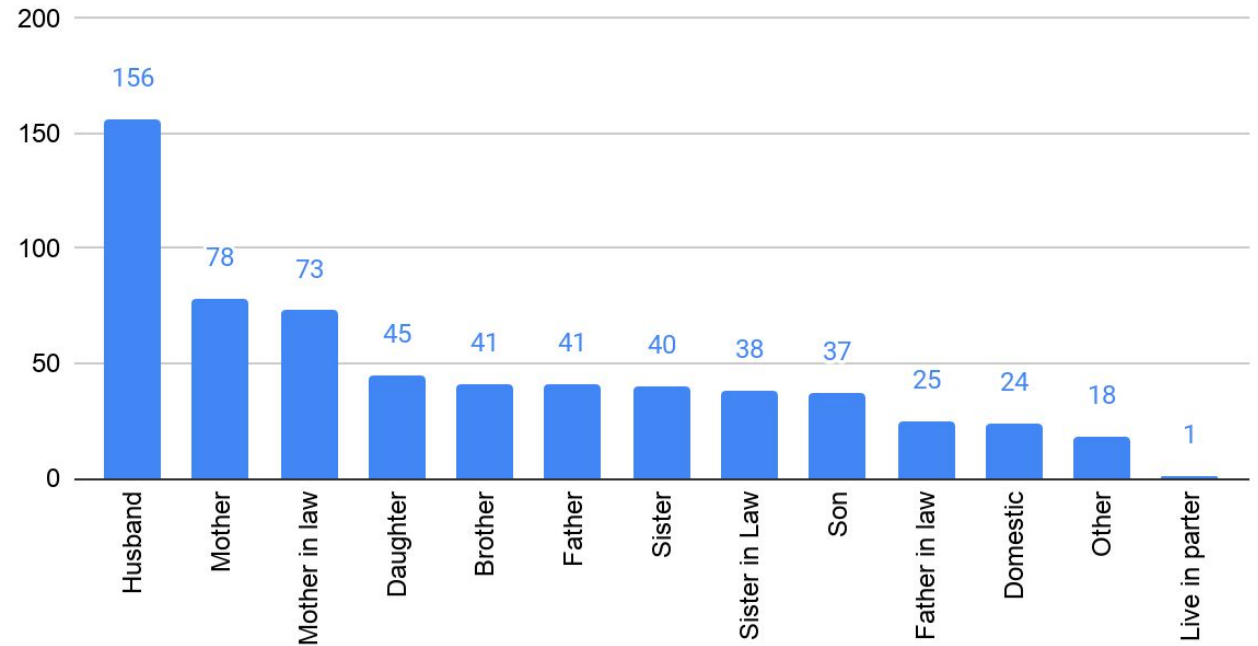
family members being involved in Work at Home



8% (32) of women do not get any help from their family members on carrying **“Work at Home”**

Husband are the most involved family members besides women at “Work at Home”

