

Report

HOME CARE AND TIME USE DURING THE PANDEMIC

December 2021

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1. ABOUT THE REPORT

This research report was prepared by the KONDA Research and Consultancy Inc. for the Turkey Representative of the Heinrich Böll Stiftung Association. It aims to understand the domestic work, home care, working practices and time use of the Turkish population aged 18 and over during the Coronavirus Pandemic, and to examine differences before the pandemic and in different periods of the pandemic.

The report includes household size and characteristics, relations within the household and work sharing, the situation and care of the individuals living in the household and in need of care, domestic relations and working practices during the pandemic, remote working and distance education practices and the difficulties experienced in these matters, and demographic differences in the use of time. These issues have been analyzed and interpreted both in themselves and in comparison with findings both pre-pandemic and from the early stages of the pandemic.

The content of the report reflects the opinions and preferences of the people interviewed. Face-to-face interviews were carried out in households of select regions during the period 22-24 October 2021.

The findings on pandemic practices and time use were compared with the findings of similar research we carried out in May 2020 and April 2018. In this way, we tried to understand the changing practices of society before the pandemic, during the pandemic restrictions and after the pandemic restrictions.

Prof. Dr. İpek İlkkaracan contributed to the content design of the research and interpretation of the findings as consultant.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In this research, we examined the working conditions of the interviewees, how households make a living, the forms of work and satisfaction with those, the average working hours and social security issues. In addition, we analyzed how the pandemic affected interviewees' working and home lives, and which activities they spent more time on during the pandemic period. Moreover, we examined in detail how a society's day was spent, which practices time was most devoted to, and the changes that have occurred in this situation since the pandemic.

One of the main topics of our research was "Home Care." In this topic, we tried to identify whether there are individuals in need of care in the household, and if so, who is responsible for the care of these individuals.

Fifty-four percent of society is currently not working.

Less than half of the population in the survey were doing paid work. At the time of the research, 54 percent of society was not working.

Nearly 85 percent of those working go to the office/factory/workplace.

During the pandemic, the number of people who switched to working at home or alternately working at home and at work increased. As of October 2021, almost 85 percent of those working were going to the office/factory/workplace to work.

Household livelihood needs are usually met by the wages of those in the household.

As a result of the answers given to the question "With which means do you meet the livelihood needs of your household?" we determined that three out of four households in society earn their living from the wages and salaries of those living in the households.

The occupational cluster with the highest average monthly income is white-collar employees.

While the average monthly household income of white collar employees is 7,492 TL, the average across Turkey is 5,158 TL.

Weekly working hours are quite high.

The working part of the society works an average of 48 hours a week. One in five people say that they work more than 60 hours a week.

Men work more than women and those with an education level below high school work more than those with higher education.

Men work longer hours than women. Women work an average of 43 hours a week and men 50 hours a week. As the education level decreases, the weekly working time increases. University graduates say that they work an average of 45 hours a week, high school graduates an average of 49, and those with less than high school education say that they work 50 hours a week.

Those who work from home or work alternately spend less time working than those who go to the office/factory/workplace.

Those who work only from home work 42 hours a week on average, those who work alternately work 43 hours, and those who go to the office/factory/workplace work 50 hours a week.

The majority prefer to work from the office/factory/workplace.

Despite this situation, four out of 10 people say that they prefer to go to the workplace, three out of 10 prefer to work from home, and 3 out of ten prefer to work alternately. Men and those who live alone tend to work from the office/factory/workplace and prefer to do so. This shows that going to the workplace has social effects outside of work and may reduce the workload at home.

One in five of those working work without insurance.

One out of every five working people does not have social security. As the level of education decreases, the proportion of uninsured individuals increases. One third of those with less than high school education do not have social security.

One in five working people was laid off, or quit their job, during the pandemic.

We see that those who were laid off and those who had to leave their jobs, an issue that was constantly on the public's agenda during the pandemic period, constitute 20 percent of workforce.

Seven out of 10 working people continued to go to the workplace during the pandemic period.

Seventy percent of those who continued to work during the pandemic period continued to go to the workplace to work, 15 percent worked from home for at least a while and 15 percent worked alternately from home and the workplace.

Three out of 10 households have a person in need of care.

Twelve percent of households have at least one baby/child, 10 percent of the households have at least one elderly person, 3 percent have at least one disabled person, and 3 percent have at least one sick individual.

Women are generally responsible for housework and providing care.

While 67 percent of women have sole responsibility for housework, this increases to 75 percent for married women. Women are generally responsible for caring for individuals in need of care. Ninety-three percent of those with sole responsibility for caring for babies in the household are women, and 73 percent of those with sole responsibility for the care of disabled, sick and elderly individuals are women.

The cluster with the highest workload at home is housewives.

While women in all clusters are more responsible for housework than men, housewives have the highest burden on housework, care for the elderly, disabled, sick and babies, and therefore have the most difficulty in workload.

During the pandemic, the time spent on housework has increased for a significant part of society.

Forty-four percent of people say that the time they spent on housework has increased during the pandemic, while 47 percent say that there was no change. Fifty-three percent of women and 57 percent of housewives reported an increase in the time they allocated to housework during the pandemic.

During the pandemic, the domestic burden of those with a baby in their household increased more.

The burden at home increased for 50 percent of those with a baby under the age of 2, while it only increased for 44 percent of those who did not have a baby in the household.

Nearly half of people complain about the domestic and out-of-home burden.

Since May 2020, there has been an increase in the rate of people complaining about the workload across society. Currently, 45 percent of households state that they have difficulties in terms of the total load inside and outside the home.

The burden increases as children's ages decrease

While those who have children at home have more difficulties in terms of total workload than those who do not have children, we can say that the total workload increases as the age of children decreases.

One out of 10 students could not participate in online education.

As a result of the fact that institutions and individuals were caught unprepared in education during the pandemic, one out of every 10 students who needed to receive online education could not be involved in this process.

The most common problems in online education are adaptation problems and the internet.

One out of every five students had problems in adapting to the online education process or with internet access. Sixteen percent of students had problems with phones, tablets and computers, and 7 percent had problems with the physical environment.

The most common complaint of those working from home was not getting enough support from their employer.

While more than half of those working continued to work in the workplace during the pandemic, the biggest problem faced by those working from home was not getting enough support from the employer. Seven percent of the employees complain about this issue.

During the pandemic, the rate of those receiving assistance from the municipality and the state is low.

During the pandemic, those receiving assistance from local municipalities constitute 27 percent of people, and those receiving assistance from the national state constitute 31 percent. The most common form of assistance people received from both municipalities and the state was access to face masks.

Two out of three people were able to keep time for themselves during the pandemic.

Sixty-seven percent of people say that they could take time for themselves during the pandemic. Those who devote the most time to themselves were students and, in parallel, young people.

During the pandemic, we spent more time with family and watched more television.

Three out of four people were able to spend more time with their family during the pandemic. Sixty-eight percent of people watched more television. During this period, women's time spent on dishes, cooking and laundry also increased.

On average, we allocate six hours a day to housework, education and work, and four and a half hours to television and the internet.

The time devoted to essential work during the day is slightly more than the time devoted to television and the internet. While six hours a day are allocated to housework, education and work, four and a half hours are allocated to the internet and television.

Men allocate approximately five and a half hours to their work, while this period is five hours for women. While men allocate half an hour a day to housework, women spend about three and a half hours on housework.

Working women spend nine hours a day on housework and work.

The combined burden of housework and work for women in employment is quite high. Working women spend nine hours a day on housework and work. Housewives, on the other hand, spend four and a half hours doing housework.

Older people spend more time on television and young people spend more time on the internet.

There is a big difference between the young and the old in time devoted to television and the internet. Young people prefer to spend more time with the internet, while the elderly prefer to spend time with television. Those aged 18-32 spend approximately three hours a day on the internet, while those aged 49 and above spend four hours watching television.

People living in the metropolis sleep more and work more.

On average, those living in the metropolis sleep eight hours a day, those living in the city sleep seven and a half hours, and those living in the countryside sleep seven hours. People living in the countryside tend to start the day earlier and end it earlier. Those living in the metropolis work on average of 3.8 hours a day, those living in the city 3.3 hours, and those living in rural areas work 2.7 hours a day.

Since the pandemic, there has been a serious change in the time allocated to sleep and other work.

During the pandemic, while the general public sleeps about eight and a half hours a day, we are currently sleeping for about seven and a half hours. The time spent with the internet and television has decreased to four and a half hours a day in comparison to the beginning of the pandemic.

People are more aware of the importance of domestic production, paid and unpaid care work.

A comparison of the data collected for this report and data collected in May 2020 shows that regardless of gender, education, household income (purchasing power) and employment status, for all segments of society, awareness of the importance of domestic production, and paid and unpaid care work increased. In addition to that, the results of this survey show huge support for the expansion of care services in society and the implementation of labor market regulations for work-life balance.

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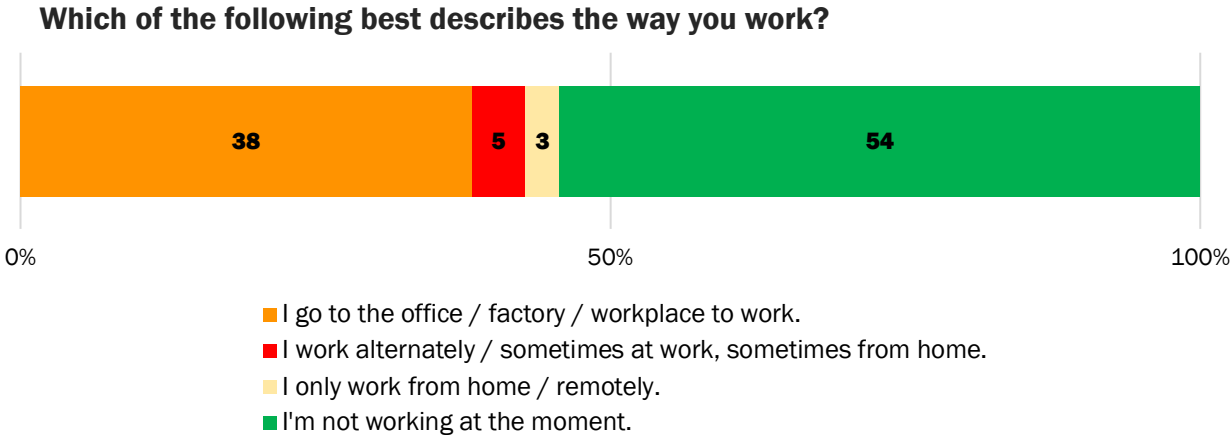
Note: In chapter 7 of the report, Prof. Dr. İpek İlkkaracan reviews the results of this report.

3. WORKING LIFE AND THE EFFECTS OF THE PANDEMIC

As it directly affects the livelihood of most households, work has been one of the most discussed topics during the pandemic, including in terms of remote working, short-time working allowance and dismissals. In this section, we tried to find out the working hours of the working part of society, where they work (such as from the home or office, factory, etc.), and whether they have insurance or not. In addition, we tried to understand the changing working conditions and workload in relation to the pandemic, and whether these returned to their original state after normalization.

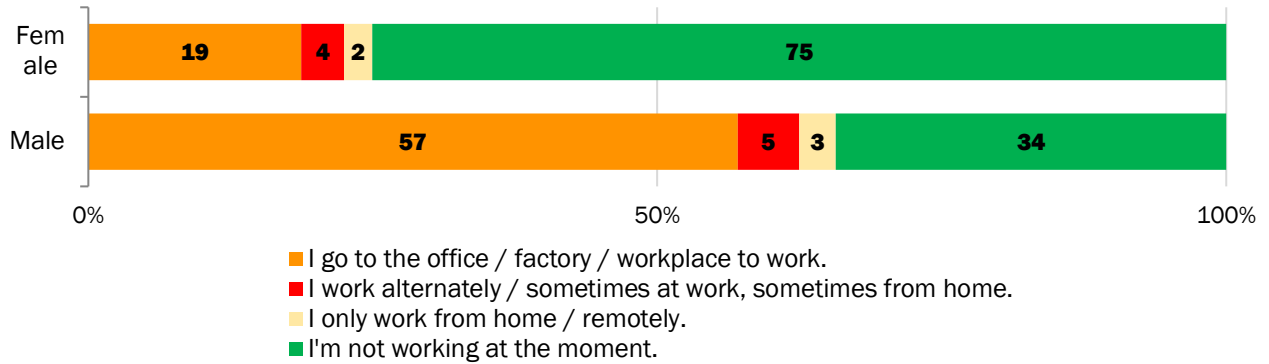
3.1. Current Working Situations and Patterns

With the pandemic, the way we work has changed, along with many aspects of our daily lives. While a group of workers could work from home thanks to technological tools, another group of workers had to physically go to their workplaces. While the practice of working remotely has become permanent in some sectors, in others a return to the workplace can be observed. In other situations, we continue to work from home and sometimes from the workplace alternately, which we call hybrid.



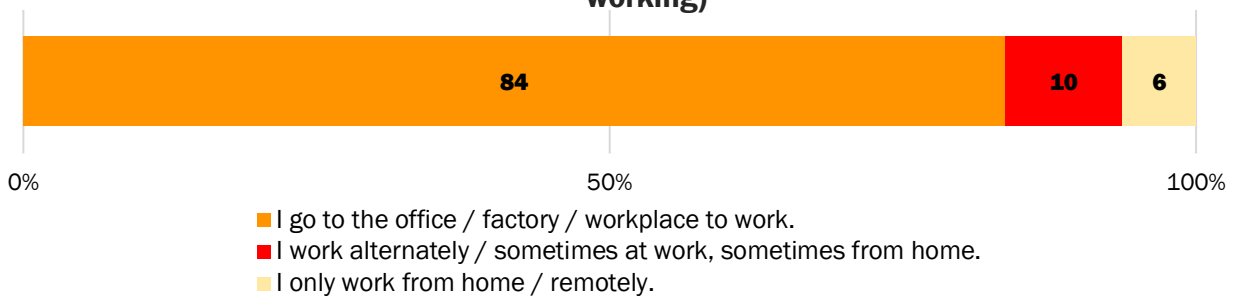
Considering the way individuals work, we see that 38 percent of individuals go to the office/factory/workplace to work. While the rate of those with a hybrid working style is 5 percent, the rate of those who work only from home/remotely is 3 percent. More than half of people are currently not working.

Which of the following best describes the way you work?



