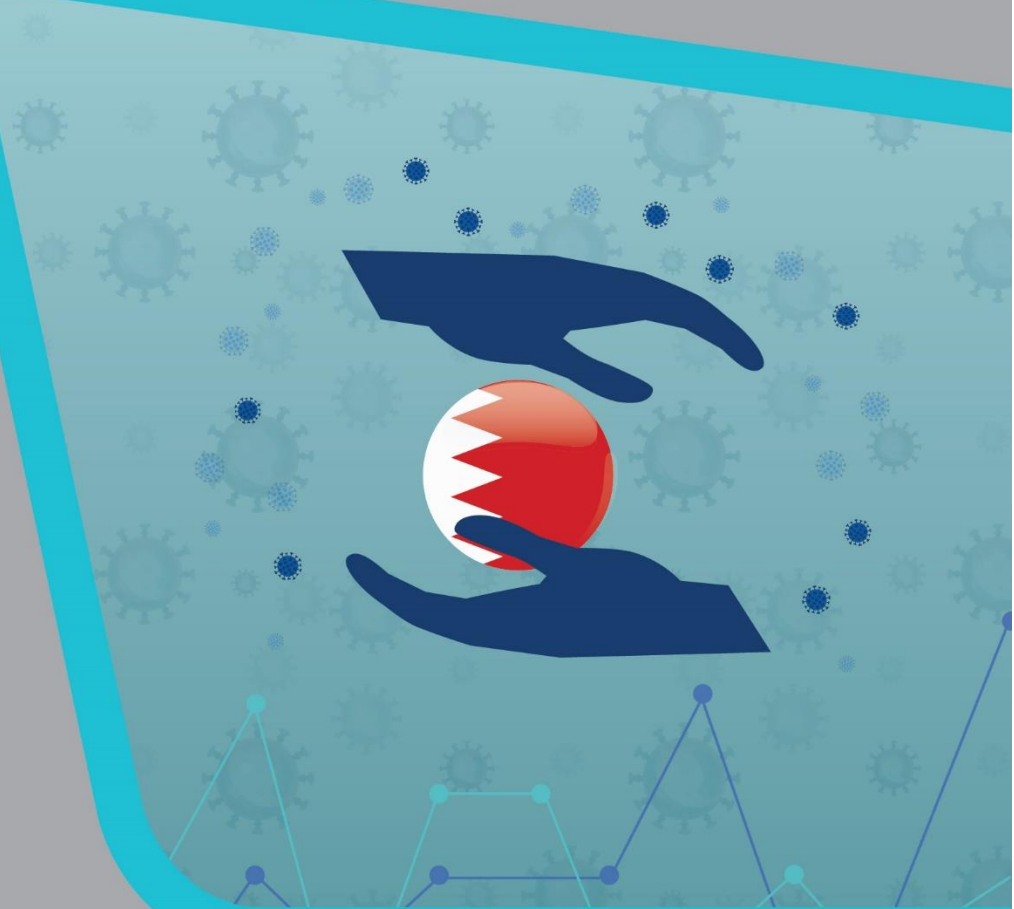


Opinion Survey of the Bahraini Society on: The Impact of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) on Societal Habits and Behaviors



Main Results

- The survey sample included 10546 individuals within the Bahraini society, with a gender composition of 53% female and 47% male.
- A majority of 90% described the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus as:
 - Transparent and clear.
 - Responsive and quick in handling events.
 - Effective in performance and results.
- 57% mentioned they derived their information on the coronavirus from official Ministry of Health social media accounts.
- Results showed 78% of the sample were well aware of the virus' symptoms and transmission methods.
- Results revealed that the crisis' implications increased the following societal practices and habits:
 - 1- Keenly following information from official authorities and their social media accounts in the Kingdom of Bahrain.
 - 2- Using medical sanitizers and wipes, with frequent handwashing.
 - 3- Practicing home-based hobbies, watching TV and reading.
 - 4- Preparing home-cooked meals.

- On the contrary, the survey showed a decrease in the following practices:
 - 1- Socializing with others and shaking hands.
 - 2- Visiting cinemas, restaurants, cafes, parks, gyms, salons and barber shops.
 - 3- Gatherings for weddings and occasions.
 - 4- Shopping in malls and dealing in cash.
 - 5- Visiting hospitals and healthcare centers.
 - 6- Ordering delivered meals.

- The Survey showed no effect on the following practices:
 - 1- Buying foodstuff.
 - 2- Shopping online within Bahrain.
 - 3- Taking vitamin and mineral supplements.
 - 4- Exercising at home.

- The greater majority at more than 95% – resembling a national consensus – commended His Majesty the King’s efficient directives and their role in assuring society and comforting people.

- Results showed a majority support for implemented outbreak preventative procedures, including:

- 1- The decision to suspend studying in all educational establishments, at 97%.
 - 2- The decision to postpone traveling unless for an extreme emergency, at 99%.
 - 3- The decision to quarantine arriving passengers from countries with a widespread coronavirus outbreak, at 99%.
 - 4- The decision to impose 14-day home-quarantining on all arriving passengers during this period, at 96%.
-
- 87% said that 'Team Bahrain's' performance in countering the virus was excellent.
 - 95% of the sample considered themselves part of 'Team Bahrain'.

First: Social and Demographic Features of the Survey Sample

1.1 Gender Distribution

The survey covered a sample of 10546 individuals in the Bahraini society, with females comprising 53% of the total, and males at 47%, as demonstrated in figure 1.

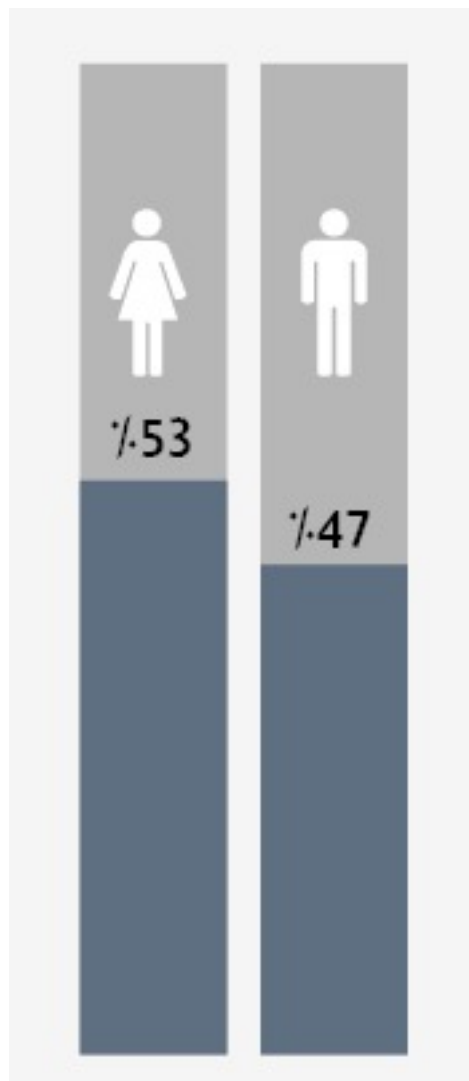


Figure 1: Percentage distribution by gender of the study sample.

1.2 Age-Group Distribution

Figure 2 shows the age-group distribution of the study sample. People with 28-37 years of age formed 32% of the total, while those of 18-27 years of age formed 27%, and the remaining age-groups distributed according to the following figure:

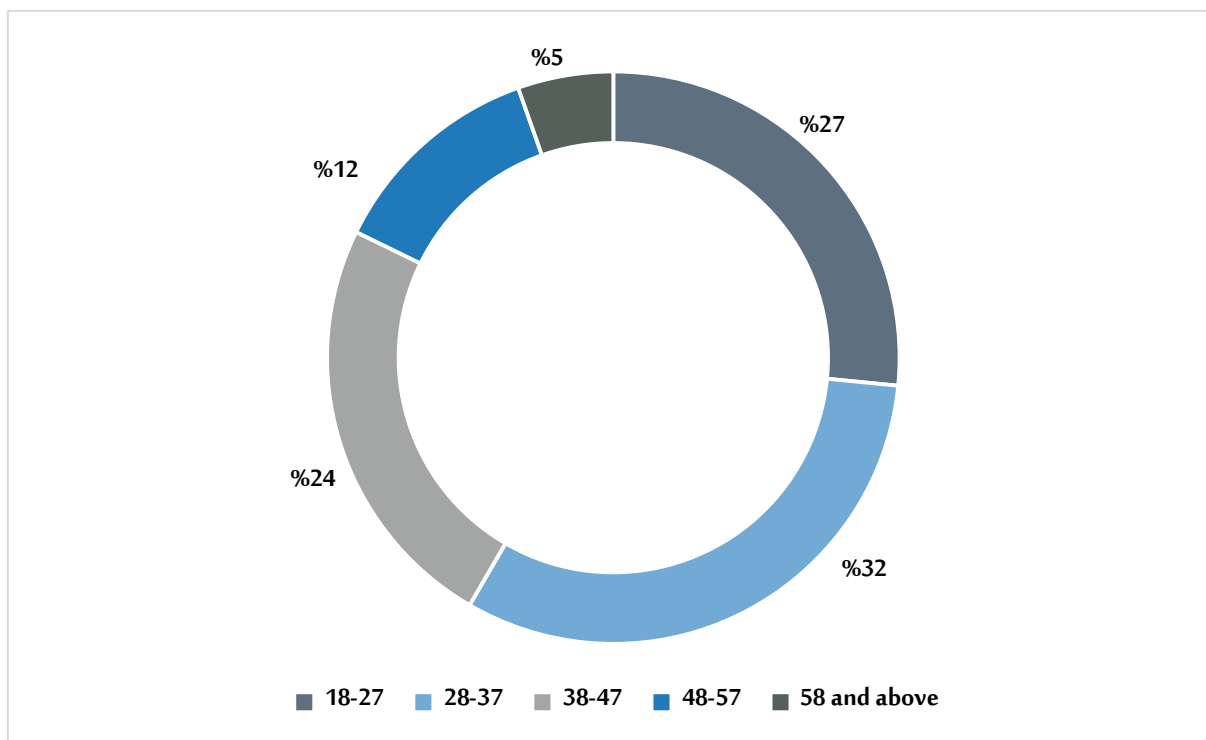


Figure 2: Percentage distribution by age group of the study sample.