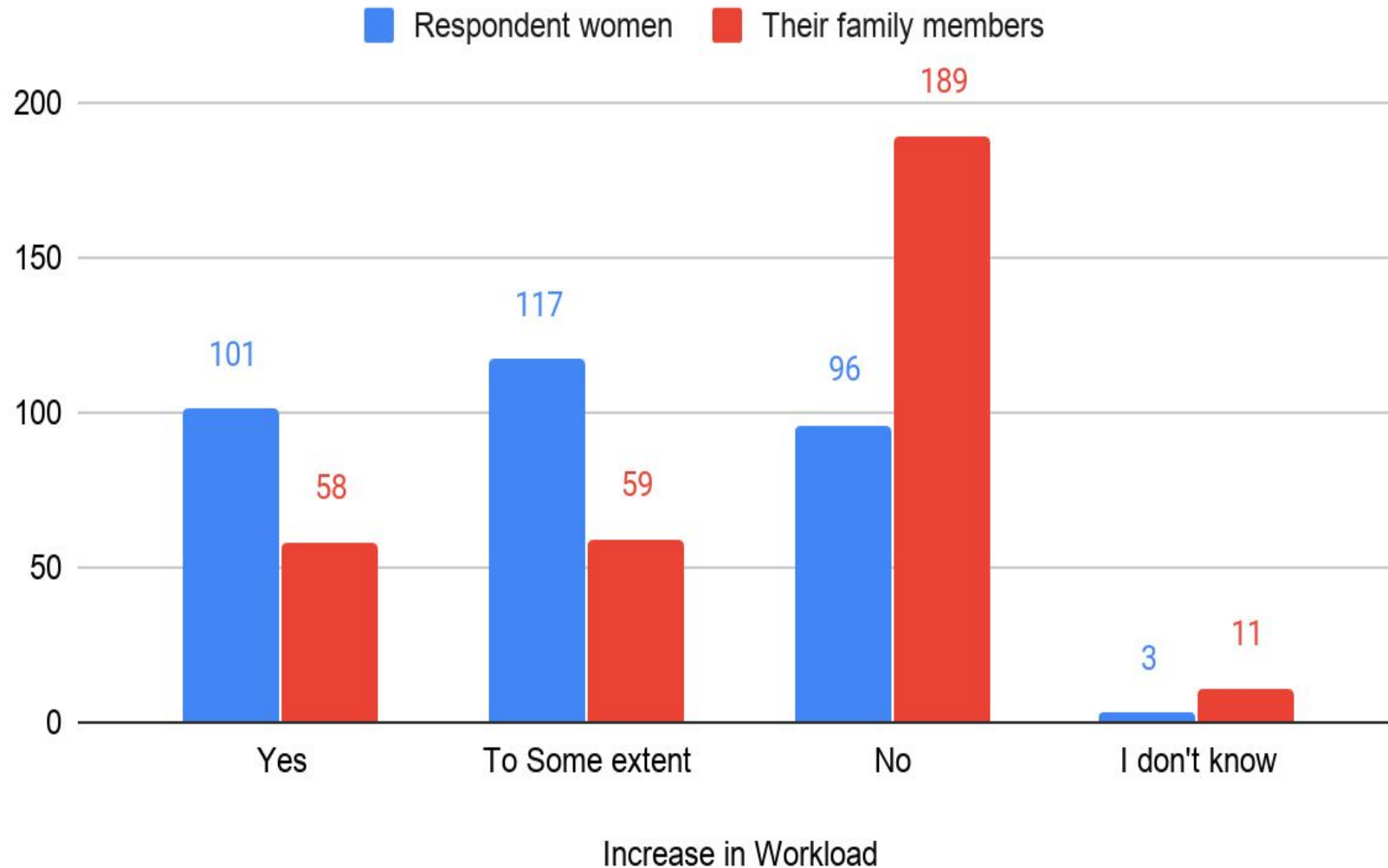
Other family member working at home (from 285 responses)



Among the 234 married Women 156 (66.66), i.e.2/3rd has only stated that their husband assist them at “work at home”.

It further illustrates 1/3rd (33.33%) married women does all household chores either by themselves or with the help of other family members.

Respondent women and Their family members



There is high number of women who state they have increased workload (Yes or To some extent).