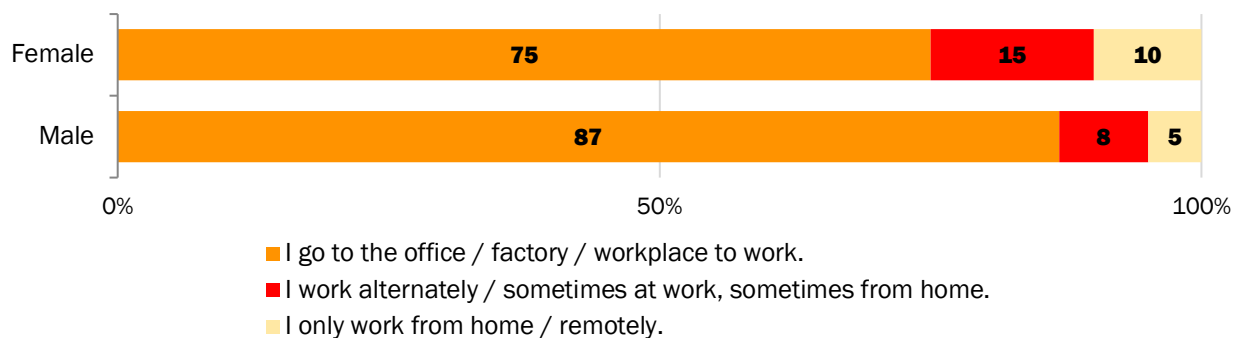
While more than half of people are not currently in paid work, we see that there is a serious difference between the rates of paid work for men and women. While 75 percent of women are not in the workforce, this rate is 34 percent for men.

Which of the following best describes the way you work? (only those working)



When we evaluate working styles on the basis of only the working segment, we see that the rate of those who go to the office/factory/workplace to work is 84 percent, the rate of those with a hybrid working style is 10 percent, and the rate of those who work only from home/remotely is 6 percent.

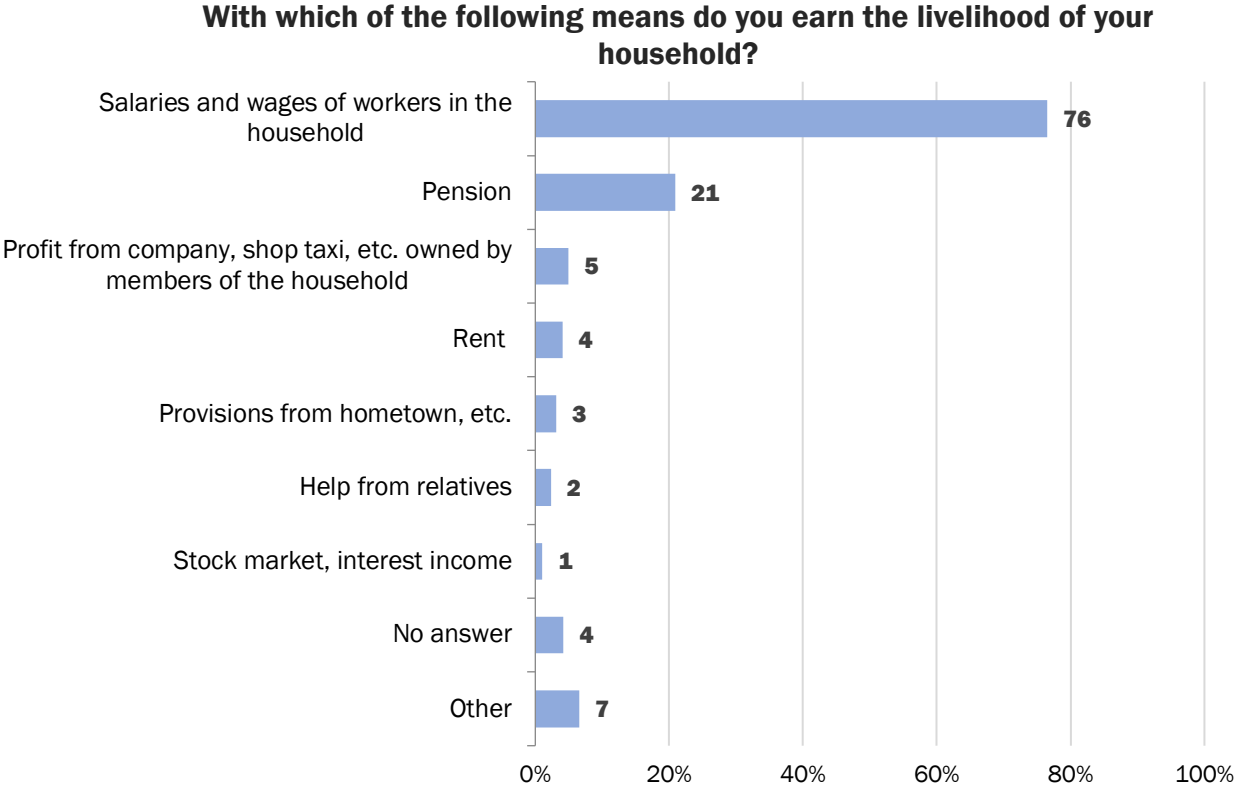
Working types according to gender



Considering how the working styles differ according to the genders, we can say that there is a noticeable difference between men and women. While 75 percent of women go to the office/factory/workplace to work, this rate is 87 percent for men. Fifteen percent of women have a hybrid working style, while 10 percent only work remotely from home. For men, these rates are 8 percent and 5 percent, respectively.

3.2. Livelihood and Income Status of the Household

In addition to fixed wages, ancillary income can also make up a large share of a household's livelihood. Investments in cryptocurrency, stock markets, and interest income, rent from shops or houses are examples of these situations. In addition to these, some households are trying to make a living with the help of their friends and relatives or with resources from their hometowns. In this section, we examine the findings about the resources that people draw on to provide for the household.

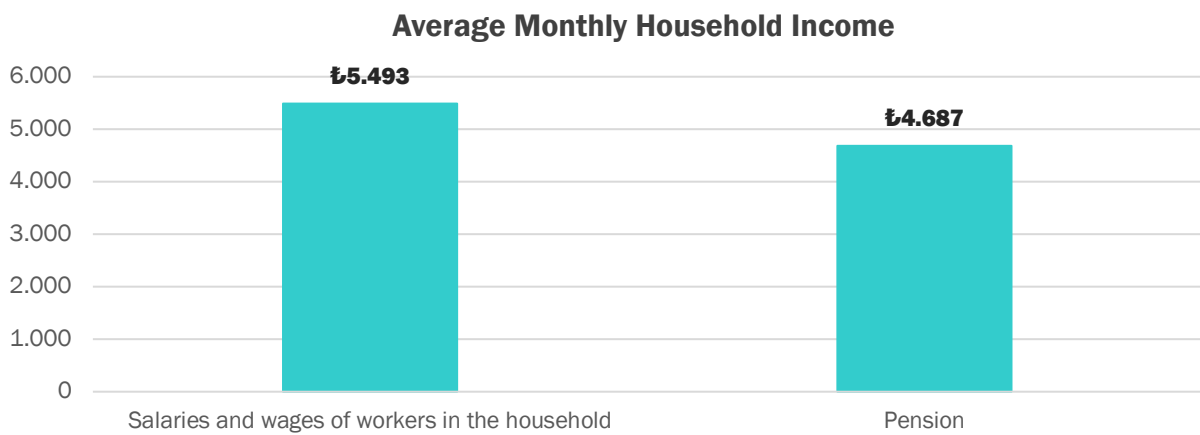


Based on the answers given to the question "With which means do you meet the livelihood needs of your household?" we can say that a large part of the society does not have extra income other than their salaries/wages.

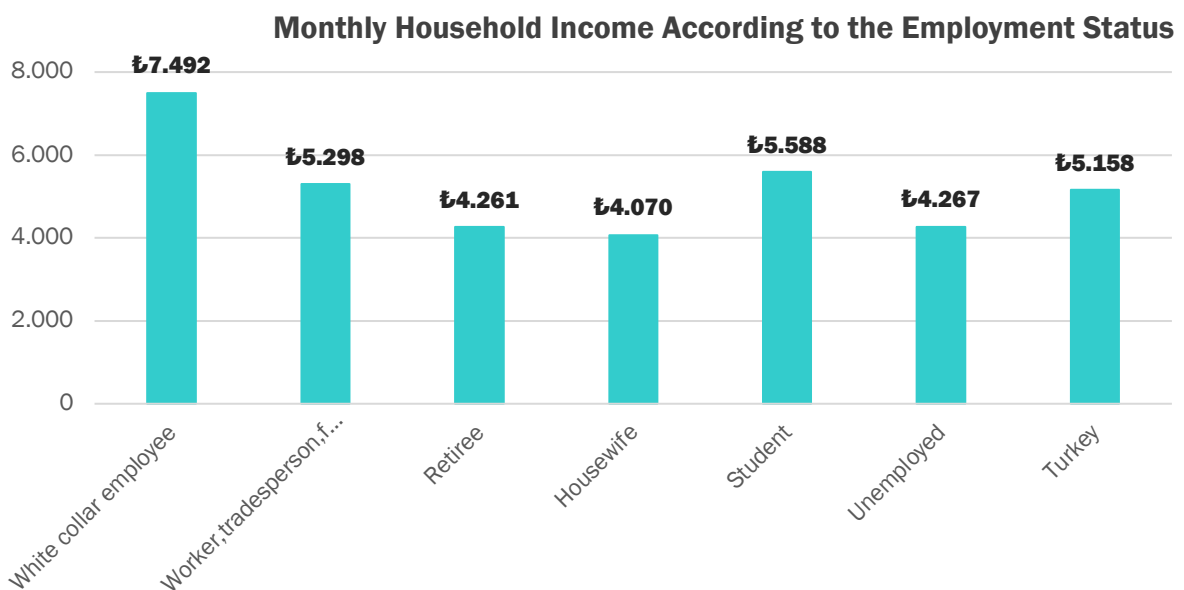
Seventy-six percent of people say that they live on the salaries and wages of the workers in the household, and 21 percent on the pension. Those with profit from a company owned by the household (e.g. shops, taxis, etc.) make up 5 percent of society, those with rental income 4

percent, and those with stock market and interest income 1 percent. In addition to these, we see that 3 percent of people receive provisions from their hometown, and 2 percent receive help from a family relative. Seven percent of people support the livelihood of the household in another way besides these mentioned incomes and benefits.

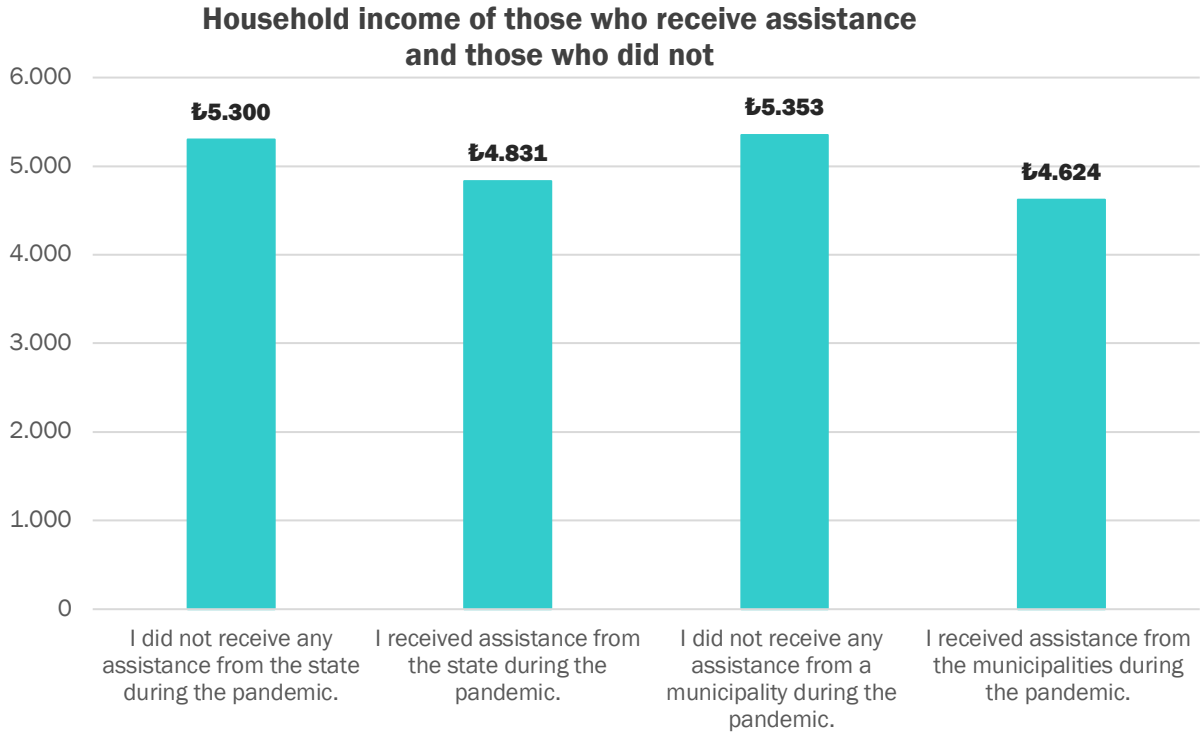
We see that a large part of society makes a living from the salaries and wages of workers in the household. A pension is another form of income that contributes the most to the livelihood of the household after fixed wages and salaries. We will now look at the monthly household income and monthly per capita household income of those with these two income sources and other major clusters.



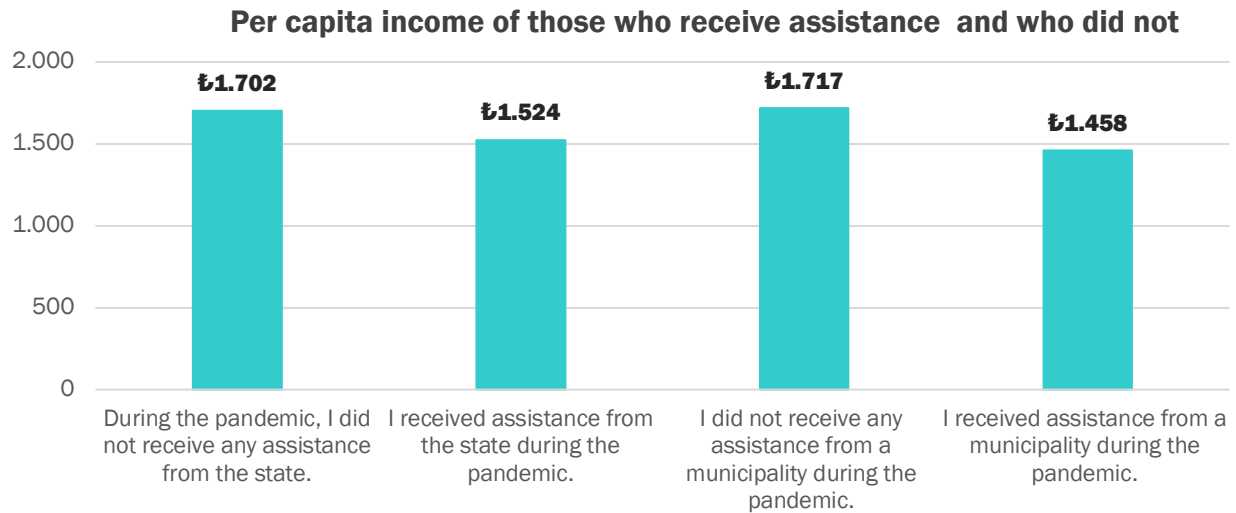
When we look at the average monthly household incomes of those who make a living with a pension and those who do so with a salary or wages, we see that the average monthly household income of those who receive a pension is 4,687 TL, while the average monthly household income of those who receive a salary or wages is 5,493 TL. However, when evaluating these averages, it is necessary to consider the possibility that a household may receive both a pension and a normal salary or wage at the same time.