1.3 Educational Level Distribution

The sample was distributed according to educational level, with Bachelor's degree holders at 39%, Secondary school certificates at 25%, Diploma and Master's degree holders at 13% and 12% respectively. Remaining educational levels and their percentage distribution appear in figure 3:

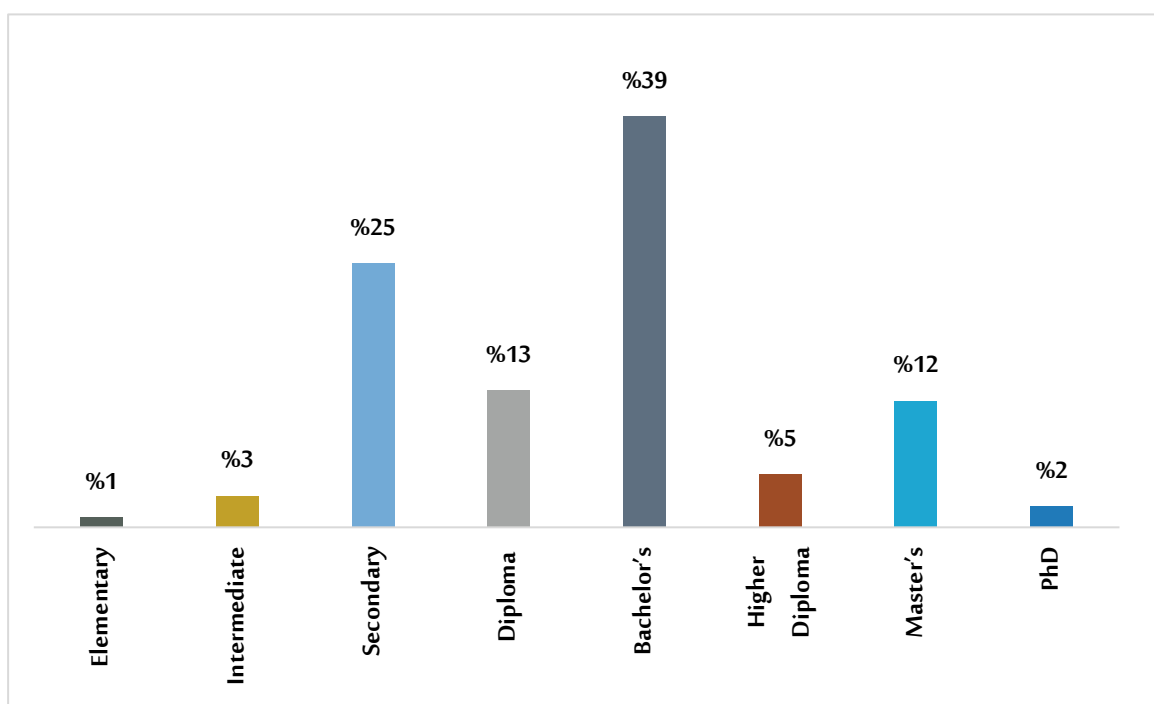


Figure 3: Percentage distribution of educational levels of the study sample.

1.4 Governorate Distribution

Figure 4 shows the percentage distribution of surveyed individuals according to their governorate of residence in the Kingdom of Bahrain. 30% were from the Northern Governorate, 25% from both Muharraq and the Southern Governorates, and 20% from the Capital Governorate:

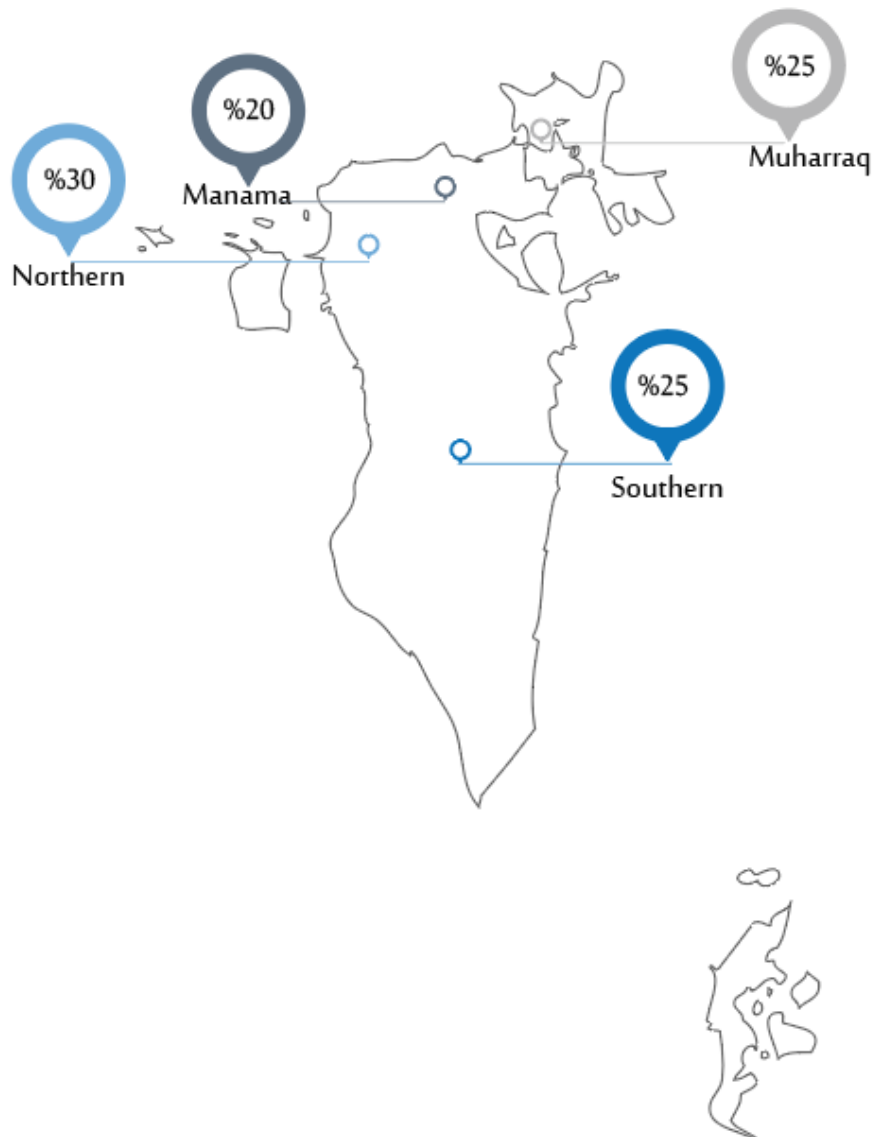


Figure 4: Percentage distribution for governorates of residence of the study sample.

1.5 Job Sector Distribution

Figure 5 shows the percentage distribution of surveyed individuals according to their job sectors, with public sector employees at 33%, private sector employees at 26%, and the unemployed and housewives each at 17%:

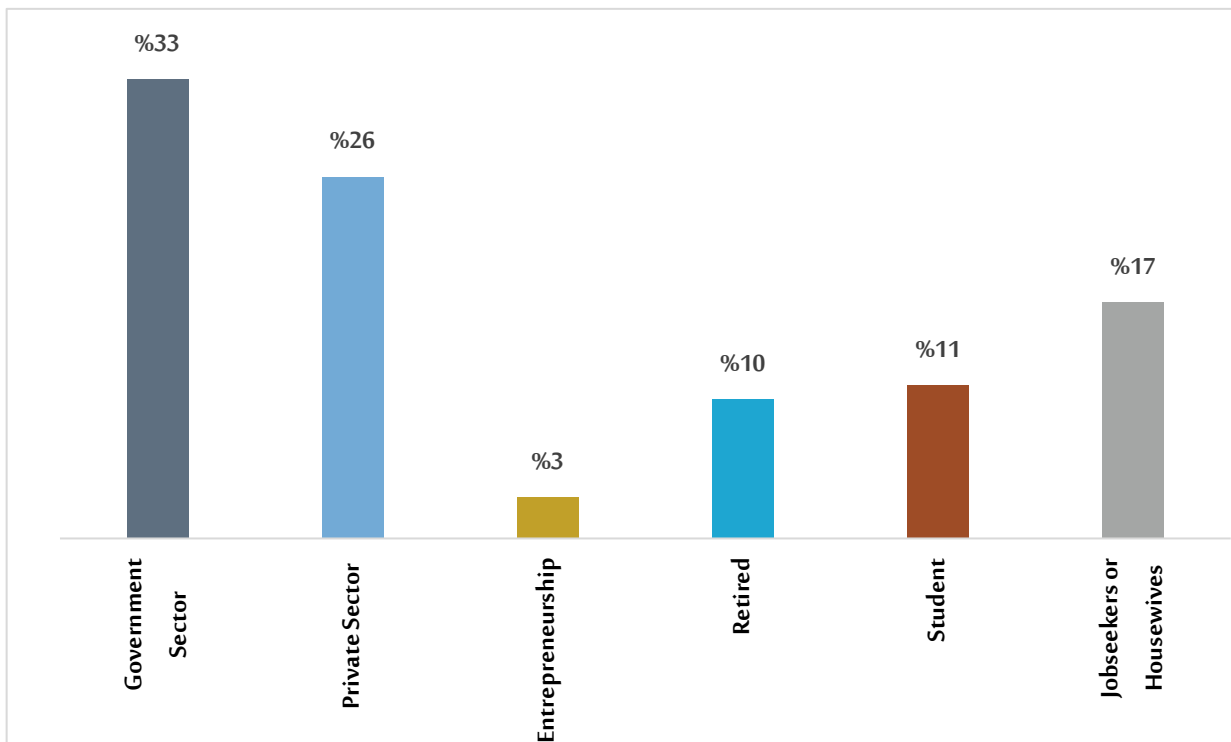


Figure 5: Percentage distribution of job sectors of the study sample.