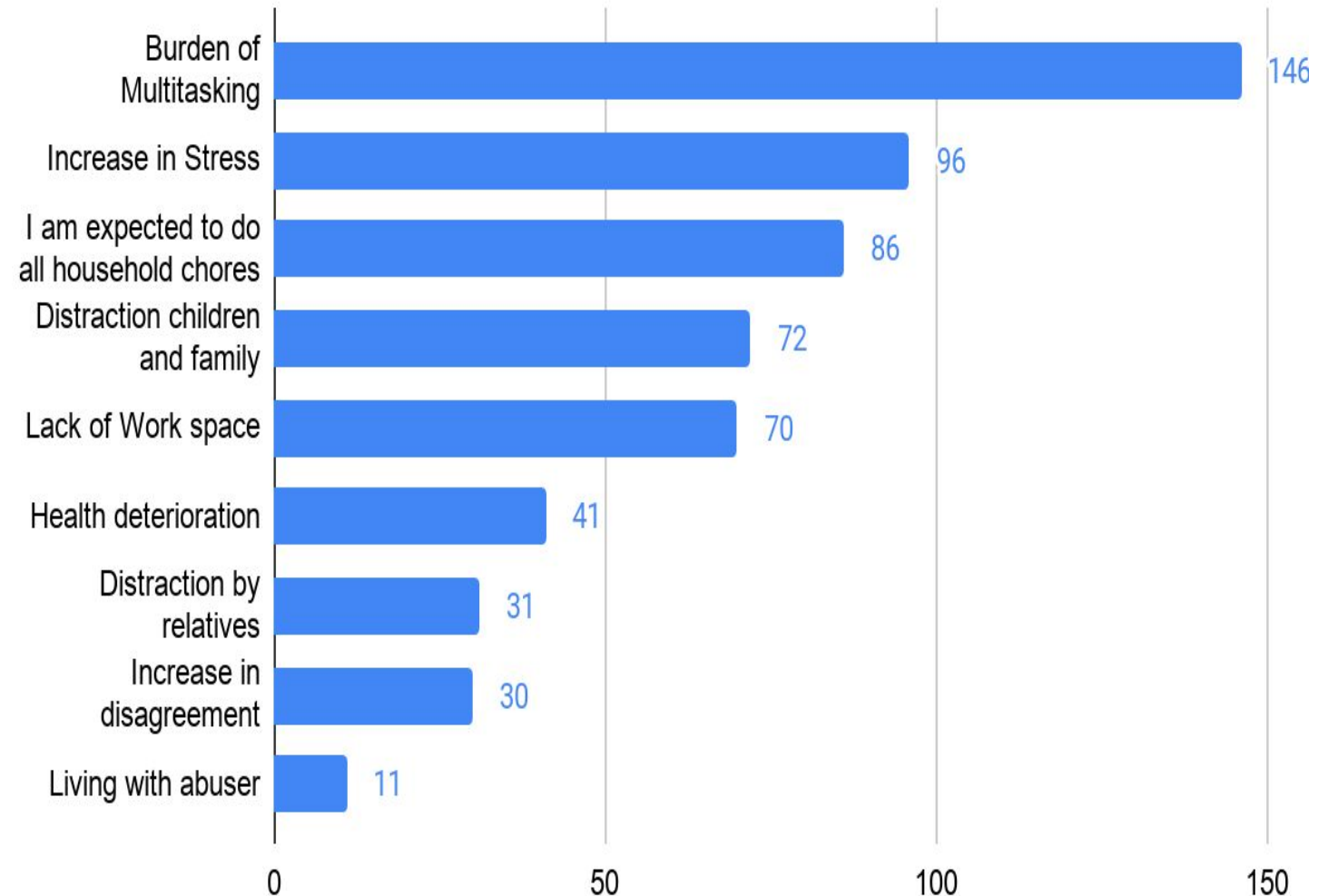
While the number of other family members are high who has not experienced the increased workload during lockdown (No and I don't know)