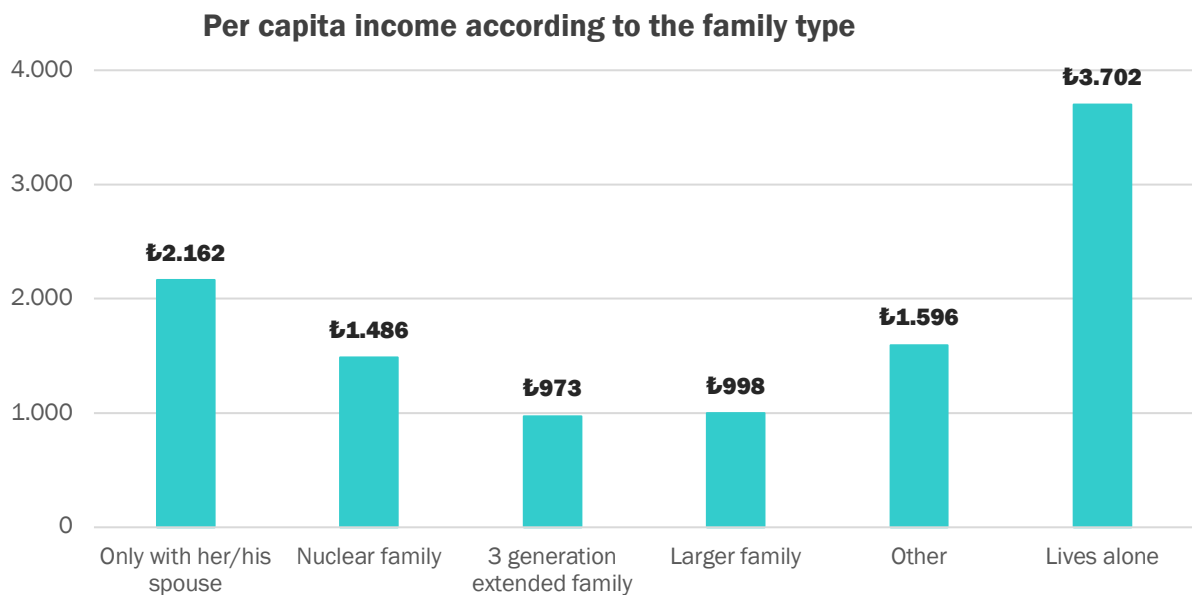
When we take the monthly household incomes according to occupation status, we see that white-collar employees have a significantly higher household income than other clusters. While the average monthly household income of white-collar workers is 7,492 TL, we see that workers, tradespeople and farmers have a monthly household income of 5,298 TL and retirees have a monthly household income of 4,261 TL. The average across all groups in Turkey is 5,158 TL.



When we examine the average monthly household income according to those who received assistance from a municipality or the state during the pandemic, we see that those who did not receive assistance had a higher household income than those who received assistance. While the average monthly household income of those who received assistance from the state during the pandemic is 4,831 TL, this is 5,300 TL for those who did not receive assistance from the state. The average monthly household income of those who received assistance from a municipality during the pandemic is 4,624 TL, and the average monthly household income of those who did not receive assistance from a municipality is 5353 TL. In general, it is possible to say that those who received assistance receive an average of 500-700 TL less per month than those who did not. In these groups, per capita income is as important as monthly household income.



We see that those who received assistance from the state and/or municipality have an average monthly income of 250-300 TL less per household member than those who do not. We can say that one of the most important factors affecting per capita household income is the number of people in the household, that is, the type of family.



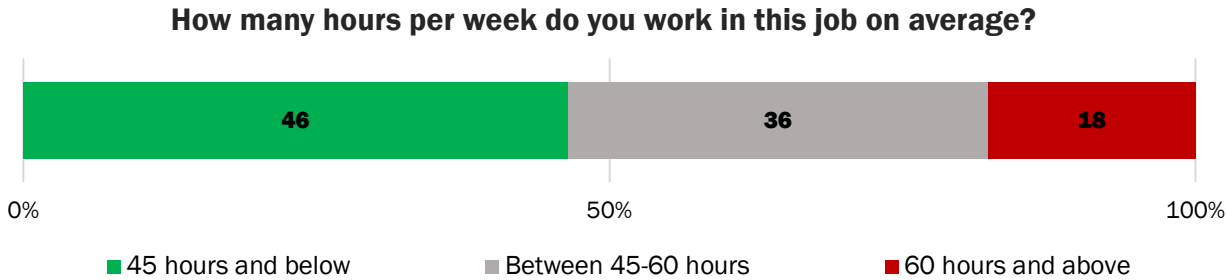
As the family expands, per capita income decreases

When we look at family types, we see that when the number of people in the household increases, per capita income decreases. While the average monthly income of those living alone is 3,702 TL, the per capita income of those living only with a spouse is 2,162 TL, and that of those living with a nuclear family is 1,486 TL. The monthly income per person in a 3-generation extended family or larger family households (where other family members or relatives live alongside the mother and/or father and child) is between 950-1,000 TL.

After examining how livelihood is provided generally and the situation of the monthly household income, the next section will look at the weekly working hours of working individuals and whether they have social security.

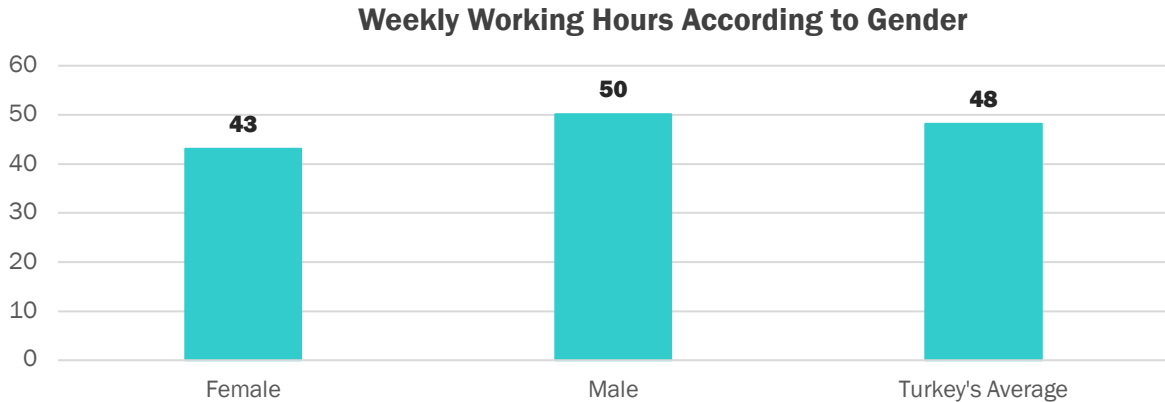
3.3. Working Hours for Weekly Income and Social Security

Working conditions and employment rights in Turkey have been a topic of debate for many years and this debate has been increasing during the pandemic. In the research findings, we see that the average weekly working hours and the rate of uninsured workers are quite high.



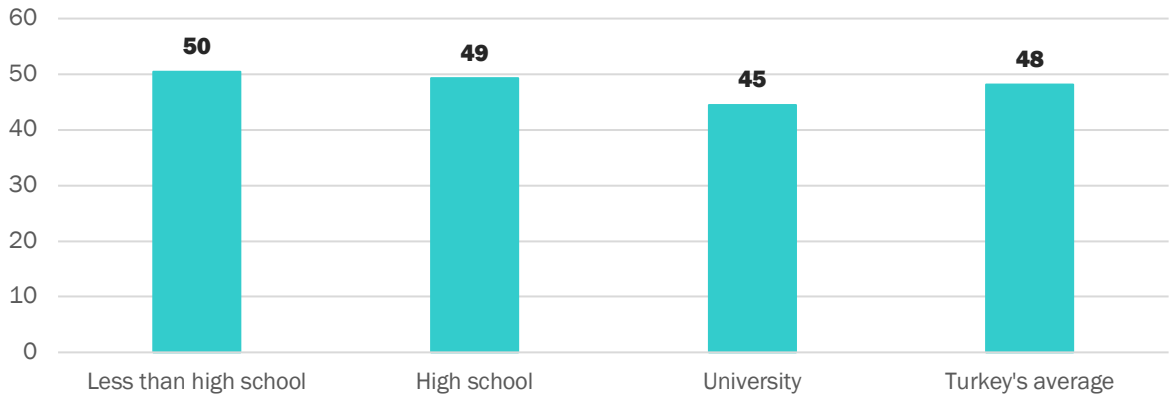
One in five people work more than 60 hours a week

The average working time in Turkey is 48 hours per week. While the legal maximum working hours in Turkey is 45 hours per week, we see that only 46 percent of workers work 45 hours or less. While the rate of workers working 45 to 60 hours a week is 36 percent, those who work 60 hours or more make up 18 percent of working people.



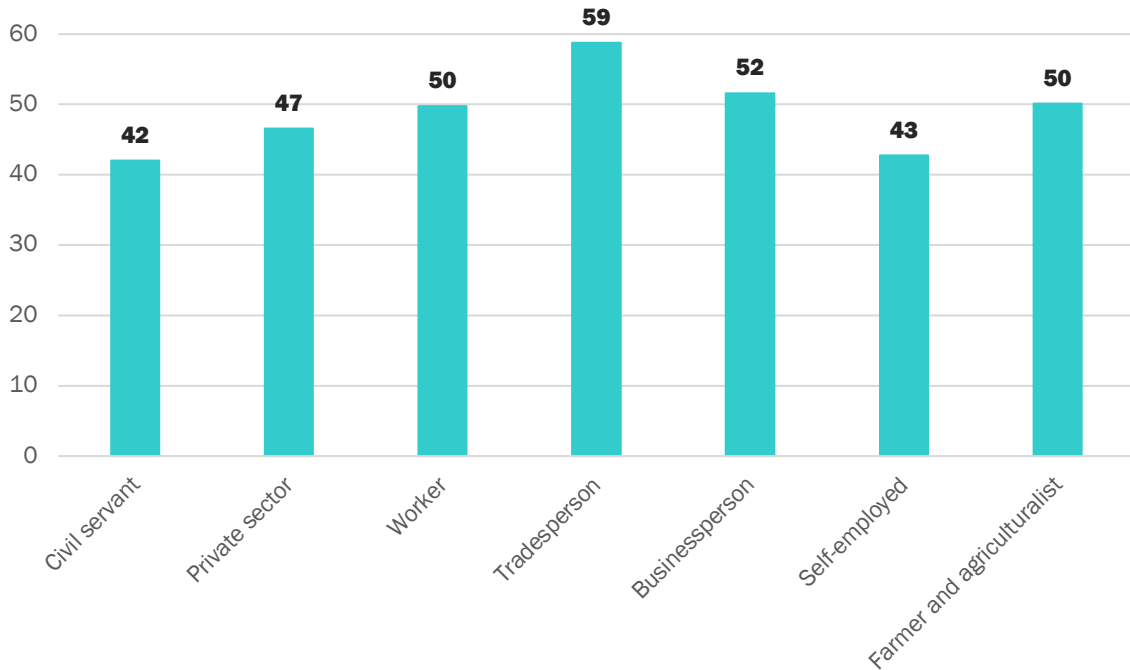
We see that among the demographic factors that affect weekly working hours, the most impactful are gender and educational status. While the average weekly working time for women is 43 hours, men work an average of 50 hours.

Weekly Working Hours According to Education Status



As the education level increases, weekly working hours decrease. While the average weekly working hours of those with less than high school education is 50 hours, high school graduates work an average of 49 hours a week, and university graduates work 45 hours a week.

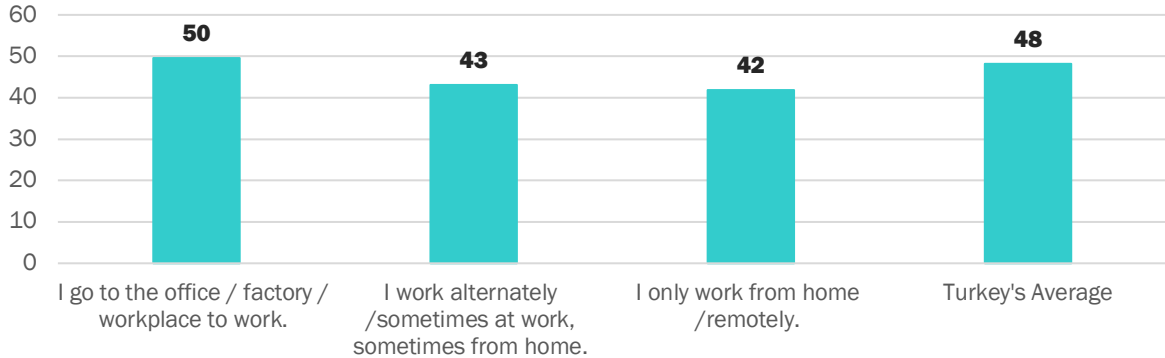
Weekly Working Hours According to the Occupational Clusters



When we examine the weekly working hours according to occupational groups, we see that the occupational group with the longest working hours is tradespeople. Tradespeople work an average of 59 hours a week. Workers, farmers and agriculturalists follow the tradespeople with an average of 50 hours per week.

While those working in the private sector work an average of 47 hours a week, civil servants work 40 hours a week and have the lowest weekly working hours among all occupational groups.