Second: Opinions of the Survey Study Sample

2.1 Following Media Produced by the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus

When asked whether they followed media produced by the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus, the greater majority of 97% said yes, while 3% said no. Figure 6 shows the distribution:

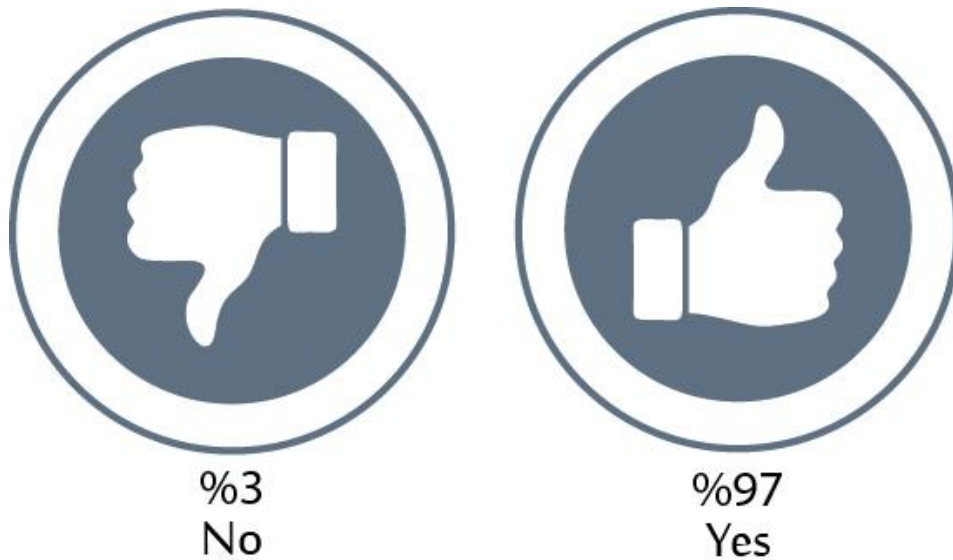


Figure 6: Percentage distribution of answers by the study sample on following media produced by the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus.

2.2 Features of the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus

The sample population were asked how they found the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus in terms of transparency, clarity, responsiveness and dealing with events, and effective performance and results. A 90% majority said they found all those traits reflected by the campaign, compared to 10% who saw some or none of those traits reflected. Figure 7 shows the percentage distribution:

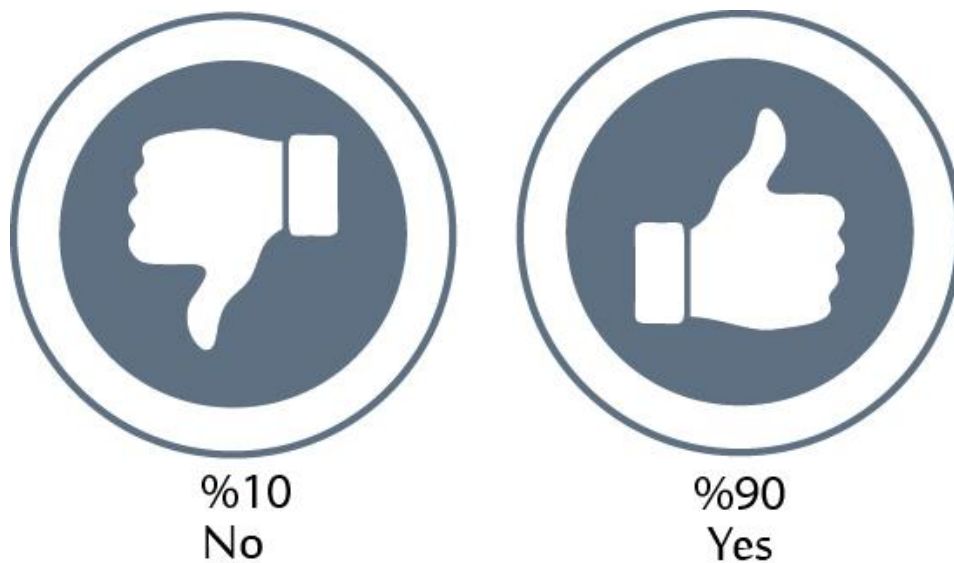


Figure 7: Percentage distribution of answers by the study sample on features of the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus.

2.3 Following the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus, and the Most Important Sources for Deriving Information

The sample population were asked for their opinion regarding the sources of information related to the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus, 57% said they relied on Ministry of Health social media accounts, 39% said they used the Ministry's official website, while 54% said they used other Instagram accounts, with these and other percentages distributed in figure 8:

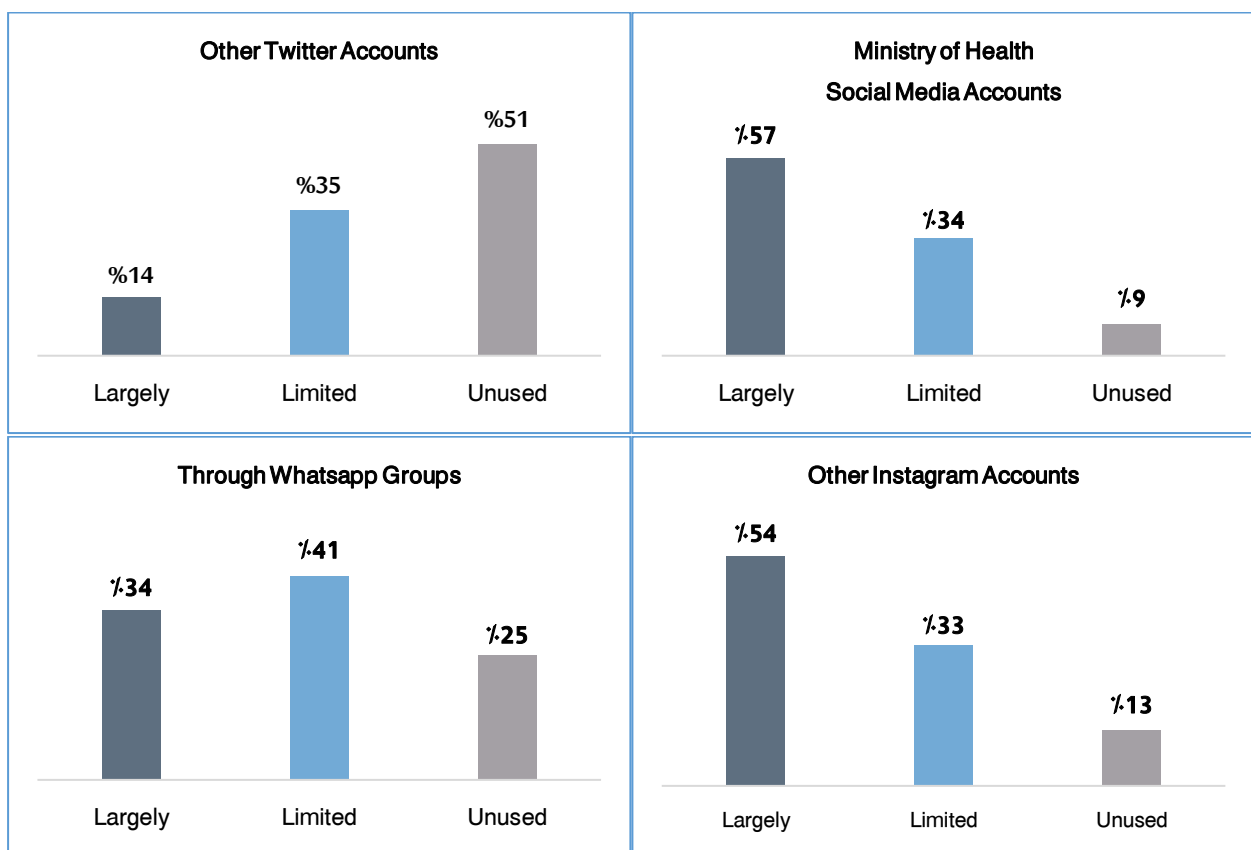


Figure 8: percentage distributions regarding the sources of deriving information related to the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus

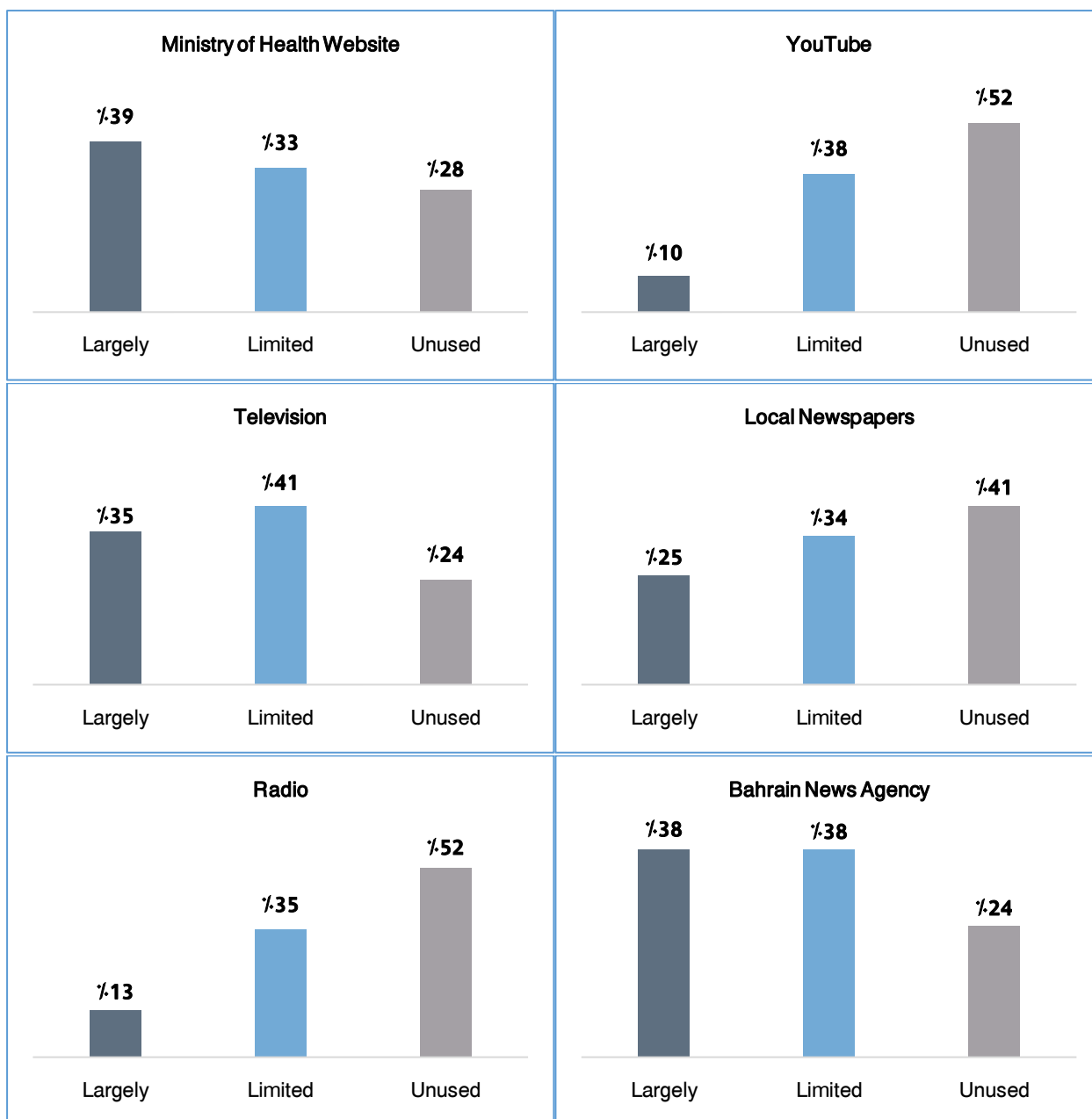
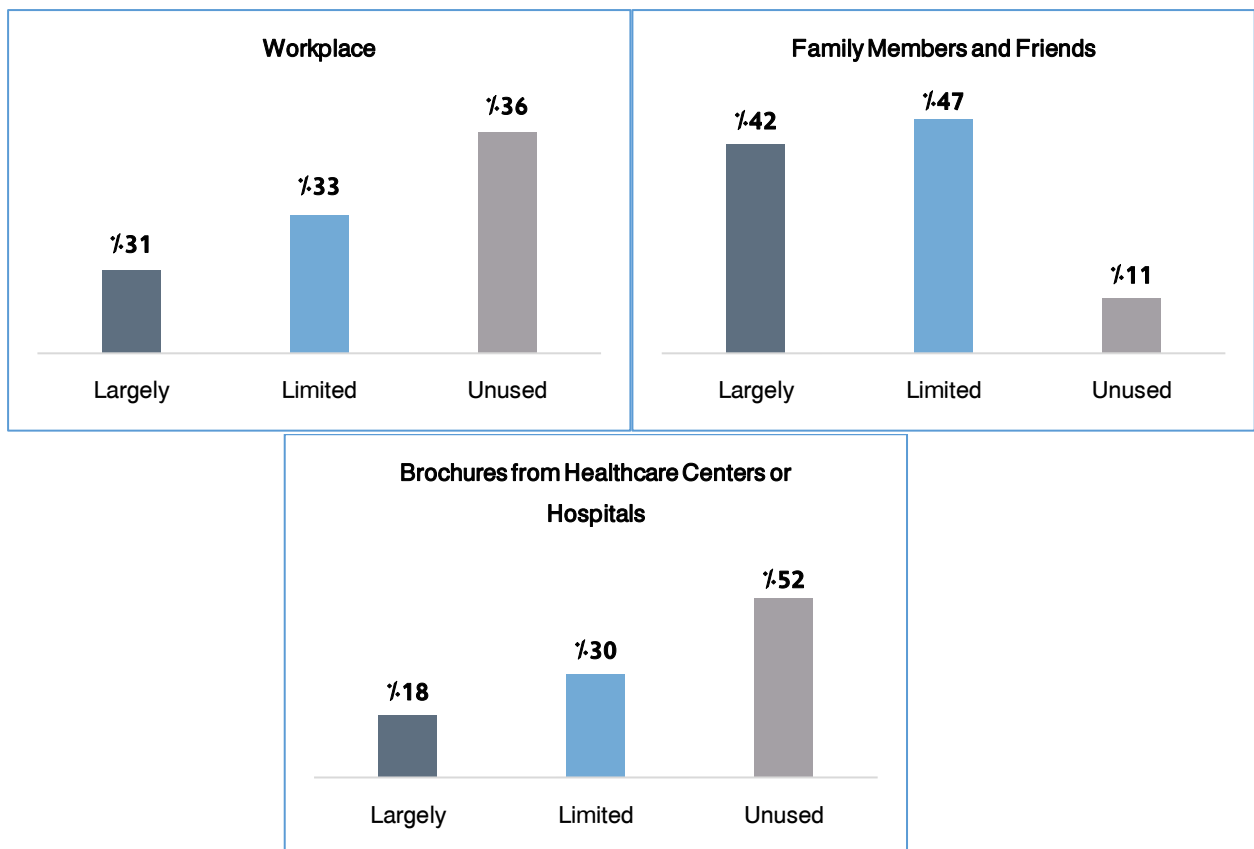


Figure 8: percentage distributions regarding the sources of deriving information related to the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus



Cont. Figure 8: percentage distributions regarding the sources of deriving information related to the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus

2.4 Awareness Levels of Coronavirus Symptoms and Transmission Methods

Most of the sample, at 78%, said they were aware of the coronavirus symptoms and how it spread, 22% said they were moderately aware, and none said they were unaware. Figure 9 demonstrates the percentage distribution:

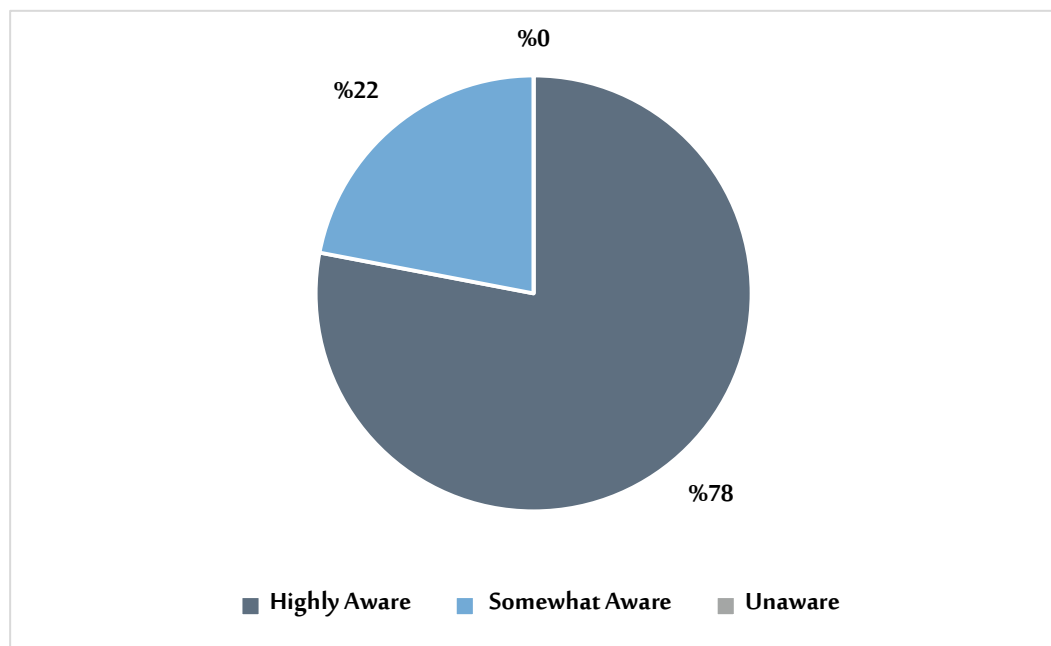


Figure 9: percentage distributions regarding awareness levels of coronavirus symptoms and transmission methods

2.5 The Most Significant Changes to Individual Habits from the Coronavirus Crisis

Surveyed individuals mentioned that the following habits and practices have increased:

- 1- Following information released by official authorities and social media in Bahrain.
- 2- Using medical sanitizers and masks, and frequent handwashing.
- 3- Caring for personal hygiene.
- 4- Practicing home-based hobbies, watching TV and reading.
- 5- Preparing home-cooked meals.