2.3 Effect on Women Due to Lockdown

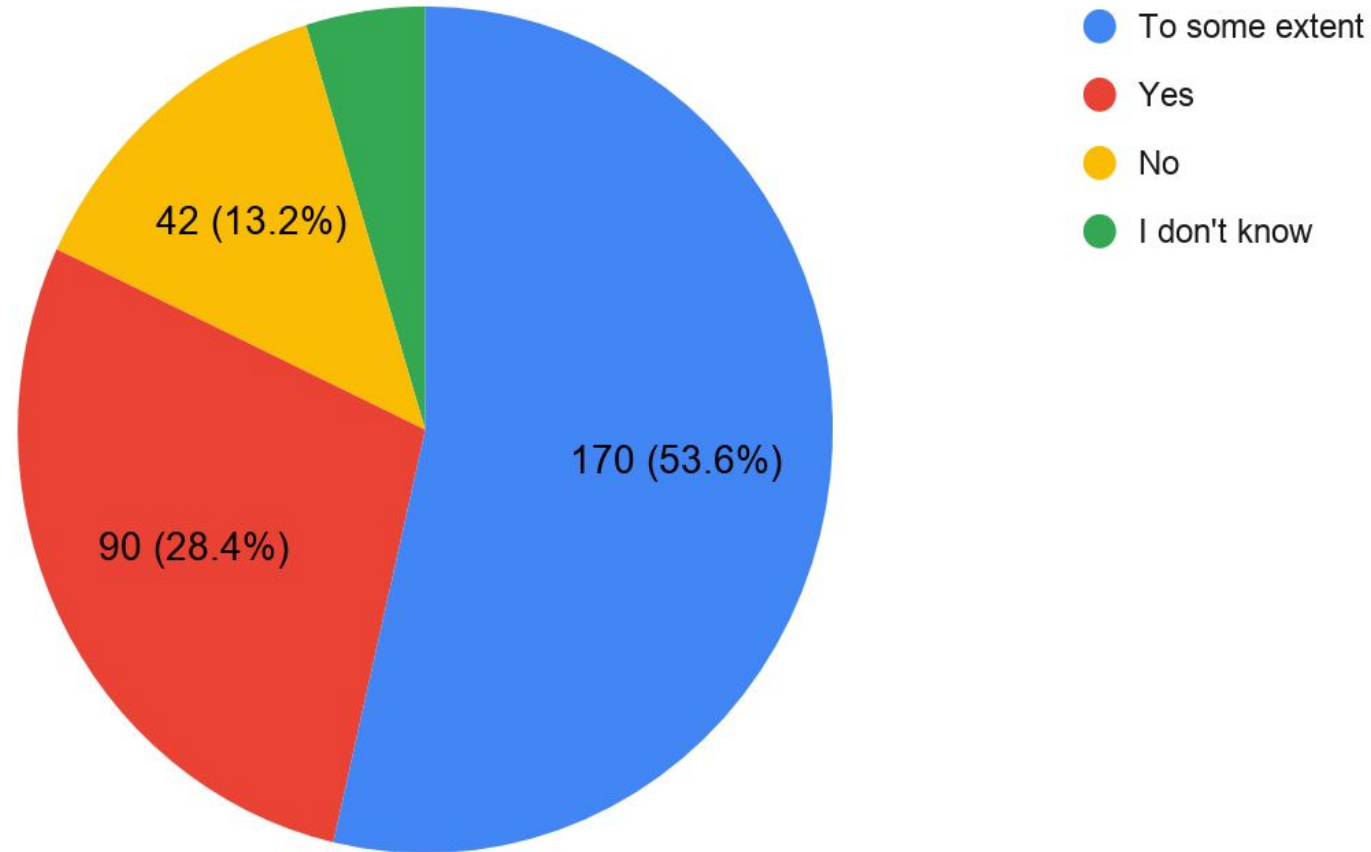
Multiple (9 choices)

- **46.5%** stated they had **burden of multi tasking**.
- Likewise, **30.28%** stated they had **increase in stress**. Following it, they also stated during lock down the family members are **expecting all household chores to be done by them**.
- Likewise, **3.94%** respondents stated during lock down they are **spending their whole time with abuser**.