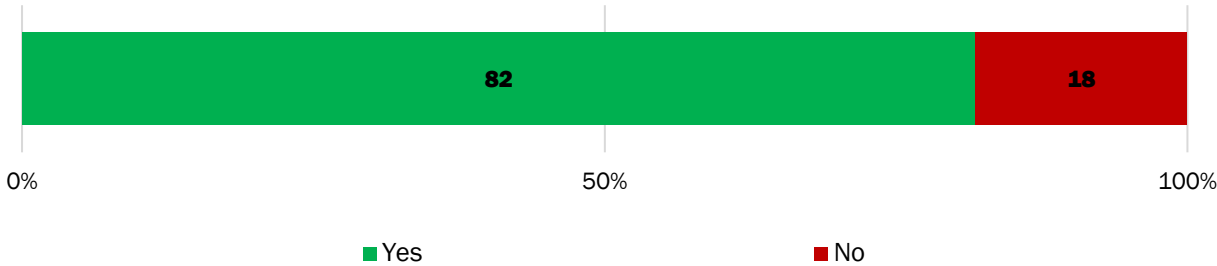
Weekly Working Hours According to the Working Style



Working styles also stand out as a factor affecting weekly working hours. When we look at current working styles, we see that those who go to the office/factory/workplace to work have more weekly working hours than those who work from home or have a hybrid working style.

Those who go to the office/factory/workplace work an average of 50 hours a week, those with a hybrid working style work 43 hours a week, and those who only work from home/remotely work an average of 42 hours. This shows us that remote or rotational working styles may reduce workloads.

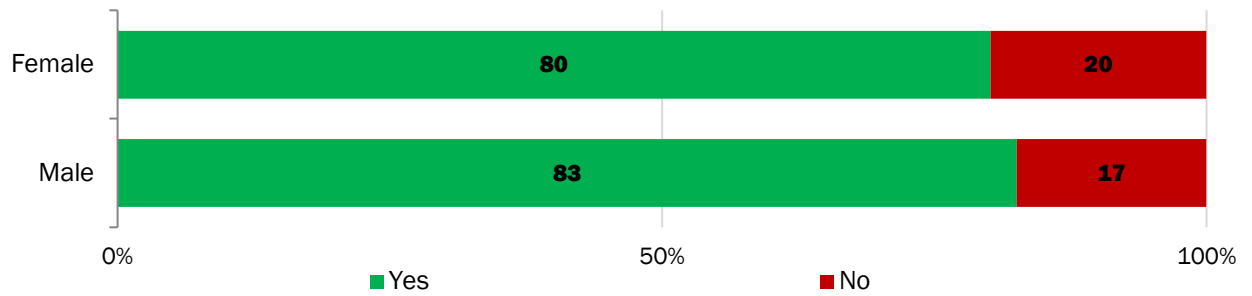
(If employed) do you have social security because of your current job?



It would not be wrong to say that one of the most discussed issues in Turkey within the framework of worker and employee rights, along with working hours, is the social security of workers.

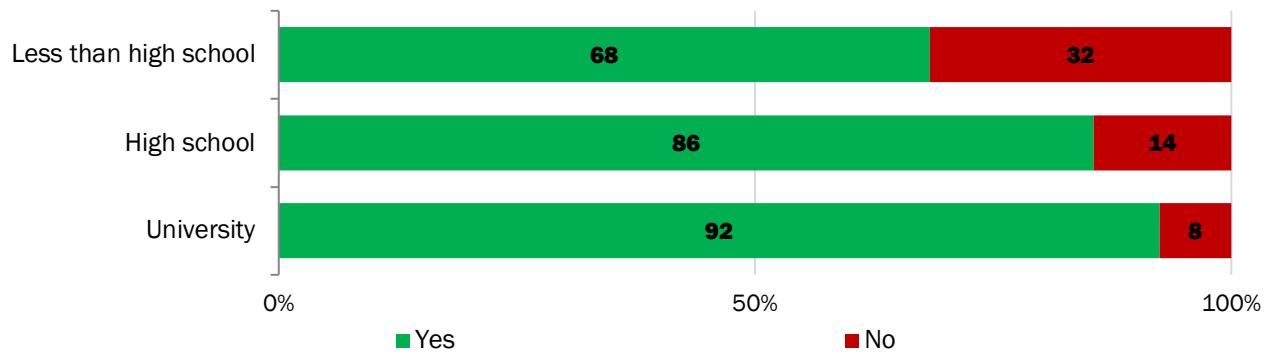
We see that 82 percent of those employed responded 'Yes' to the question "Do you have social security because of your current job?" and 18 percent answered 'No.'

(If employed) do you have social security because of your current job?



When we look at whether working women and men have social security, we see that 80 percent of working women and 83 percent of working men have social security because of their current jobs.

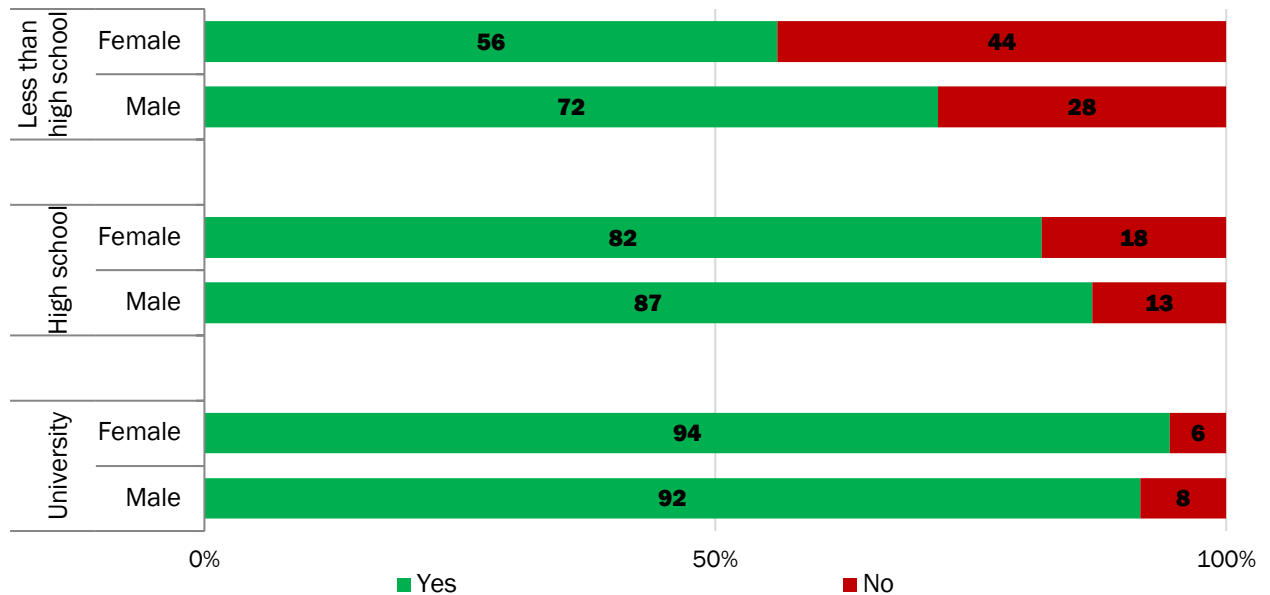
(If employed) do you have social security because of your current job?



One-third of those with less than high school education do not have social security through their jobs

When we evaluate this issue according to educational status, we see that one out of every three workers with less than high school education does not have social security through their jobs. As the level of education increases, the rate of having social security through employment also increases. Eighty-six percent of high school graduates and 92 percent of university graduates state that they have social security through their jobs.

(If employed) do you have social security because of your current job?



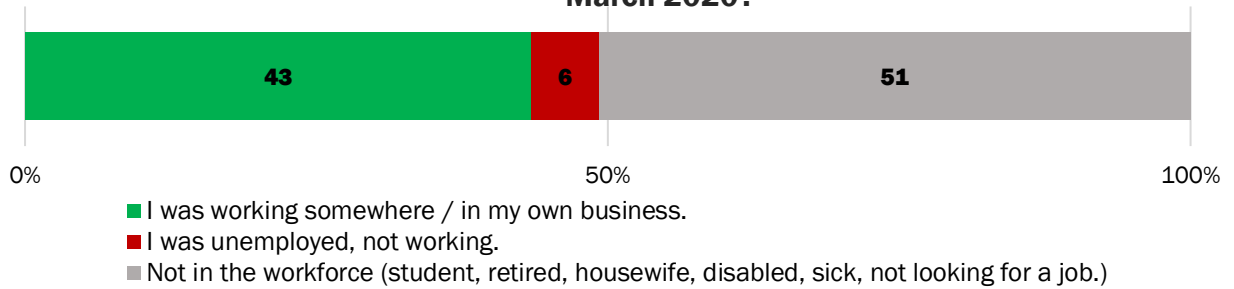
When we examine the education levels together with gender, the rate of women with less than high school education and high school graduates have lower rates of social security through their jobs compared to men with the same education level. On the other hand, 94 percent of university graduate women and 92 percent of university graduate men have social security through their jobs.

While 72 percent of working men with less than high school education have social security, it is noteworthy that this rate is 56 percent among working women with the same education level.

3.4. Working Conditions and Forms during the Pandemic

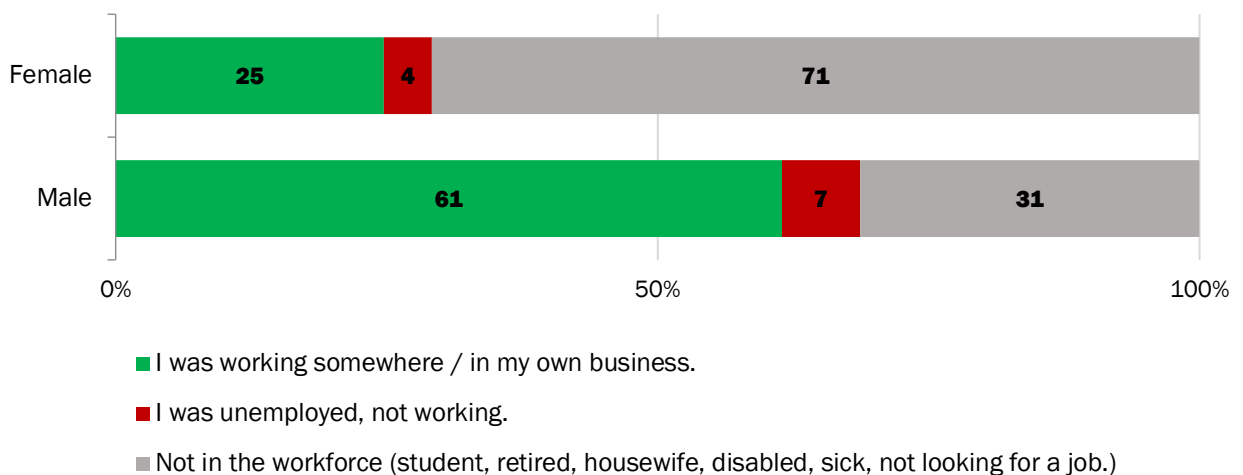
After talking about the working practices and conditions in Turkey, it is necessary to talk about the effects of the pandemic on working life. Dismissals came to the fore every day with the pandemic, while taking paid or unpaid leave, shopkeepers closing their shutters, and people quitting their job for various reasons were some of the other problems linked to the coronavirus in economic and working life. In addition, the system of working from home, which is frequently discussed especially on social media, has also become a part of the period called the 'New Normal.' As a result of the research, we can say that these situations affect a large part of society in significant ways.

What was your working condition before the pandemic, namely before March 2020?

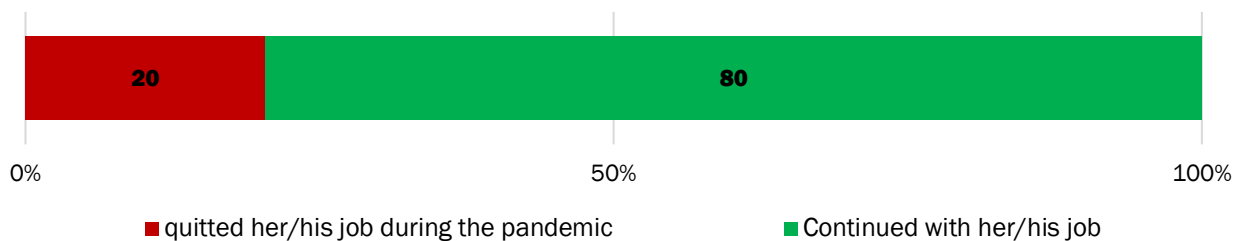


First of all, when we look at working condition before the pandemic, we see that 43 percent of people worked somewhere or in their own business before the pandemic, 8 percent were unemployed, and 51 percent were not in the workforce.

What was your working condition before the pandemic, namely before March 2020?



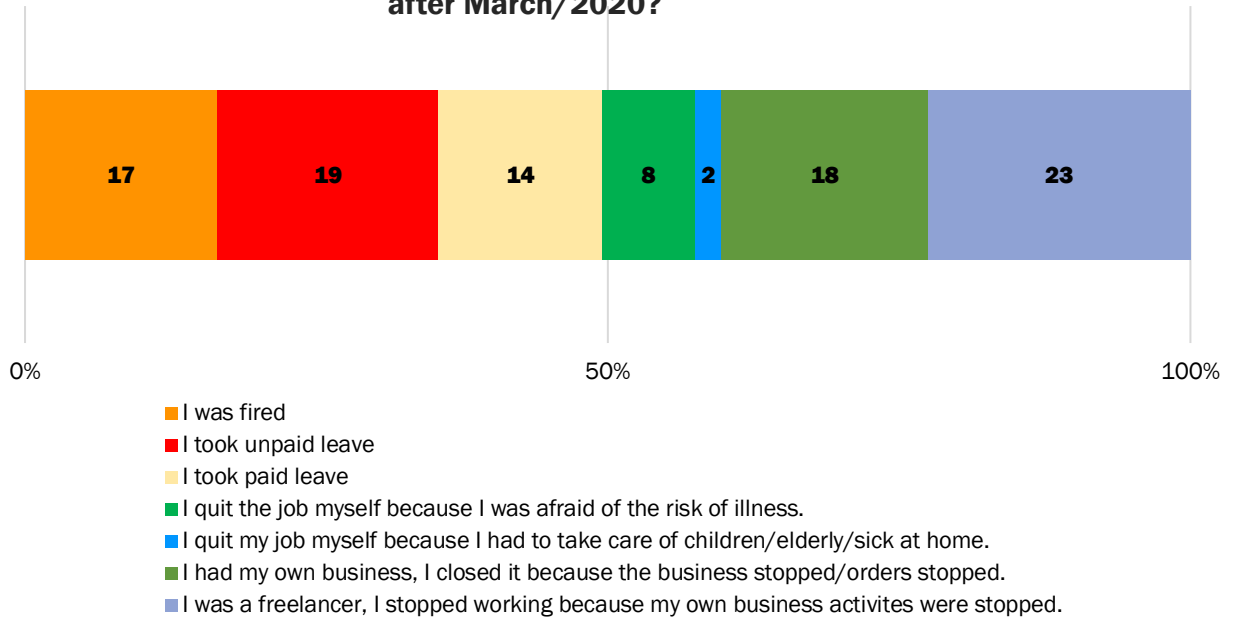
Did you stop working during the pandemic?