On the contrary, the following practices decreased:

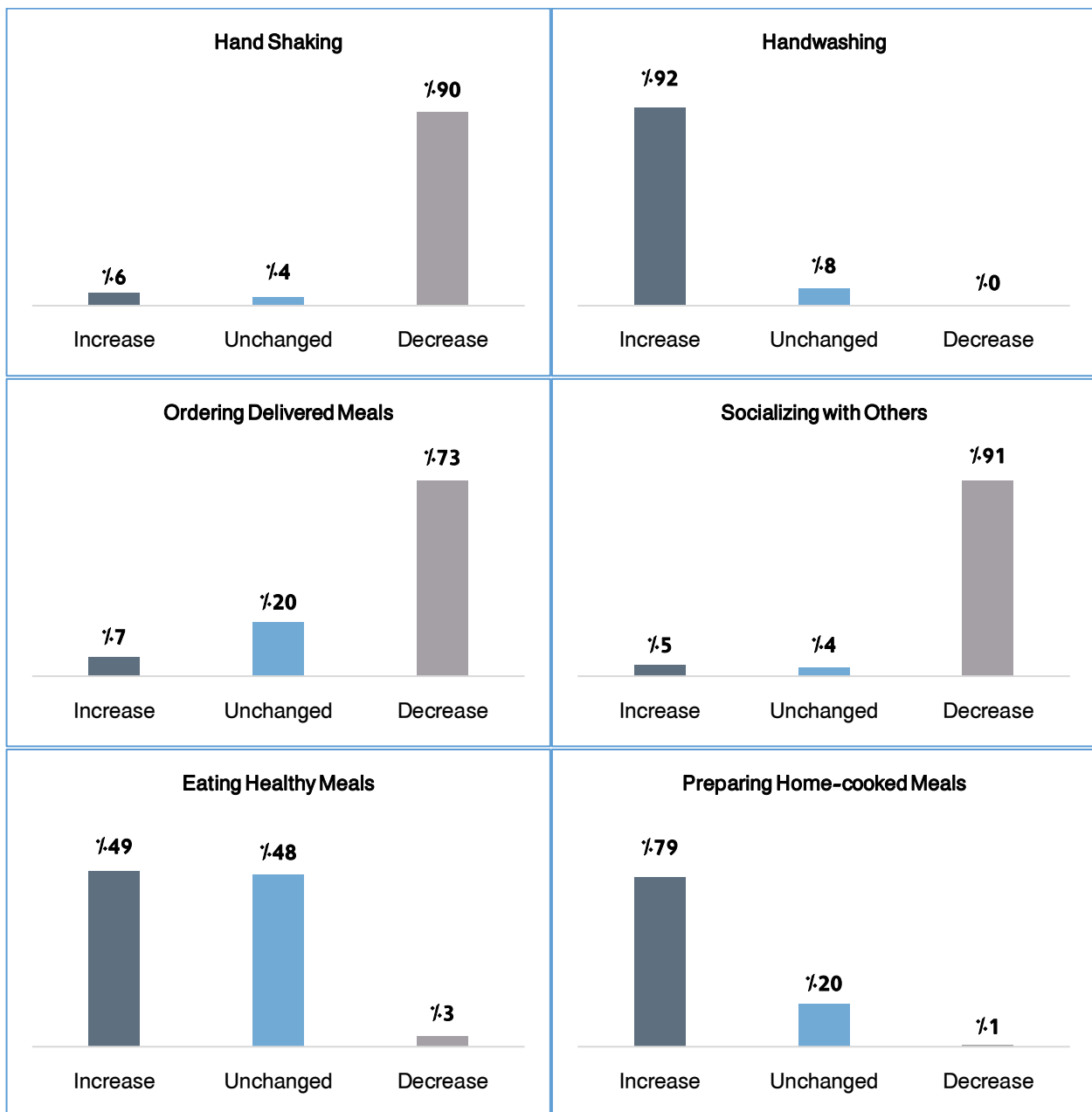
- 1- Socializing with others and shaking hands.
- 2- Visiting cinemas, restaurants, cafes, parks, gyms, salons and barber shops.
- 3- Attending weddings and occasional gatherings.
- 4- Shopping in malls and dealing in cash.
- 5- Visiting hospitals and healthcare centers.
- 6- Ordering delivered meals.

The coronavirus crisis did not affect the following practices:

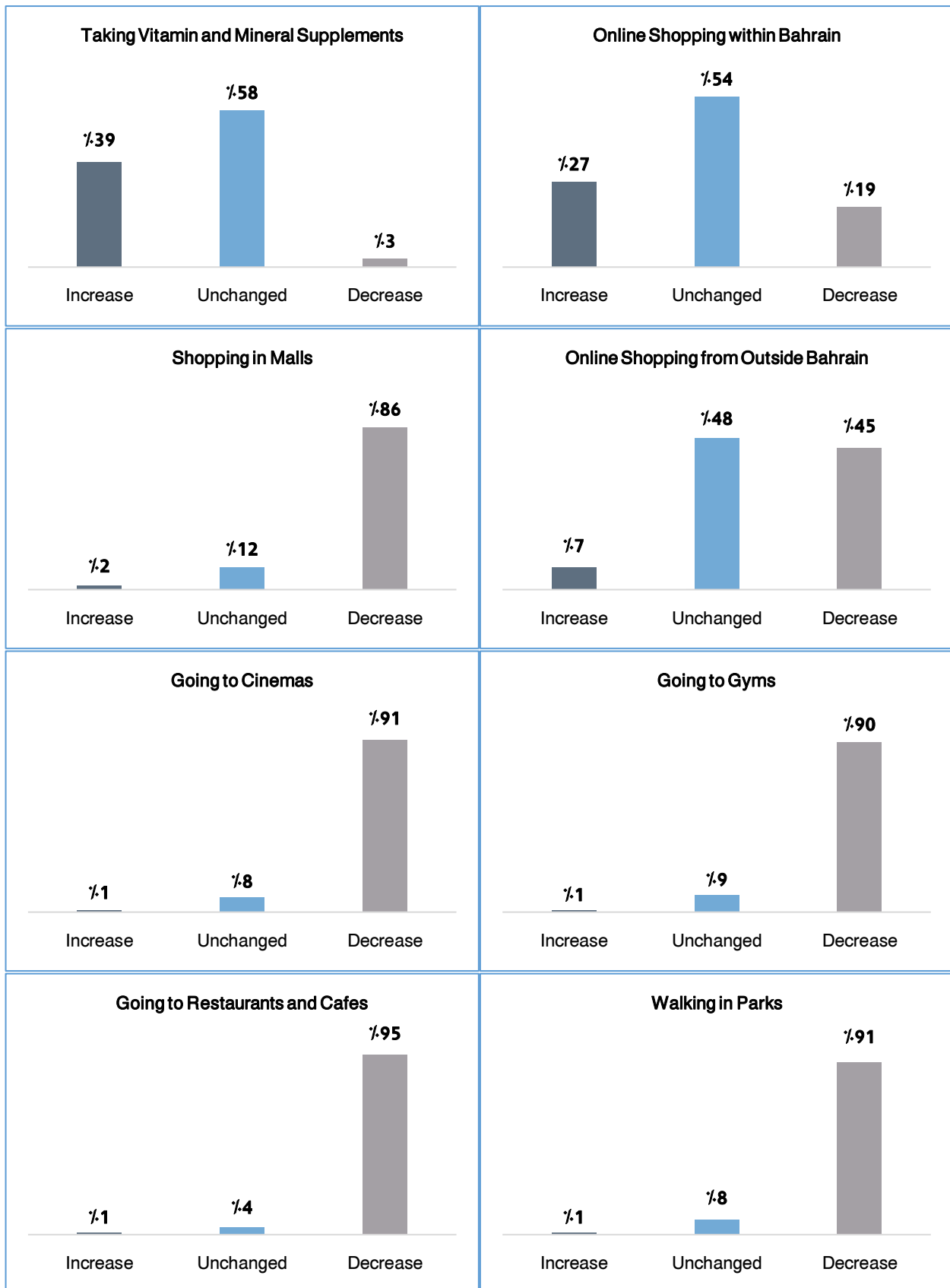
- 1- Buying foodstuff.
- 2- Online shopping within Bahrain.
- 3- Taking vitamin and mineral supplements.
- 4- Exercising at home.



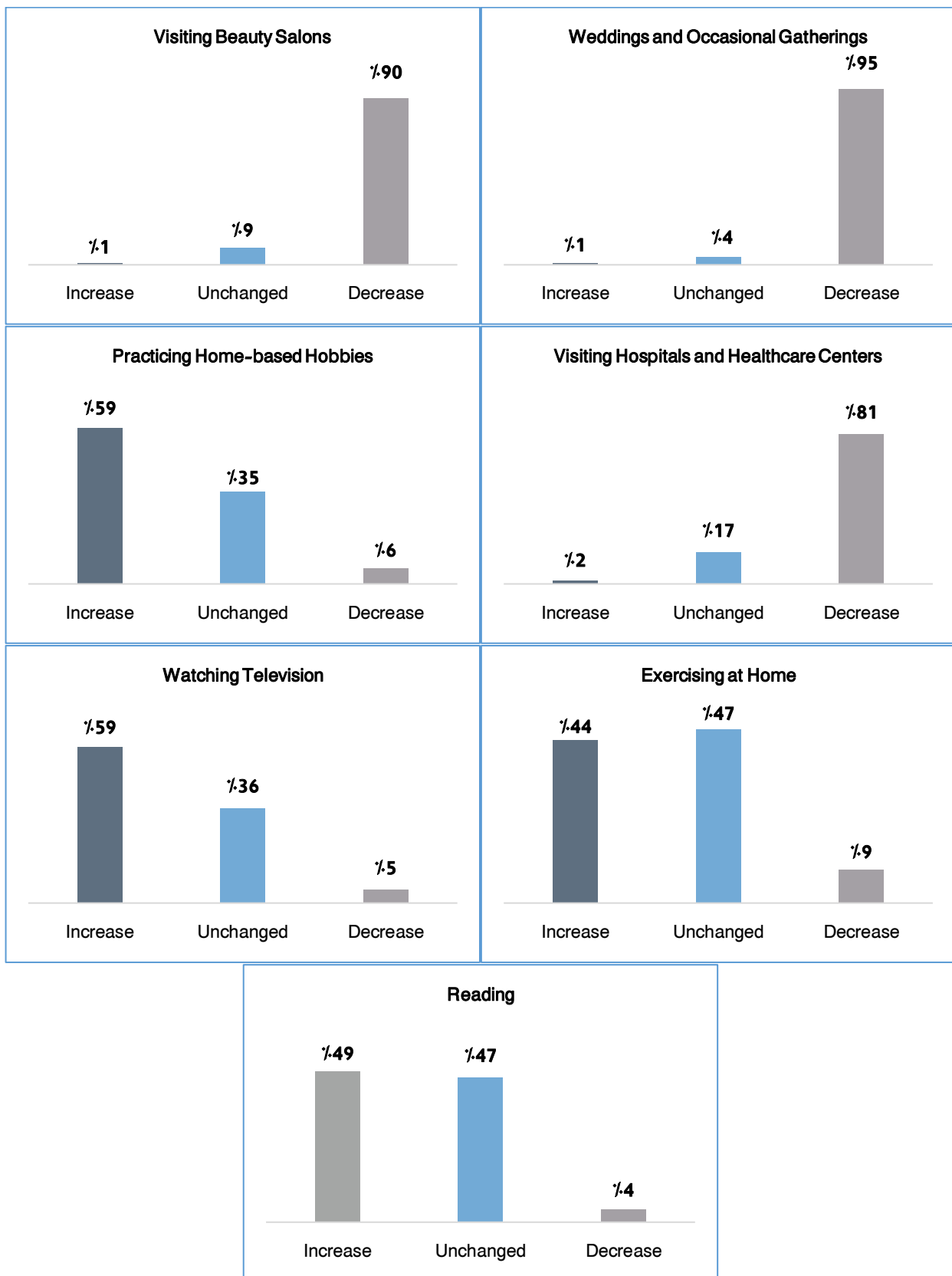
Figure 10: The Most Significant Changes to Individual Habits from the Coronavirus Crisis