Types of Challenges faced by 279 respondents



Whether they had good experience during lock down

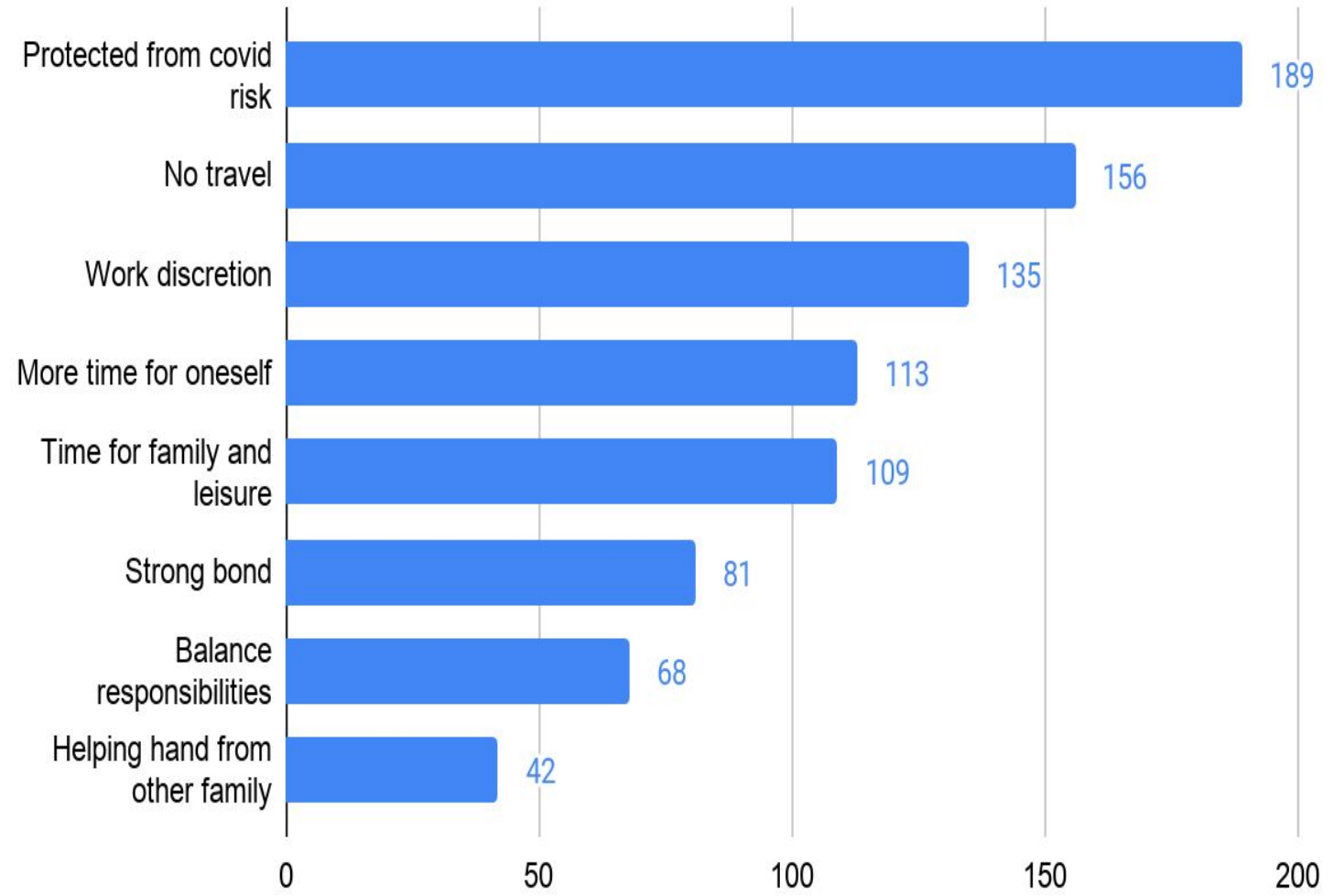


82% (260) stated they have had good experience while **13.2%(42)** stated they did not experience anything good at all.

Multiple (8 choices)