As is known, one of the biggest problems created by the pandemic was layoffs. The problems experienced by those who were unemployed, closed their workplaces or put on compulsory

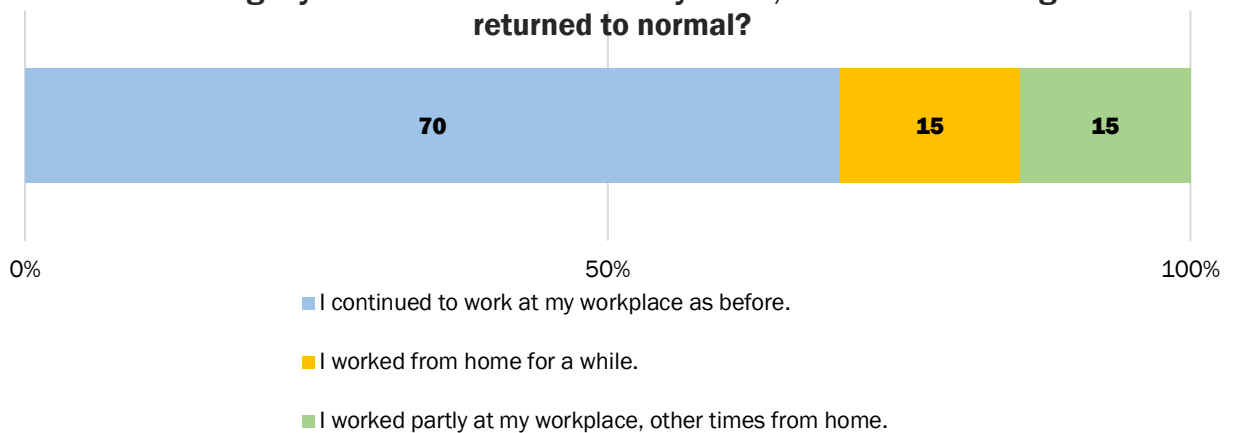
leave during this period continue in the normalization process. Twenty percent of people stopped working during the pandemic period, for various reasons.

Why/how did you quit, if you stopped doing your job with the pandemic after March/2020?



Seventeen percent of those who stopped working during the pandemic were dismissed. Eight percent quit job because they were afraid of the risk of disease and 2 percent quit job to care for someone in their household. Fourteen percent took paid leave and 19 percent took unpaid leave. Eighteen percent of those who stopped working had to close their workplaces because the business/orders stopped, and 23 percent stopped working as freelancers because their activities stopped.

With the start of the pandemic, has there been a change in your working style from March 2020 to July 2021, that is before things returned to normal?

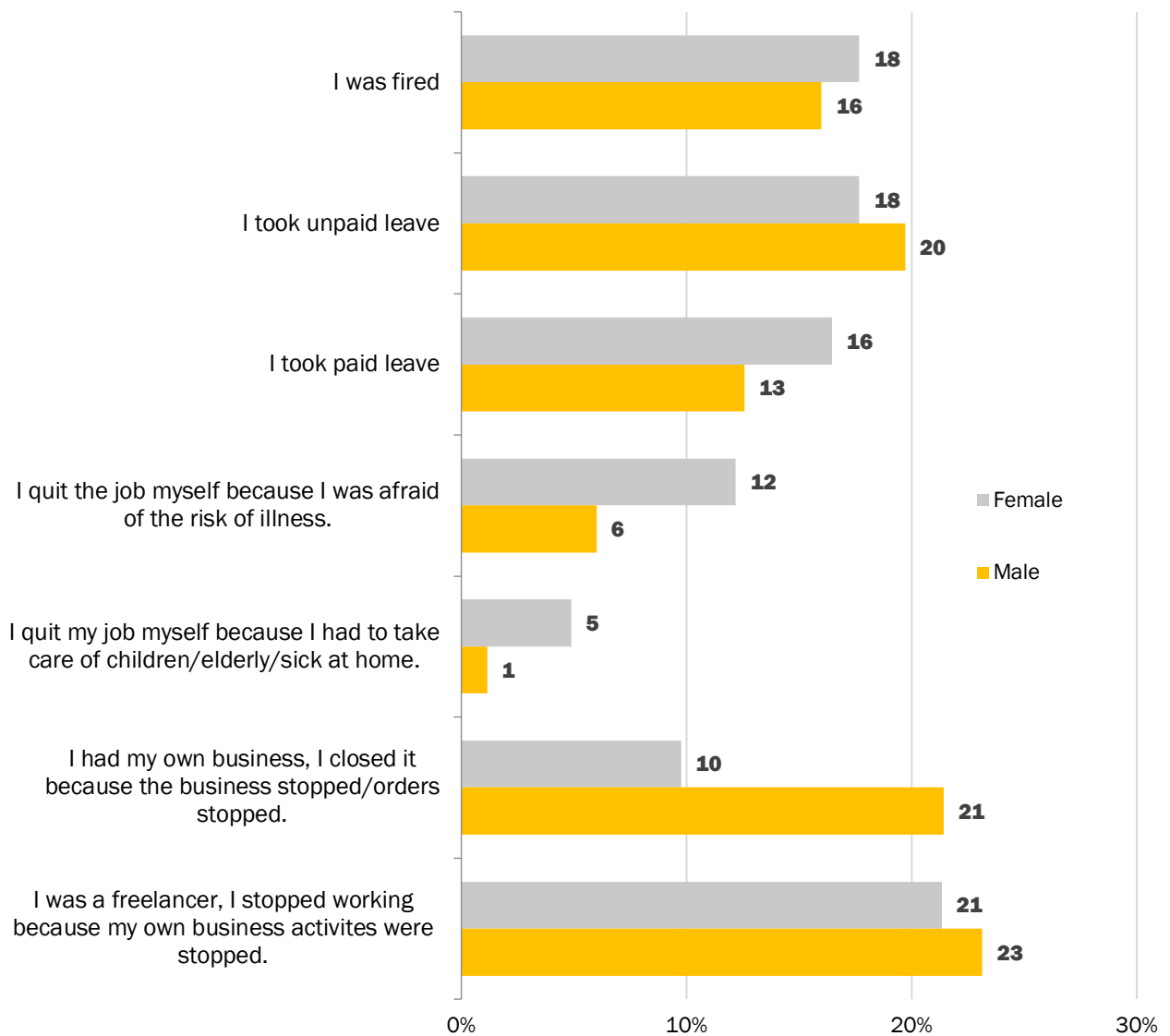


When we look at those who continued to work during the pandemic, we see that seven out of 10 people continued to work at the workplace as before. We see that half of the remaining 30

percent worked from home, and half had a hybrid working style, alternating between the workplace and home.

In these two cases, we can say that the gender factor is very important. When we look at those who stopped working and the changes in working styles due to the pandemic, we see that there is a serious difference between men and women.

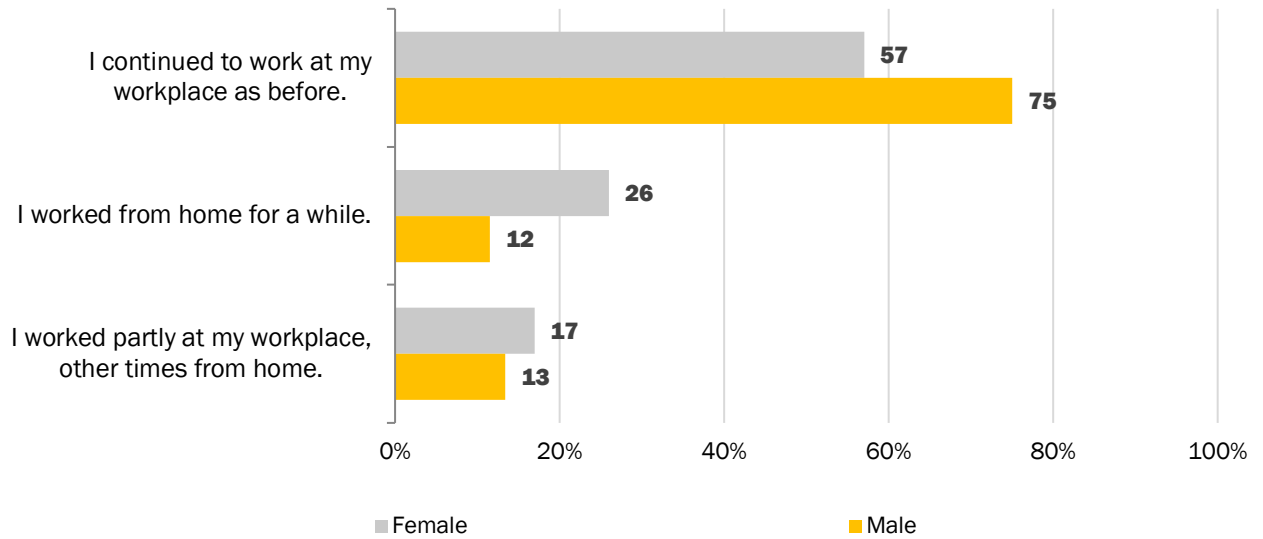
Why/how did you quit, if you stopped doing your job with the pandemic after March 2020?



When we look at the situation of those who stopped working after March 2020, we see that 12 percent of women quit their job because they feared the risk of illness, while this rate is 6 percent among men. In addition, the rate of those who left their job because they had to look after children/elderly/patients at home is 5 percent among women; it is only 1 percent among men. The fact that women have more duties at home than men can explain this

difference. In addition, we see that while a higher proportion of men than women took unpaid leave, a higher proportion of women took paid leave.

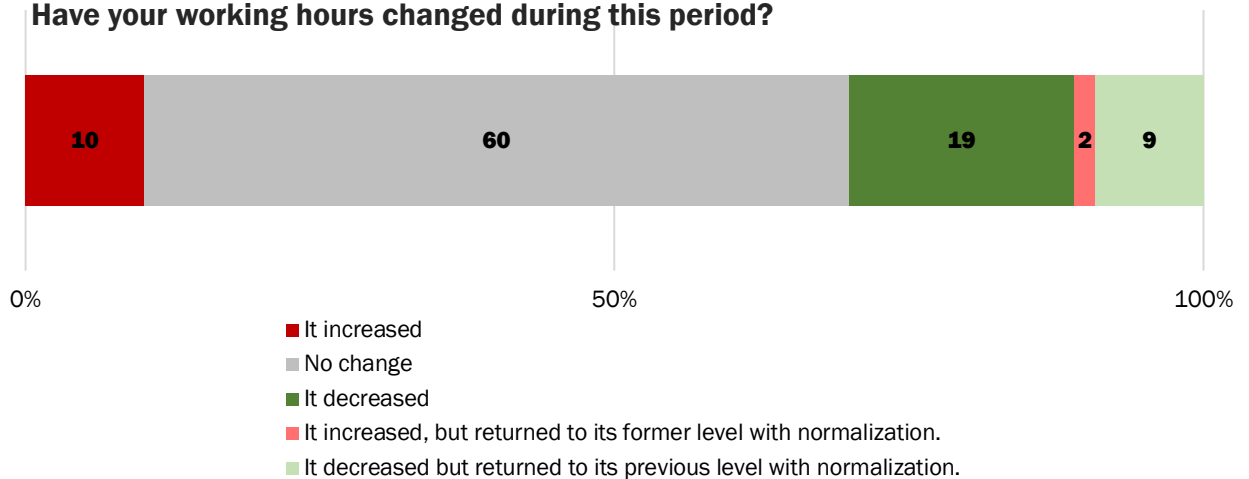
With the pandemic, has there been a change in your working style from March 2020 to July 2021, that is, before things returned to normal?



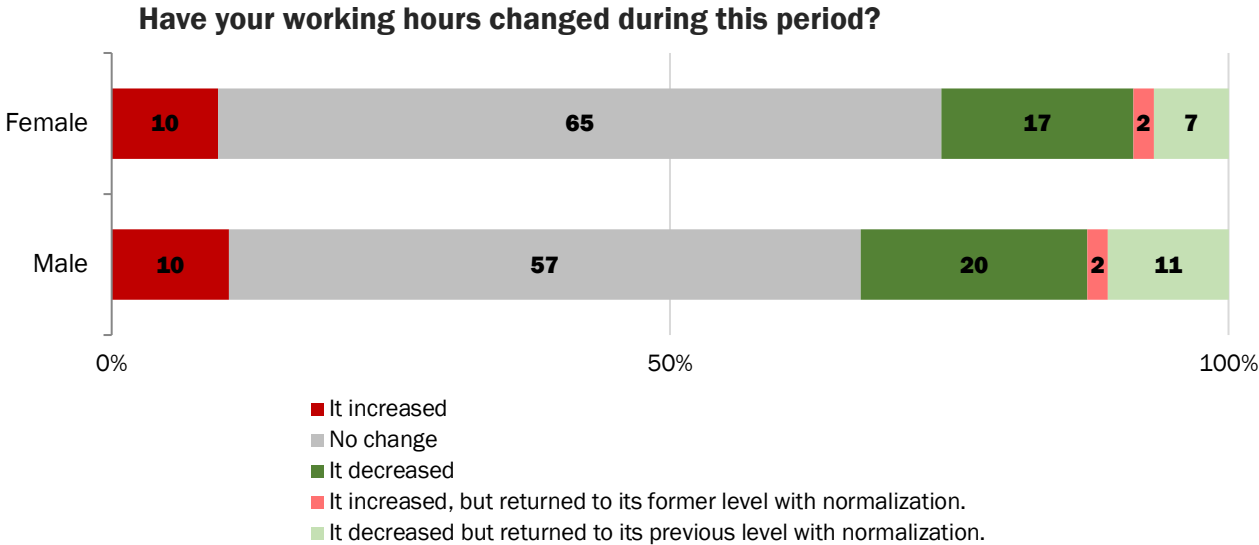
Fifty-seven percent of employed women and 75 percent of employed men continued to work at the workplace as before during the pandemic period. Those working from home for a period of time constituted a quarter of women and one in ten men. Seventeen percent of women and 13 percent of men worked with a hybrid working style during the pandemic period.