Cont. Figure 10: The Most Significant Changes to Individual Habits from the Coronavirus Crisis



Cont. Figure 10: The Most Significant Changes to Individual Habits from the Coronavirus Crisis



Cont. Figure 10: The Most Significant Changes to Individual Habits from the Coronavirus Crisis

2.6 Acting Upon Feeling or Suspecting a Coronavirus Symptom

Describing how they would act when feeling or suspecting a coronavirus symptom, an 84% majority said they would call the 444 hotline while practicing self-quarantining in a specific room at home. 12% said they would visit a healthcare center, while only 4% mentioned they would take fever medications. Figure 11 shows the percentage distribution:

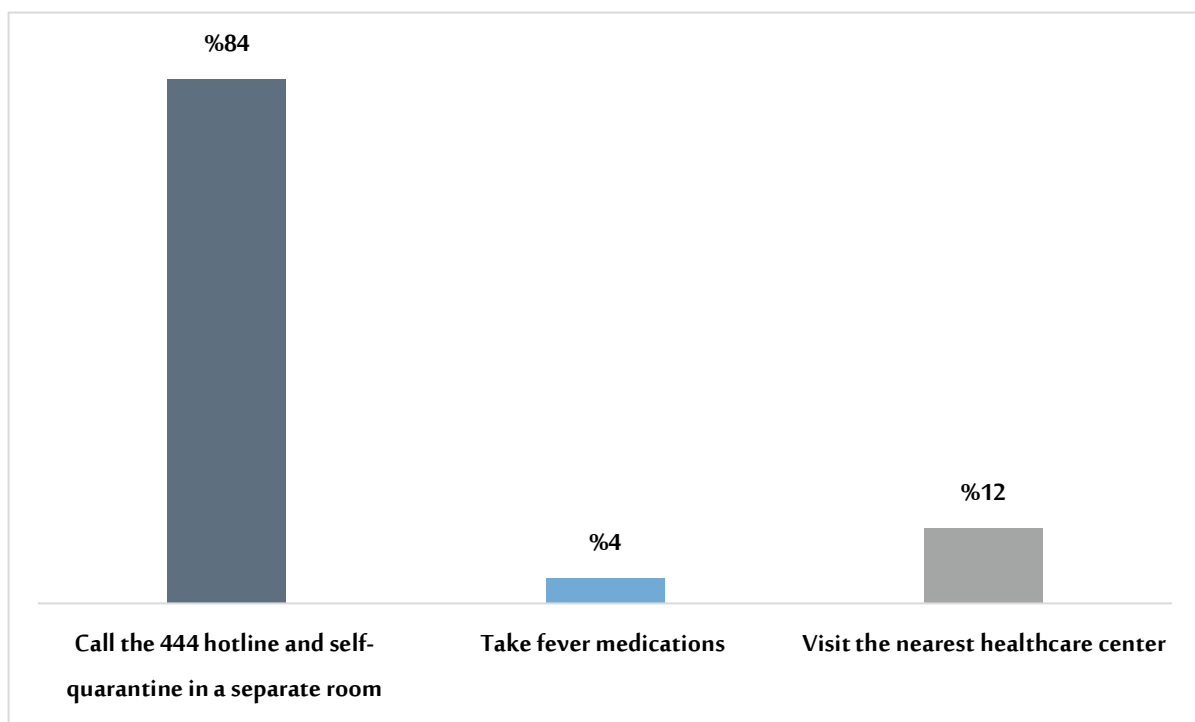


Figure 11: Percentage distribution of the study sample based on reactions to coronavirus symptoms.

2.7 Postponing or Cancelling Travel Plans During the Coming Period

48% said they have postponed or cancelled travel plans, 7% said they did not change their plans, and 45% said they did not plan to travel at all, as demonstrated by figure 12:

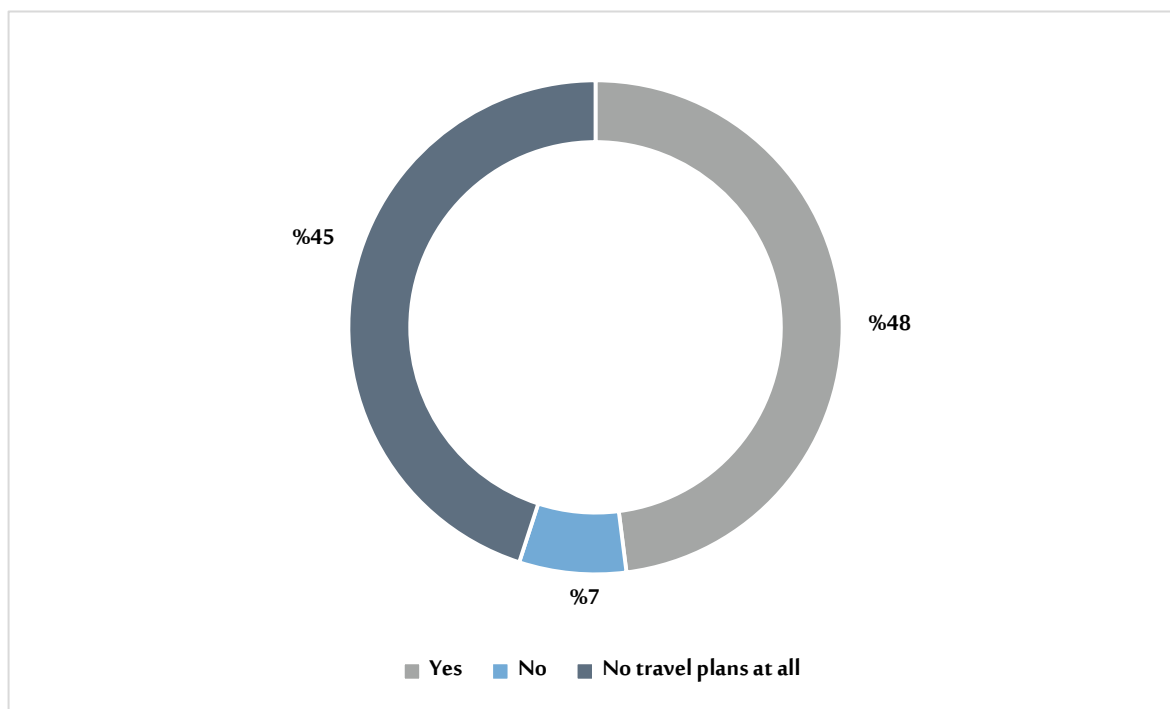


Figure 12: Percentage distribution based on travel plans being postponed or cancelled in the coming period.

2.8 Circulating Official Instructions and Guidelines to Counter the Coronavirus

59% said they broadcasted and shared instructions and guidelines to counter the coronavirus as received from official authorities through social media, while 31% said they spoke directly to others to convey these instructions, and 10 percent said they do not circulate any information, as demonstrated in figure 13:

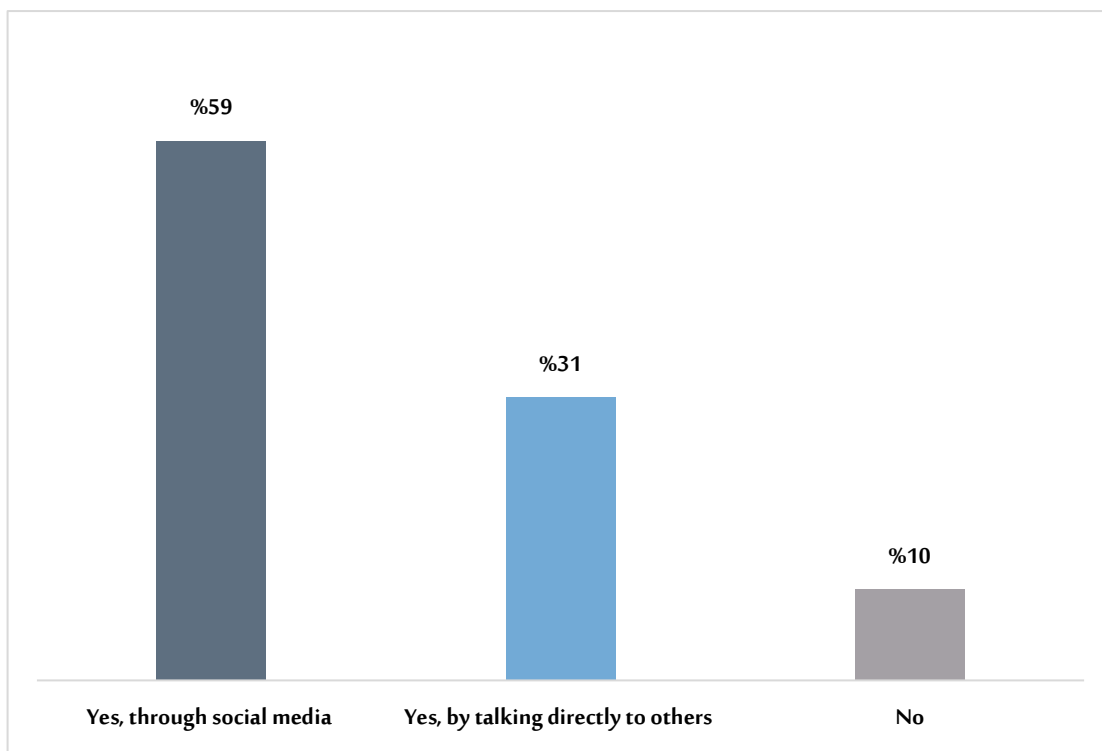


Figure 13: Percentage distribution of those sharing official instructions to counter the spread of the coronavirus.