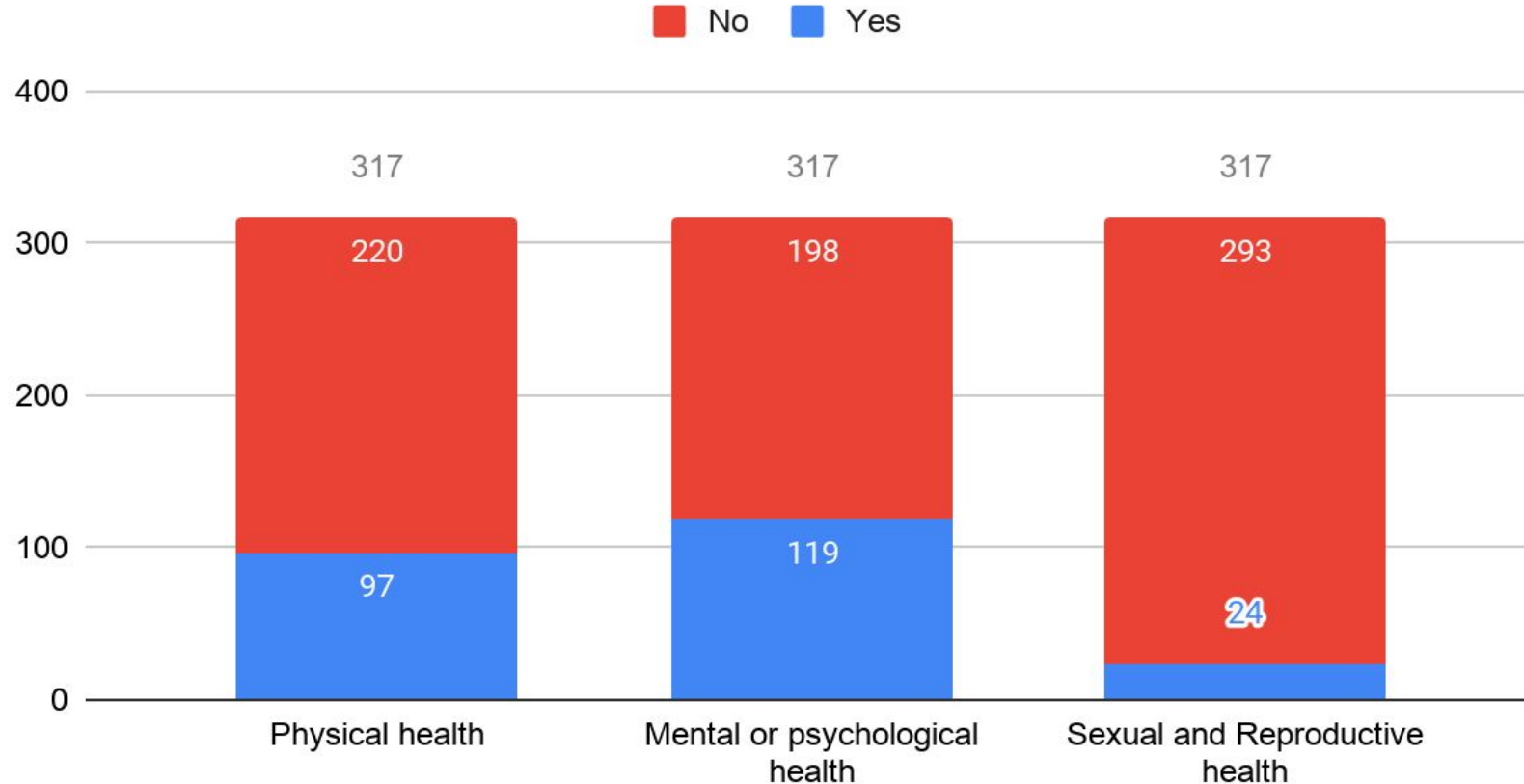
- The highest number of respondents indicated being **protected from COVID-19** (59.62%)
- It is followed by **not travelling to work** (49.21%) and **discretion to manage work** at office (42.58%).
- 48(21.45%) stated they could **balance “work from home”** and **“work for home”**