These data show that a larger proportion of women than men working from home during the pandemic. The reason for this difference is that the traditional codes in society for keeping women settled more at home are also evident in these and similar practices. The idea that women "belong to the house" seems to have directly affected the working systems of public and private institutions during the pandemic period.

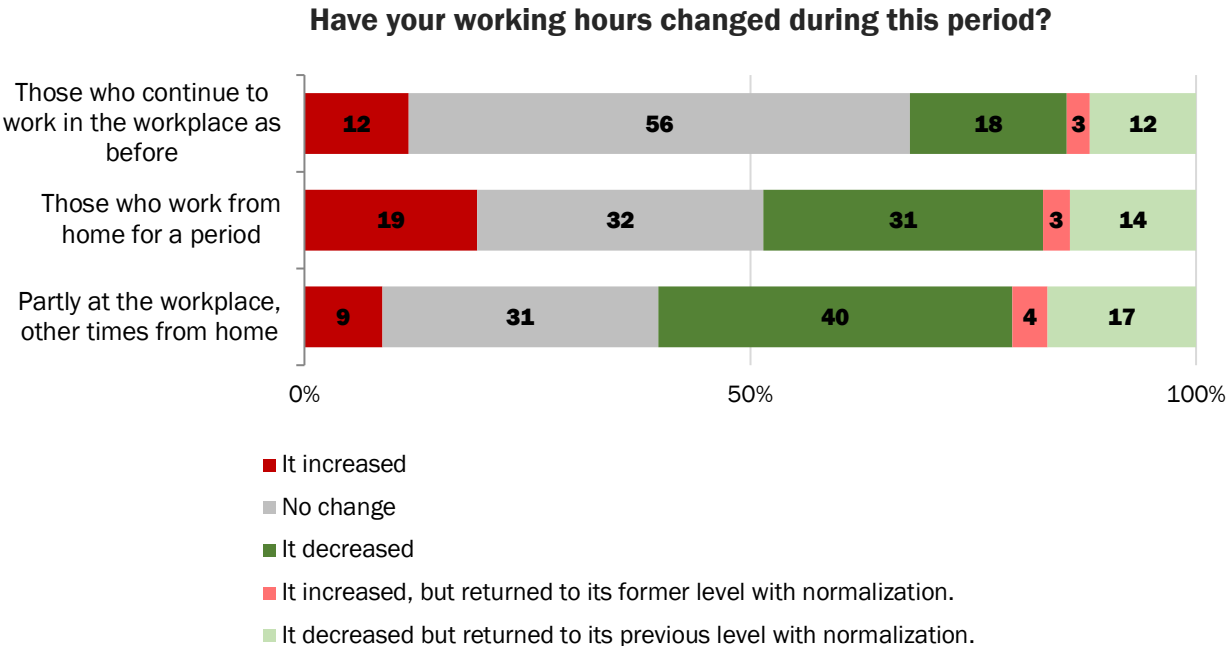
Have your working hours changed during this period?



The increase in working hours of those working in certain professions and the decrease in working hours due to the cessation of production in certain sectors were also topics that came to the fore during the pandemic. When we look at whether there is a change in working hours during the pandemic period, we see that the working hours of six out of ten workers have not changed, the working hours of around two of ten have decreased, and the working hours of one of ten have increased (although some of these saw their working hours subsequently return to normal).



The change in working hours during the pandemic period does not show a serious difference according to gender. The working hours of both 10 percent of women and men have increased during this period. While the working hours of 65 percent of women and 57 percent of men did not change, the working hours of 17 percent of women and 20 percent of men decreased during this period.

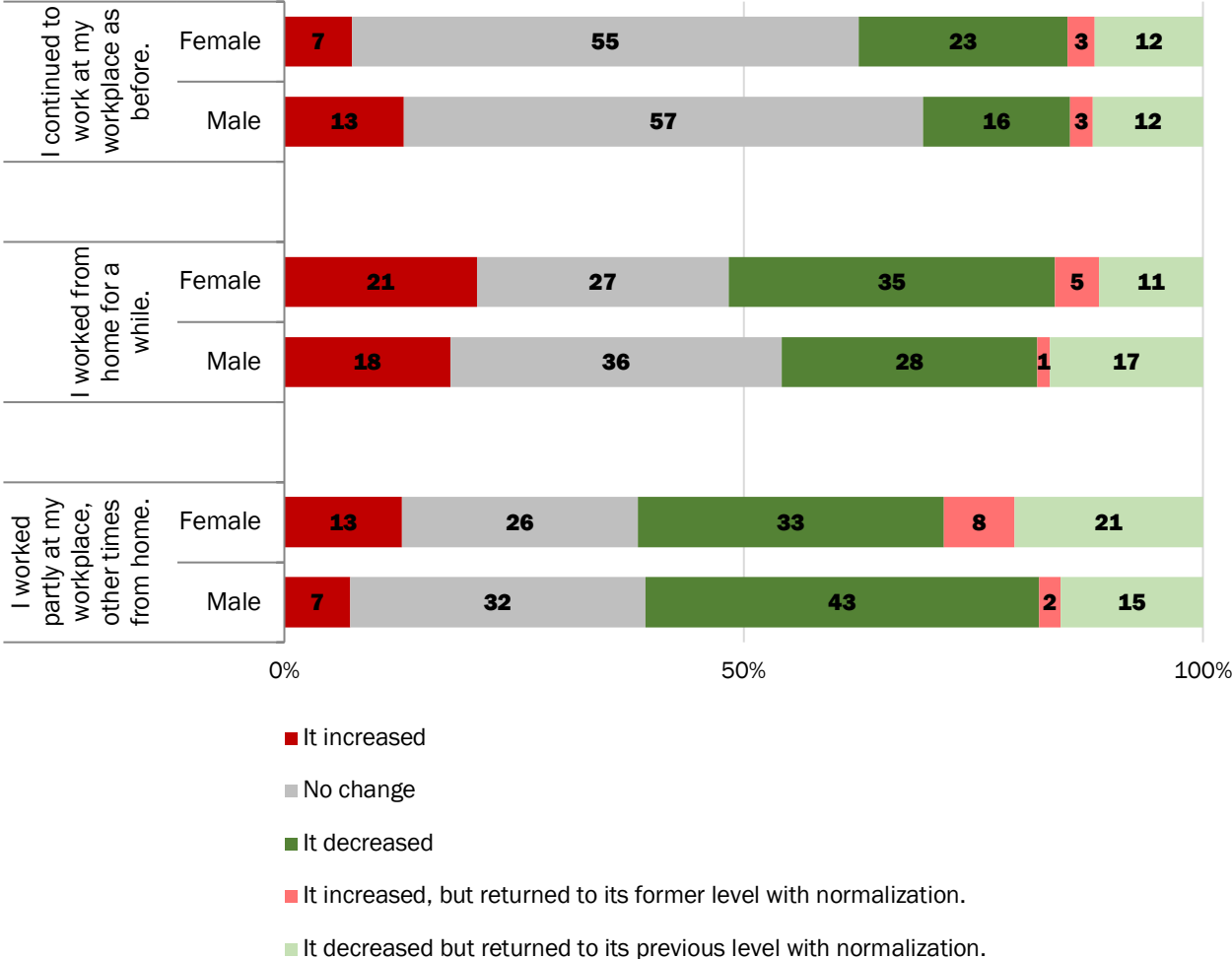


When we look at how the changes in the way of working affect working hours, we see that the working hours of those who continue to work at the workplace changed less than those who adopted a remote or hybrid working system. As before, 56 percent of those who continued to work at the workplace say that there is no change in working hours, 12 percent say that their working hours have increased, and 18 percent say that their working hours have decreased.

In the pandemic, we see that the working hours of those working from home for a period have increased more than other employees. In this period, 32 percent of those working from home say that their working hours have not changed, while 19 percent say that their working hours have increased and 31 percent state that they have decreased.

Those who adopted a hybrid working system and continue to work sometimes from home and sometimes at the workplace, are the group whose workload has decreased the most during the pandemic. While the working hours of 31 percent of this group did not change, the working hours of 9 percent increased and of 40 percent decreased.

Have your working hours changed during this period?



Considering how the working hours have changed according to the change in the manner of work of women and men, we observe that the working hours of 13 percent of the men who have been working at the workplace as before have increased, while the working hours of 7 percent of the women have increased. While the working hours of 16 percent of men who continue to work from their workplace have decreased, this rate is 23 percent for women.

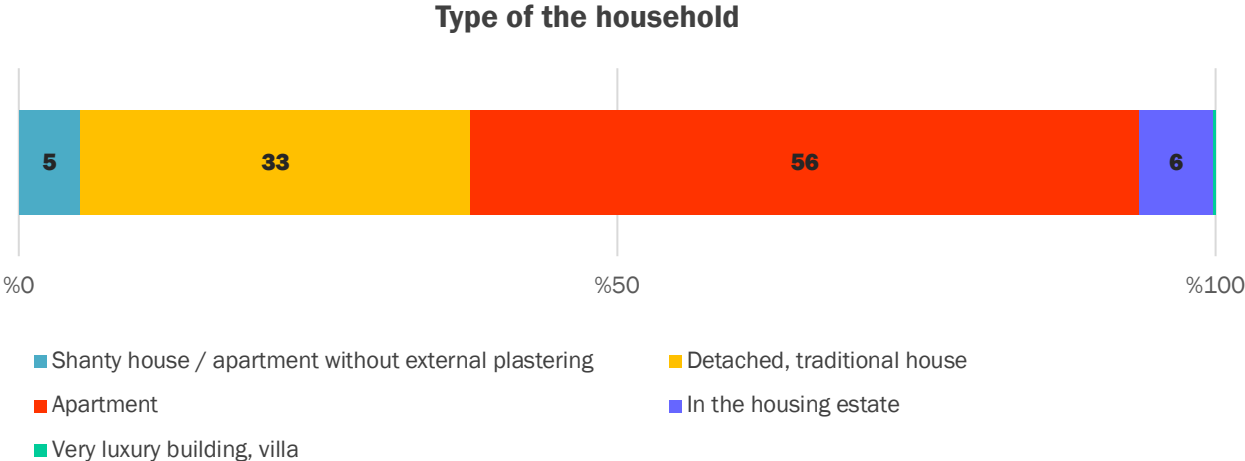
While the working hours of 21 percent of women and 18 percent of men who have worked from home for a period have increased, we see that the working hours of 35 percent of women and 28 percent of men who have worked from home for a period have decreased.

The hybrid working system, on the other hand, stands out as the working system that causes the biggest difference between women and men. We see that the working hours of 13 percent of women and 7 percent of men who have worked partly from the workplace and partly from home have increased, while the working hours of 33 percent of women and 43 percent of men in this system have decreased.

4. DOMESTIC WORK AND HOME CARE

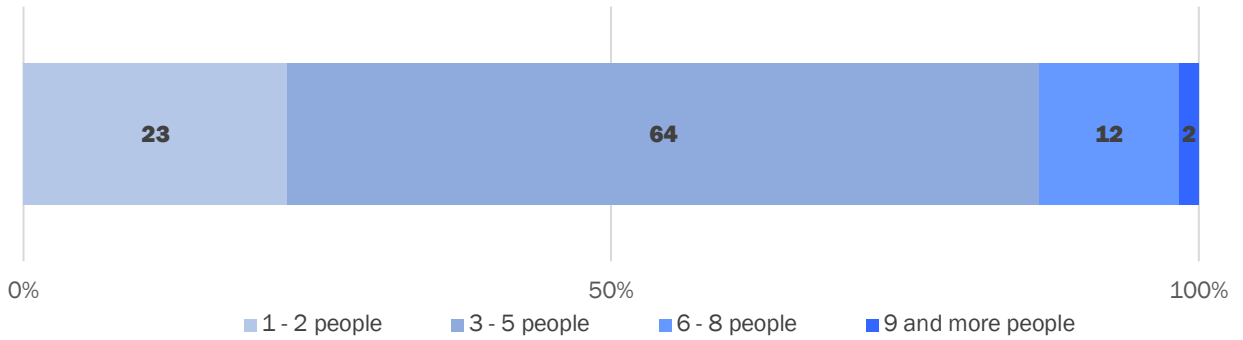
One of the subjects we tried to learn about within the scope of the Home Care research was who throughout society is responsible for household chores and for meeting the needs of people who required home care. In light of the results, we can say that the roles of men and women determined by traditional Turkish family structure continue to be relevant today.

Before addressing the topics of housework and home care, examining the structure of households and family types in society will help us to explain these issues.



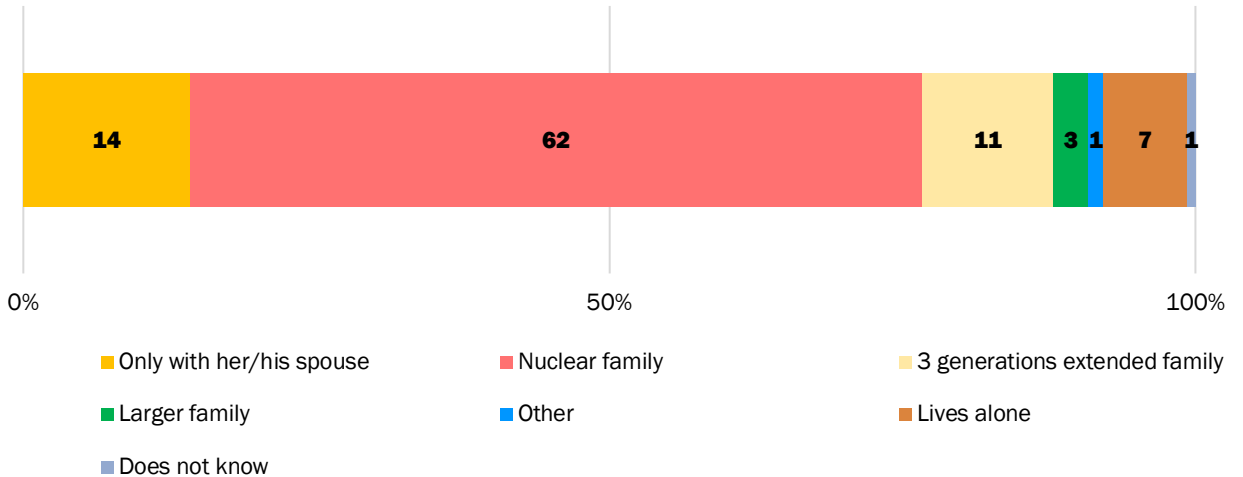
Five percent of people live in shanty housing or apartments without external plastering, 33 percent live in detached or traditional houses, 56 percent live in apartments, 6 percent live in housing estates, the remaining less than 1 percent live in very luxurious buildings or villas.