2.9 Supporting the Decision to Suspend Studying in All Educational Establishments

The greater majority at 97% of the study sample were in favor of this decision, while 3% were against it, as demonstrated by figure 14 below:

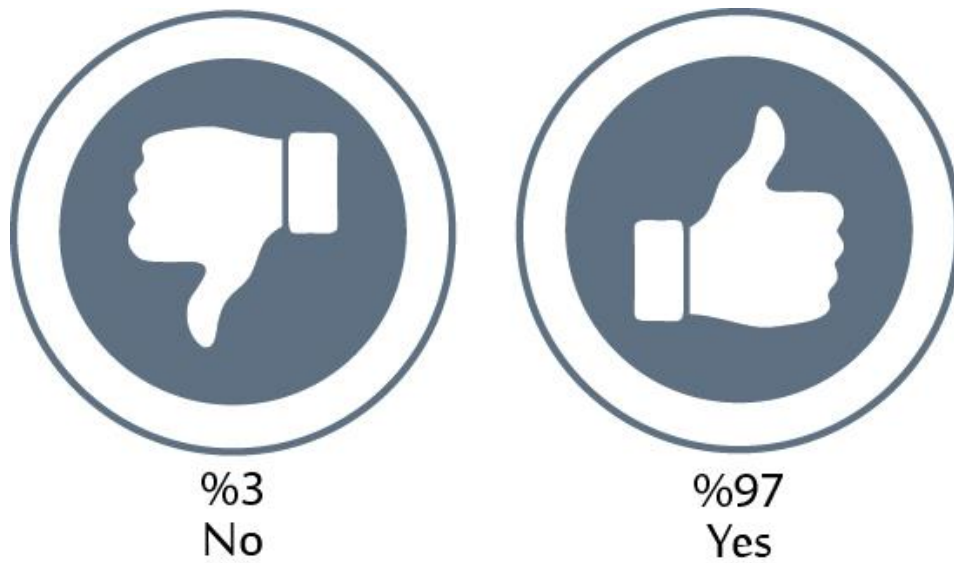


Figure 14: Percentage distribution of support for the decision to suspend studying in all educational establishments.

2.10 Support for the Decision to Postpone Traveling Except for Top Emergencies

99% stated they were in favor of this decision, while only 1% against it. Figure 15 demonstrates the percentages:

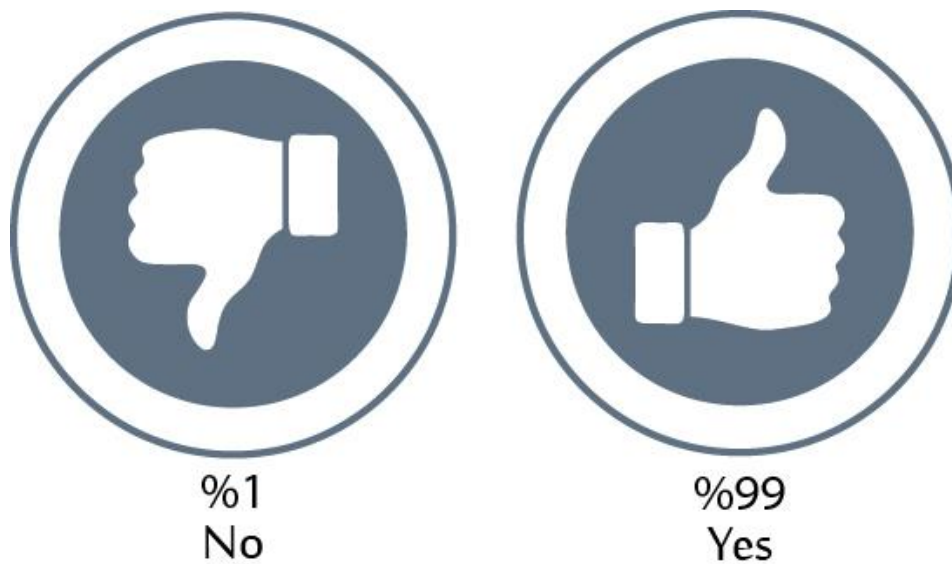


Figure 15: Percentage distribution regarding support for postponing travel except for top emergencies.

2.11 Support for Health Quarantining of Passengers Arriving from Countries where the Coronavirus has Widely Spread

99% favored health quarantining, compared to 1% against it, as demonstrated by figure 16:

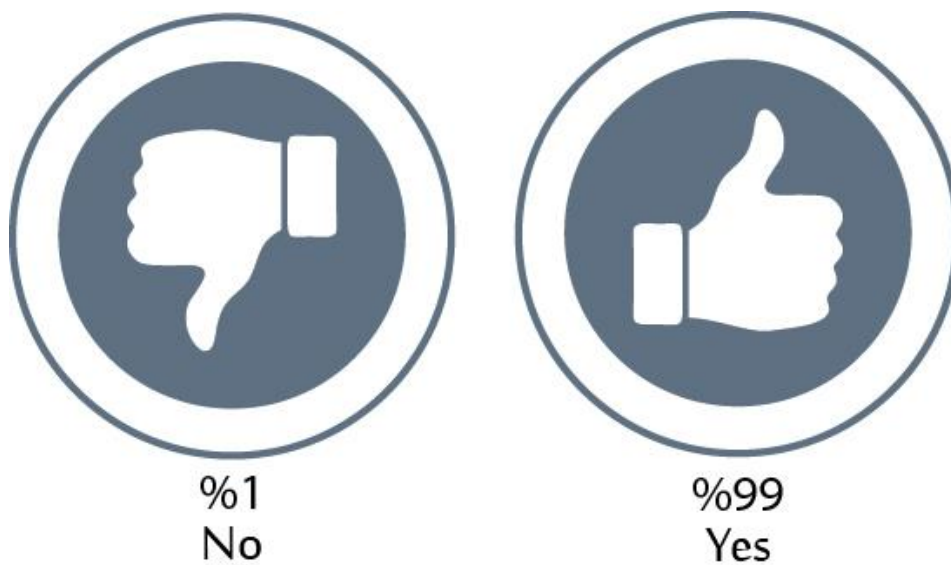


Figure 16: Percentage distribution of support for health quarantining of passengers arriving from countries where the coronavirus has widely spread.

2.12 Support for 14-Day Home-Quarantining of All Arriving Passengers During this Period

96% were in favor of this decision, compared to 4% against it. Figure 17 demonstrates the percentages:

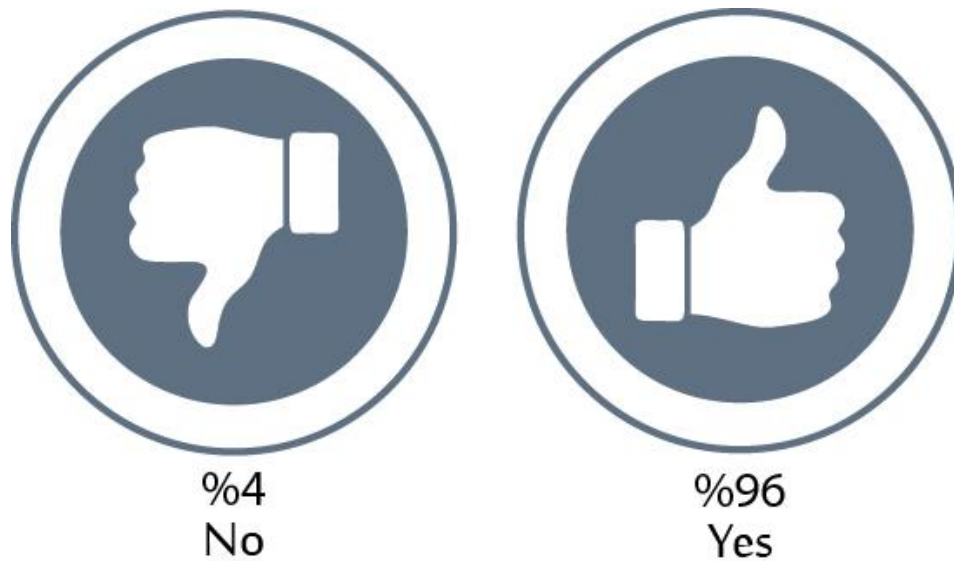


Figure 17: Percentage distribution of support for 14-day home-quarantining of all passenger arriving during this period

2.13 The Efficiency of Directives Issued by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa in Spreading Peace and Assurance in Society

77% stated these directives were very effective, 18 percent mentioned they were effective, and 5% said these directives are within the Kingdom's efforts to counter the coronavirus, as demonstrated by figure 18:

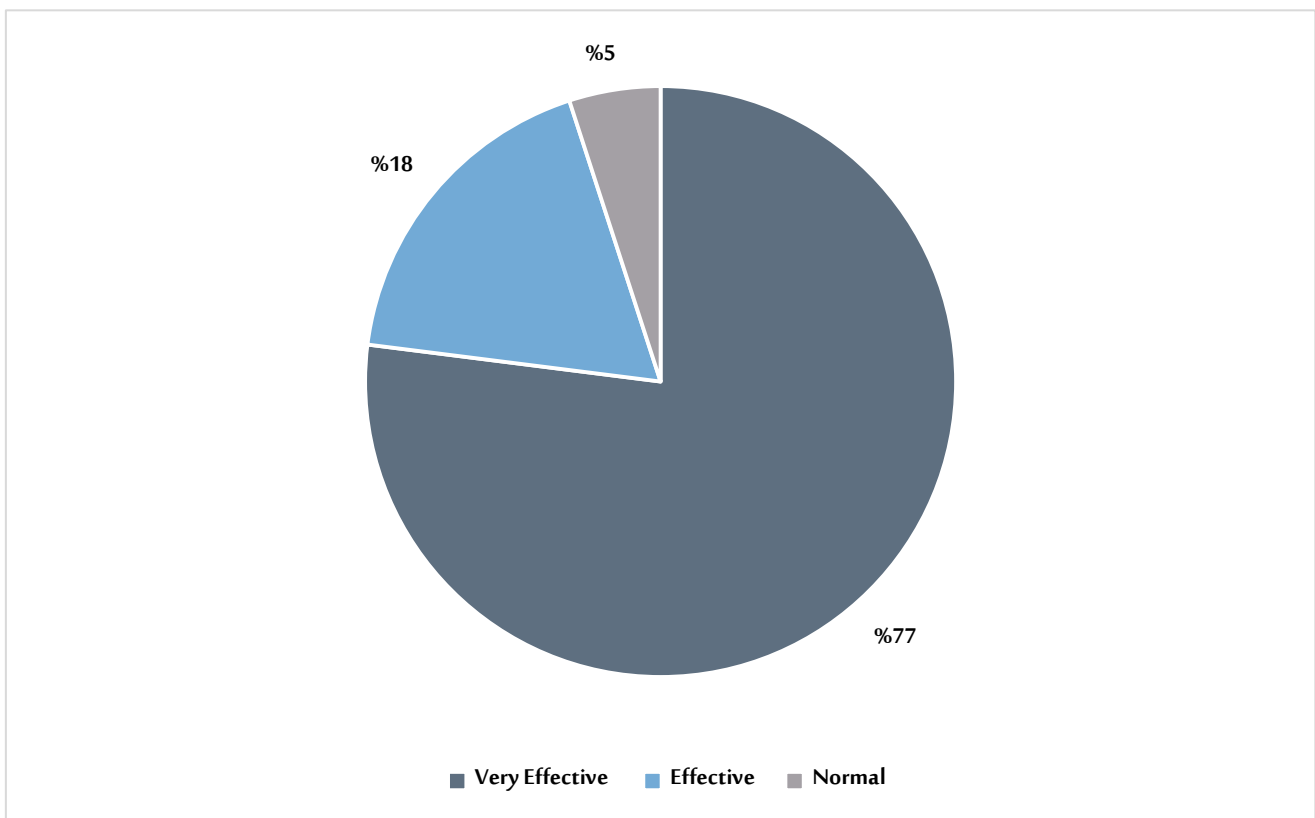


Figure 18: Percentage distribution of views regarding the efficiency of directives issued by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa in spreading peace and assurance in society

2.14 Assessing the Performance of the National Team to Combat the Coronavirus

87% said the National Team's performance was excellent, 11% said it was good, while 2% said it was acceptable; reflected in figure 19:

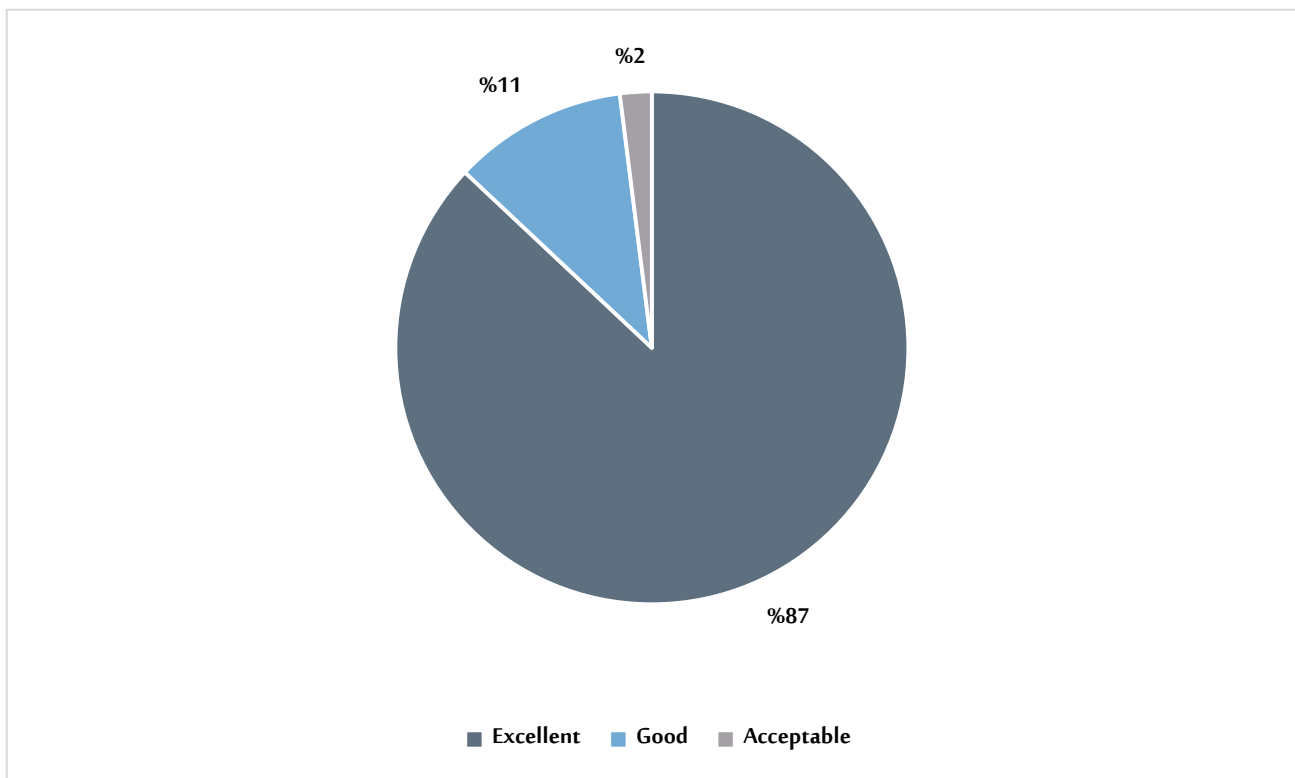


Figure 19: Percentage distribution for assessing the performance of National Team to Combat the Coronavirus

2.15 The Extent to which Individuals Feel they are Part of 'Team Bahrain', through their Commitment to Procedures and Decisions Issued by Official Parties

A 95% majority said they were committed to following official procedures and decisions, feeling they were part of 'Team Bahrain', as demonstrated by figure 20:

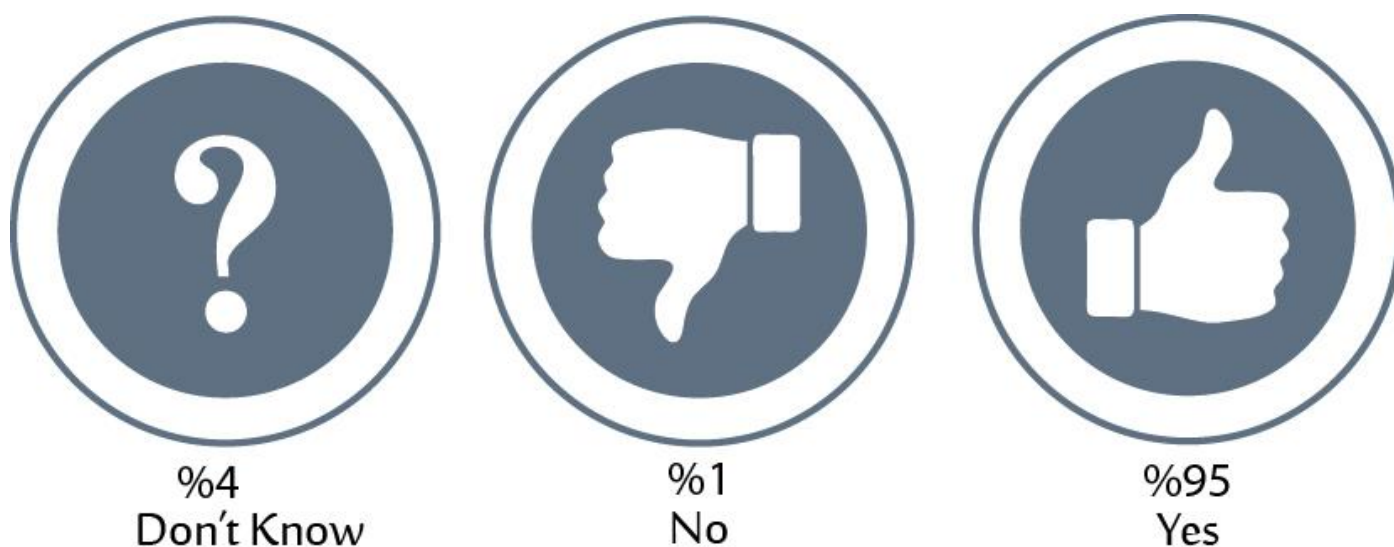


Figure 20: Distribution of the levels of commitment to official procedures and decisions, and the sense of being part of 'Team Bahrain'

2.16 Opinions of Individuals Regarding their Contributions to the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus

Answering a question regarding their individual contributions to the National Campaign, the surveyed sample agreed to the following:

- **Staying at home, leaving only for necessities.**
- **Maintaining sufficient social distancing and avoiding direct socializing.**
- **Avoiding the spread of rumors and unverified information about the pandemic, but rather deriving them from official sources.**
- **Minding personal hygiene and handwashing.**
- **Committing to home-quarantining upon return from travel.**
- **Committing to apply procedures issued by the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus.**
- **Volunteering in the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus.**



Figure 21: Common answers regarding how to contribute to the National Campaign to Combat the Coronavirus