Good experiences during lockdown (268 respondents)



Additional Health Problem among Women during Lockdown

Additional health problem during Lockdown



Additional health problems:

- Highest percentage (37.53%) of women are facing **mental and psychological health issues**
- It is followed by **physical health** (30.95%) and **sexual and reproductive health** (7.57%) issues.

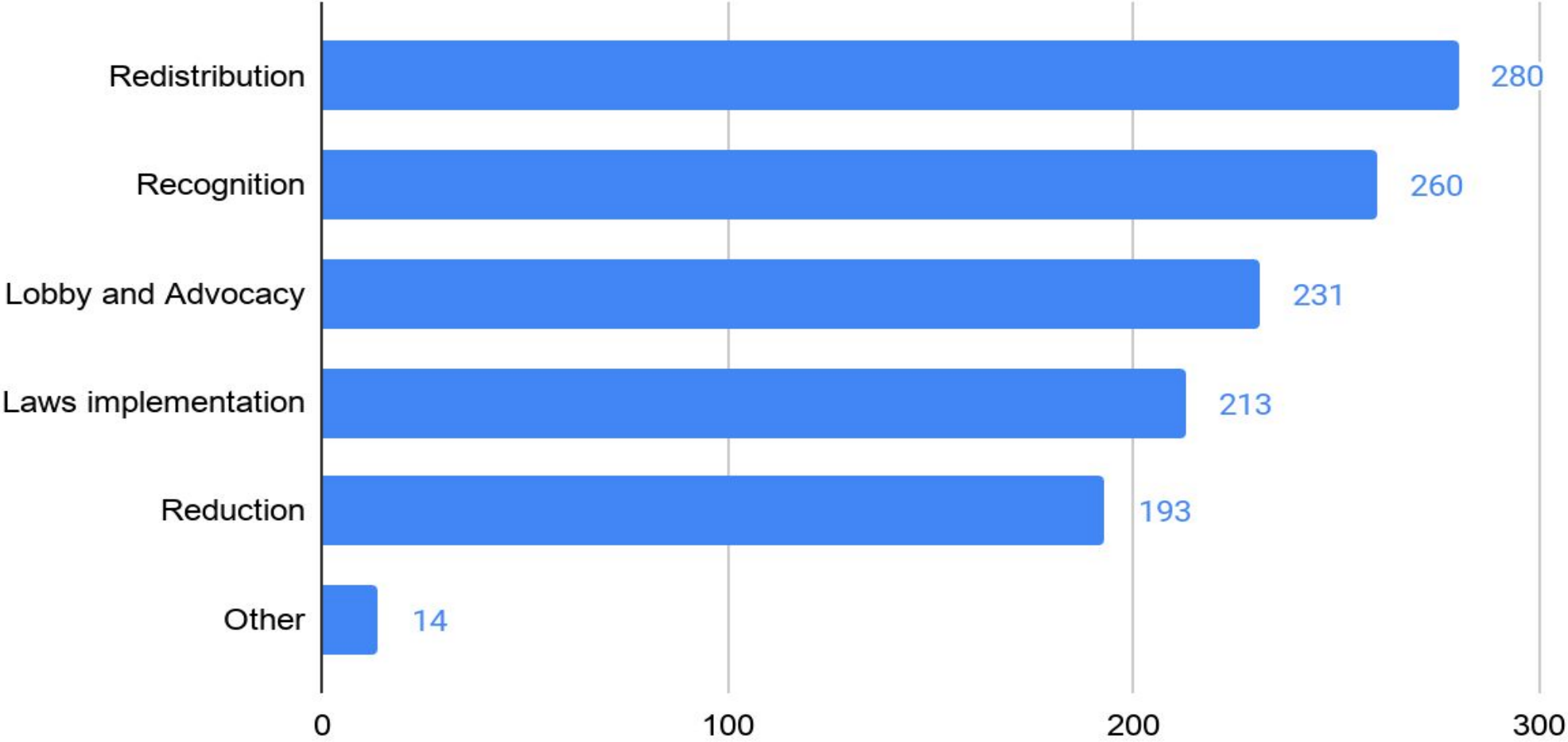
3.CONCLUSION

- In Nepalese families, there is no equal distribution of **domestic work and unpaid care work**, automatically **women are shouldering** most of **burden**.
- In **patriarchal structure**, there is heavy **workload on women** in domestic work and care work. During lockdown, the **workload on women is more than other family members**.
- Workload on “**work at home**” is directly related with the marital status of women. In aggregate, married women have more workload than unmarried women.
- The women are **multitasking** as a coping mechanism to accomplish **the work of both domain**. However, there is increased in stress and it has been recorded the women have felt **additional stress** and had **an additional mental and psychological health problem** during lockdown.

4. RECOMMENDATION

Suggested interventions for further advocacy

Multiple (6 choices)



1. **Redistribution:** Family members should be equally engaged in the household chores and care work.(88.3%)
2. **Recognition:** The members of family, communities, state, private sector actors should recognize, value and respect the work of women especially, unpaid care work.(82.01%)
3. **Lobby and Advocacy to change social attitude:** Societal attitude towards the care work and gendered role should be changed positively for equal participation. (72.87%)
4. **Laws implementation:** Laws should be enforced properly to implement its special protection to people involved in unpaid care work.(67.1%)

5. Reduction: Making infrastructures and machines to ease the care work which is predominantly performed by women at home, like washing machines, blender, gas stoves, access to easy drinking water supply, fridge for storage, etc.(60.88%)

6. Others : For instance, teach children from early age to do house works and their own works etc. (4.41%)

- The respondents have also emphasized on 2R among 3R; Recognition and Redistribution - which WOREC has been advocating and discussing.
- In addition to this, it is required to to bring **change in the gender roles** existing in our households and society and make our **laws and policies gender friendly** and **implement the existing laws and policies.**

Additional Recommendation from WOREC

- **Recognition:** The work done by the women i.e. domestic work and unpaid care work should be **counted in the Gross Domestic Product** of the country.
- **Lobby and Advocacy:** There should be intense and continuous **discussions** on the gender role shifts which could help to create an awareness among the general people.
- **Redistribution:** The current research has shown that 66.66 % of married women respondents' husband have supported their wives in the domestic work. So husband can be the **entry point** to start on the **redistribution of work** at the household level.
- **Reduction:** The government, non-government and private actors should **provide the service to the care work** which is typically provided by women, such as opening child care center, exemption of tax on the budget for the items/utilities that reduce the domestic work of women or make them easily accessible, eg: gas stove, etc.
- The **laws and policies** need to value and **recognize the domestic and unpaid care work** of women.

RESPECT THE WORK OF WOMEN!!!