Number of persons in the household



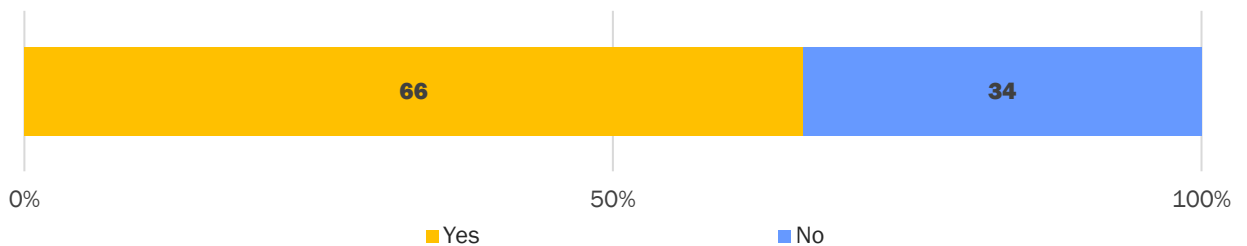
Looking at the number of people in households, 23 percent of people live in households with 1-2 people, 64 percent in households with 3-5 people, 12 percent in households with 6-8 people, and 2 percent in households with 9 or more people.

Family type

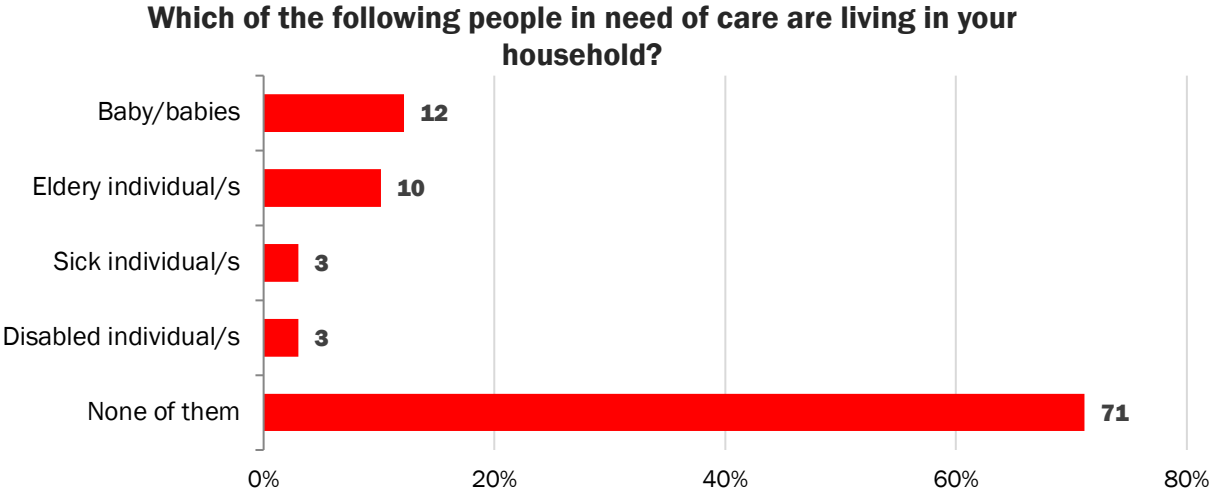


When we examine the number of households more deeply and look at the family type, we see that 62 percent of people have a nuclear family household structure. Those living only with their spouses make up 14 percent of people, those living with a 3-generation extended family make up 11 percent, and those living alone make up 7 percent.

Child in the household



In addition to these, two out of every three people have a child in their household.

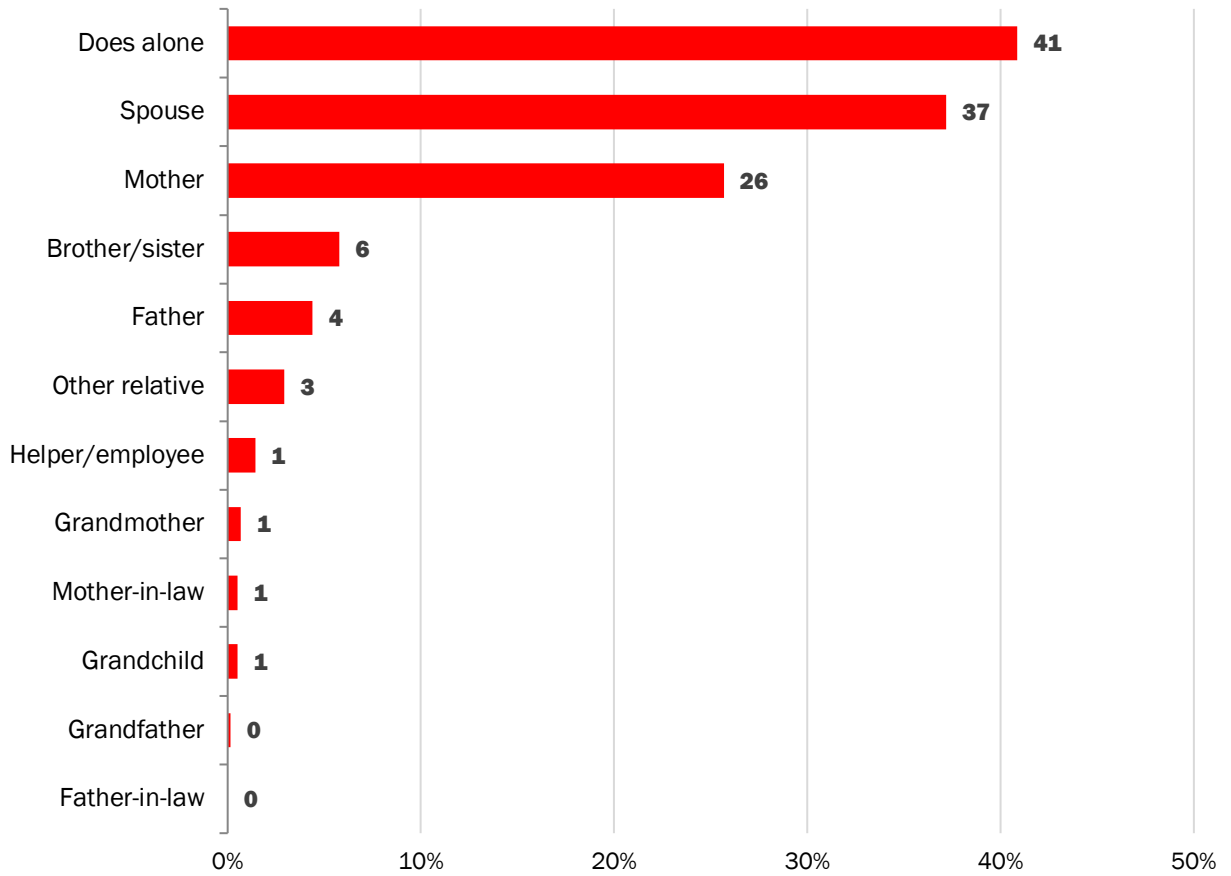


In addition, the subject of home care is an important detail for defining and interpreting a household. We will examine this in more detail later in this section. Seventy-one percent of people do not have anyone in need of care at home. When we examine the households where there is a person/s in need of care, we see that 12 percent of the population has a baby/s in the household, 10 percent has an elderly person/s, 3 percent has a sick individual/s, and 3 percent has a disabled person/s.

4.1. Housework

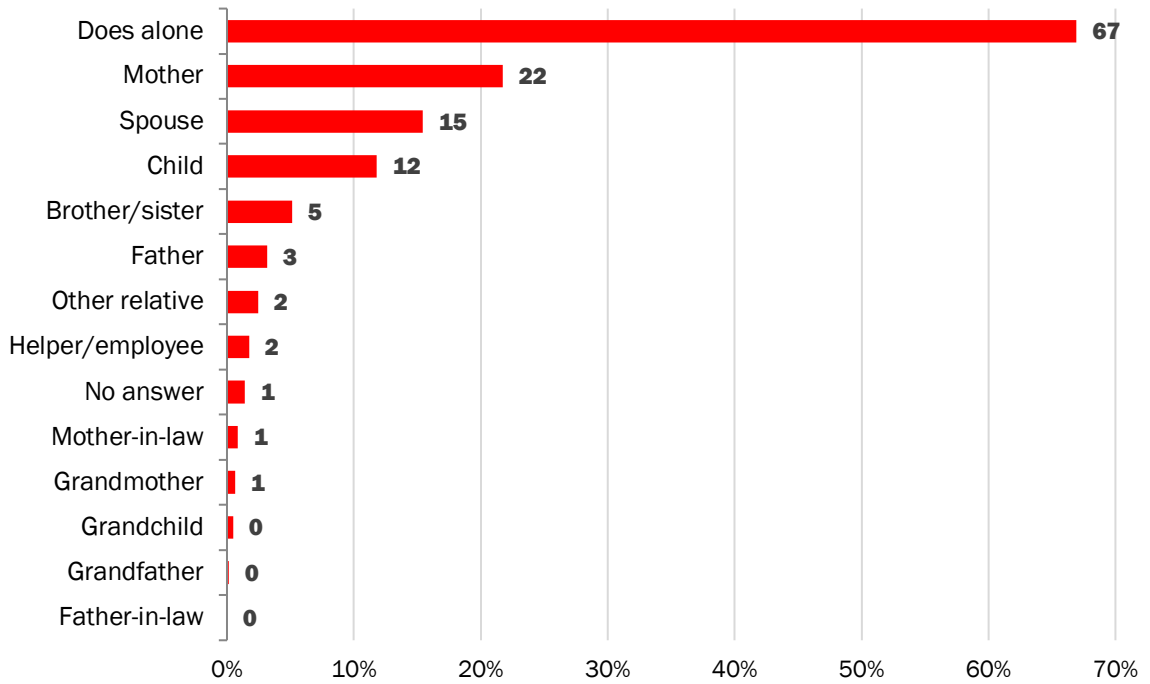
We define housework as the care of person/s in need of care, and doing dishes, laundry, cooking, renovation, etc. In this context, in this section, we will examine who is most responsible for housework in society, and how gender, marital status and working status affect doing housework.

Who does the housework?



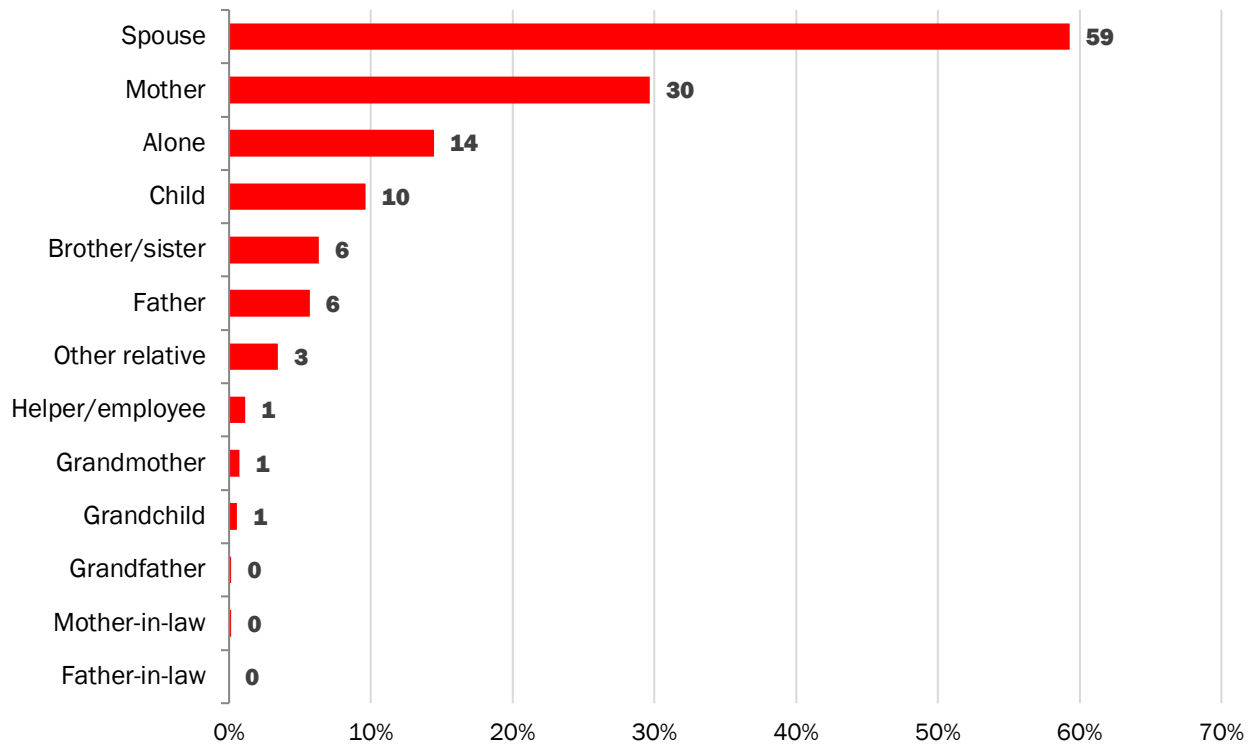
The emerging data shows that women are generally responsible for housework. In the table above, we see the answers to the question "Who does the housework?" Although 41 percent of people say that they do housework alone, it will give us a more meaningful result to look at who does the housework alone and to examine it separately according to gender.

Who does the housework currently among the people you live with in the same household? (WOMEN)



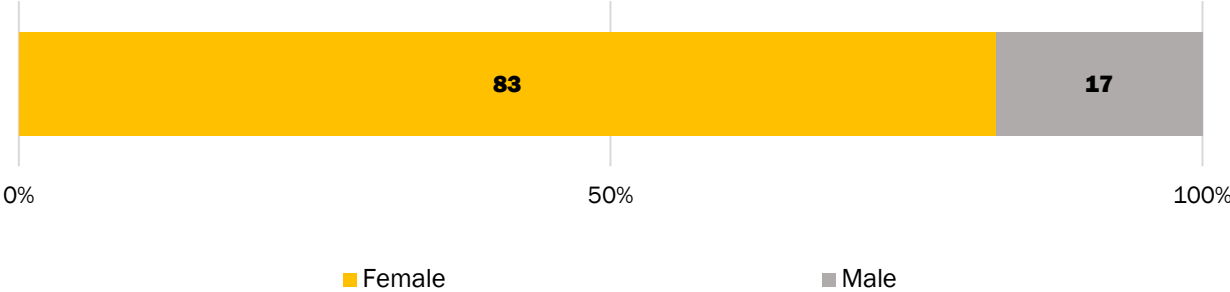
Two out of three women say they do the housework alone. Only 15 percent of women's spouses help with housework.

Who does the housework currently among the people you live with in the same household? (MEN)



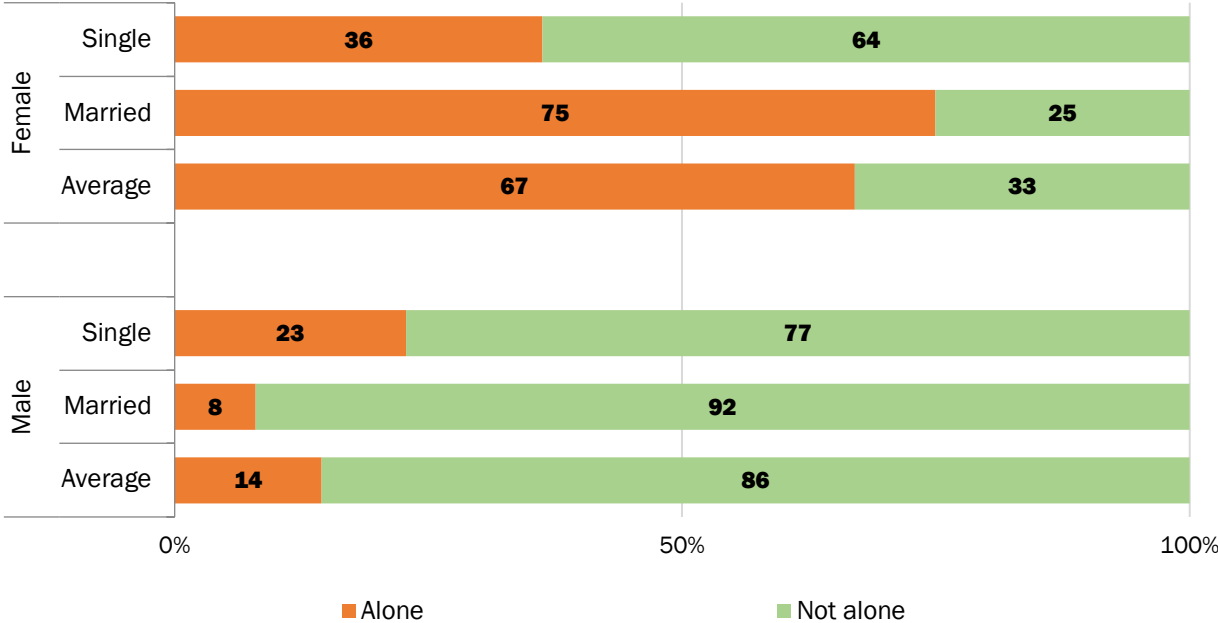
Among men, 14 percent do the housework alone. The spouses of 59 percent of men and the mothers of 30 percent of men are among those who do the housework.

Those who do the housework alone



Eighty-three percent of those who say that they do the housework alone are women. Although this is not a very surprising result, it stands out as a very dramatic piece of data. In order to better understand whether the main reason for the emergence of this result is that there are a large number of housewives in the society or the traditional Turkish family structure still continues, it would be useful to examine women according to their marital status and occupational group.

Those who do the housework alone

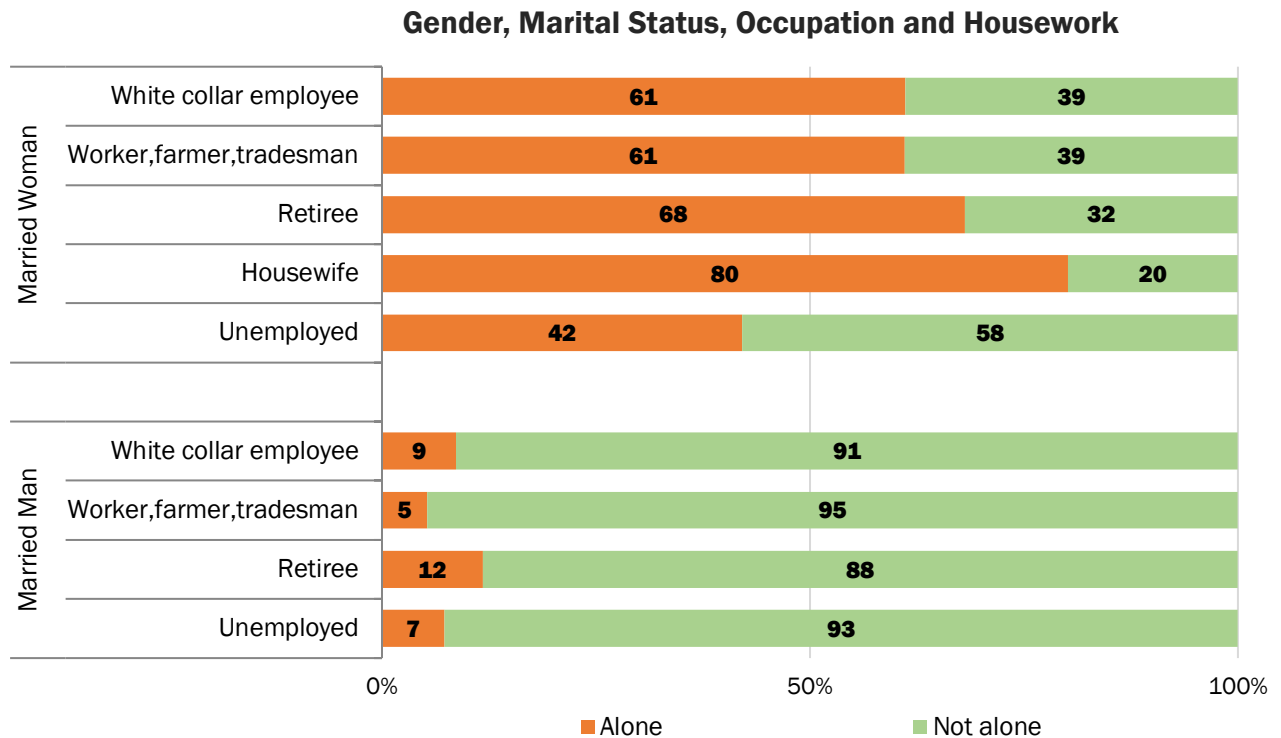


Seventy-five percent of married women do housework alone

When we analyze the situation of doing housework alone by gender and marital status, we see that 67 percent of women and only 14 percent of men do housework alone. While marriage increases the burden of housework for women, it is the opposite for men. While 36 percent

of single women and 75 percent of married women do housework alone, 23 percent of single men and only 8 percent of married men do housework alone.

It is a customary practice in our society that a woman may be the only wage/salary earner in the household while also doing the housework. In light of this information, it is necessary to look at how the occupational clusters of married women and men affect their habits of doing housework.



The burden of housework is on women, regardless of profession.

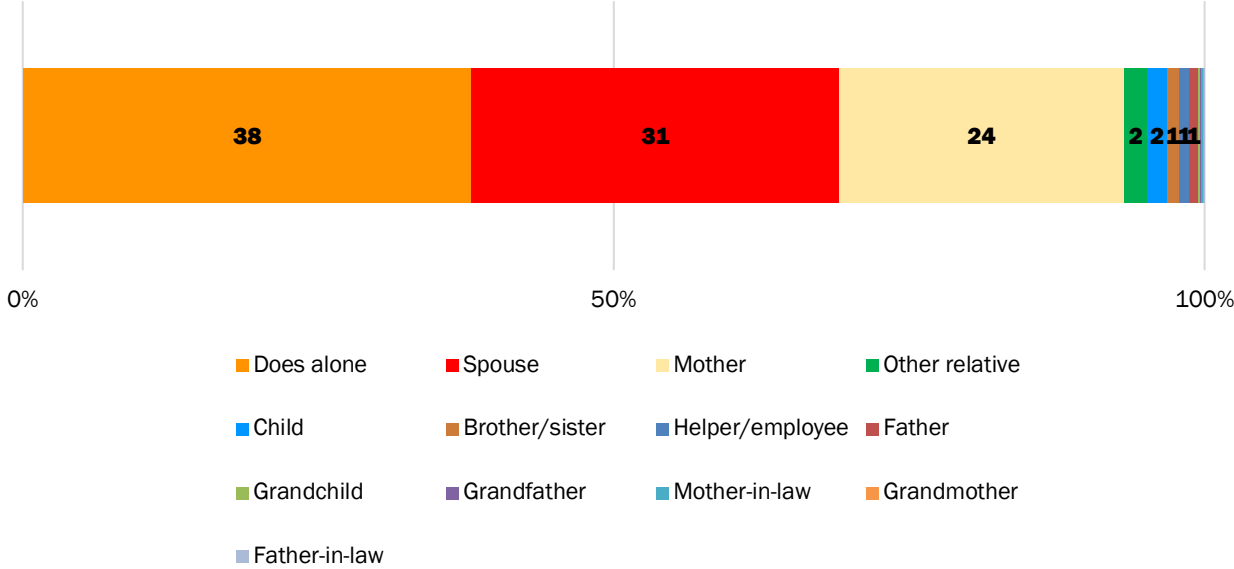
It is worth remembering that the group we refer to as workers up to this section of the report are those who are employed and those who work for a wage. As we mentioned in the paragraph below, it should be emphasized that housewives also work, but this work should be described as “unpaid labor” or “unpaid domestic work.” As can be seen throughout the report, we can say that the most disadvantaged group in terms of the domestic workload is housewives, and the presence of a baby or child at home increases this disadvantage.

As can be expected, the workload of housewives at home is higher than that of married women from other occupational clusters. Eighty percent of housewives do housework alone. However, among married women in other occupational clusters, we see that the rate of those who do housework alone is also quite high. We see that approximately two-thirds of white-collar workers, workers, tradesmen, farmers and retired married women do housework alone.

When we look at married men, the rate of those who do housework alone is quite low. Ten percent of white-collar married men, 5 percent of married men, workers, tradesmen, farmers, and 12 percent of retired married men do housework alone.

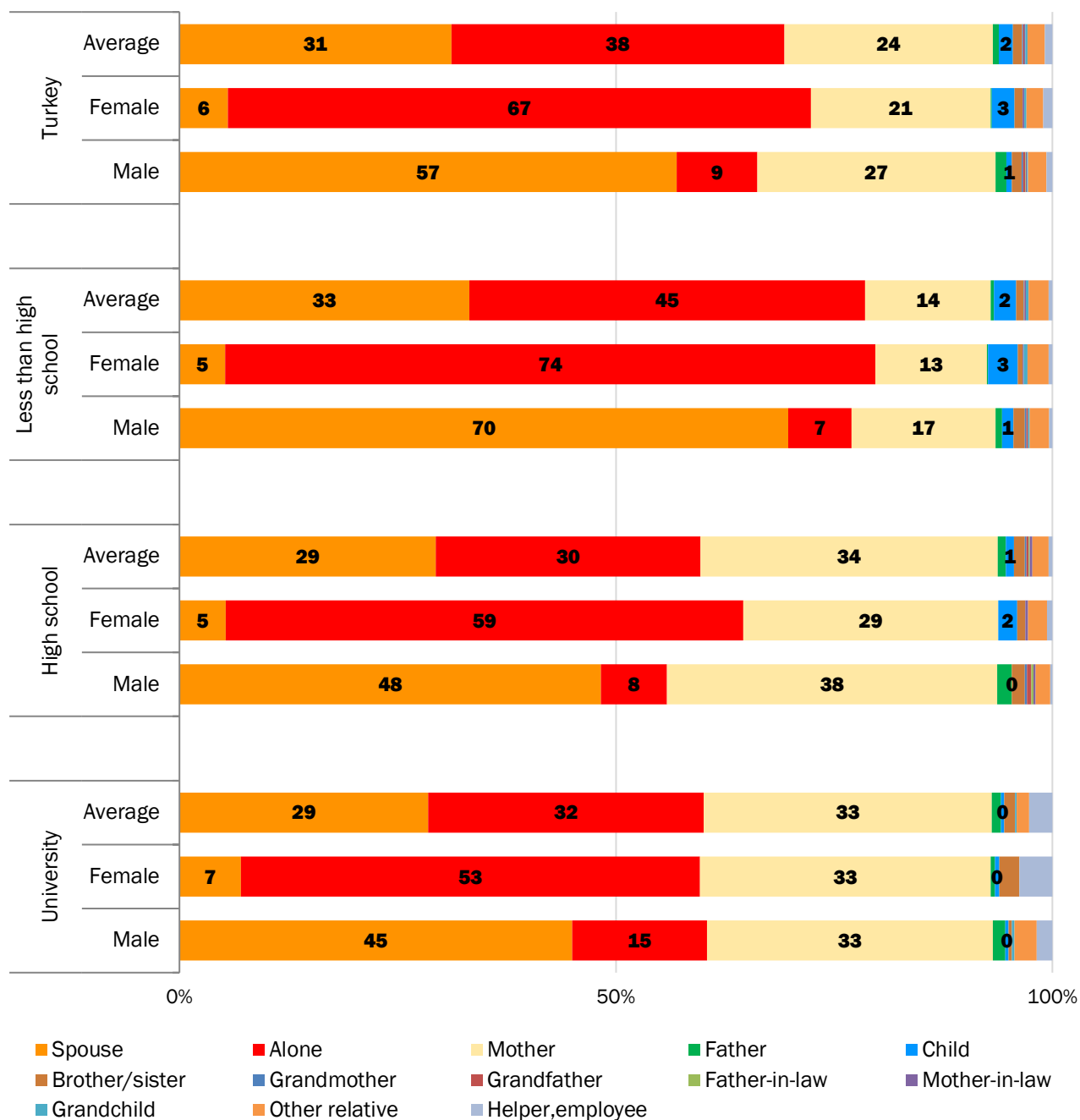
Based on these data, we can say that the roles of men and women assigned by traditional society in Turkey continue to be valid in 2021, despite the changing family structure and the increase in women's participation in the workforce, especially in metropolitan areas.

Who does the most housework?



When asked who does the most housework, 38 percent of people say that they do it alone, 31 percent say their spouse, 24 percent their mother, and the remaining 7 percent say that it is other people. Of course, this data alone does not make sense unless it is analyzed according to factors such as gender, occupation, age. Since we made an analysis according to marital status and occupational groups above, evaluating this situation through the effects of educational status may offer us different ideas.

Who does the most housework?



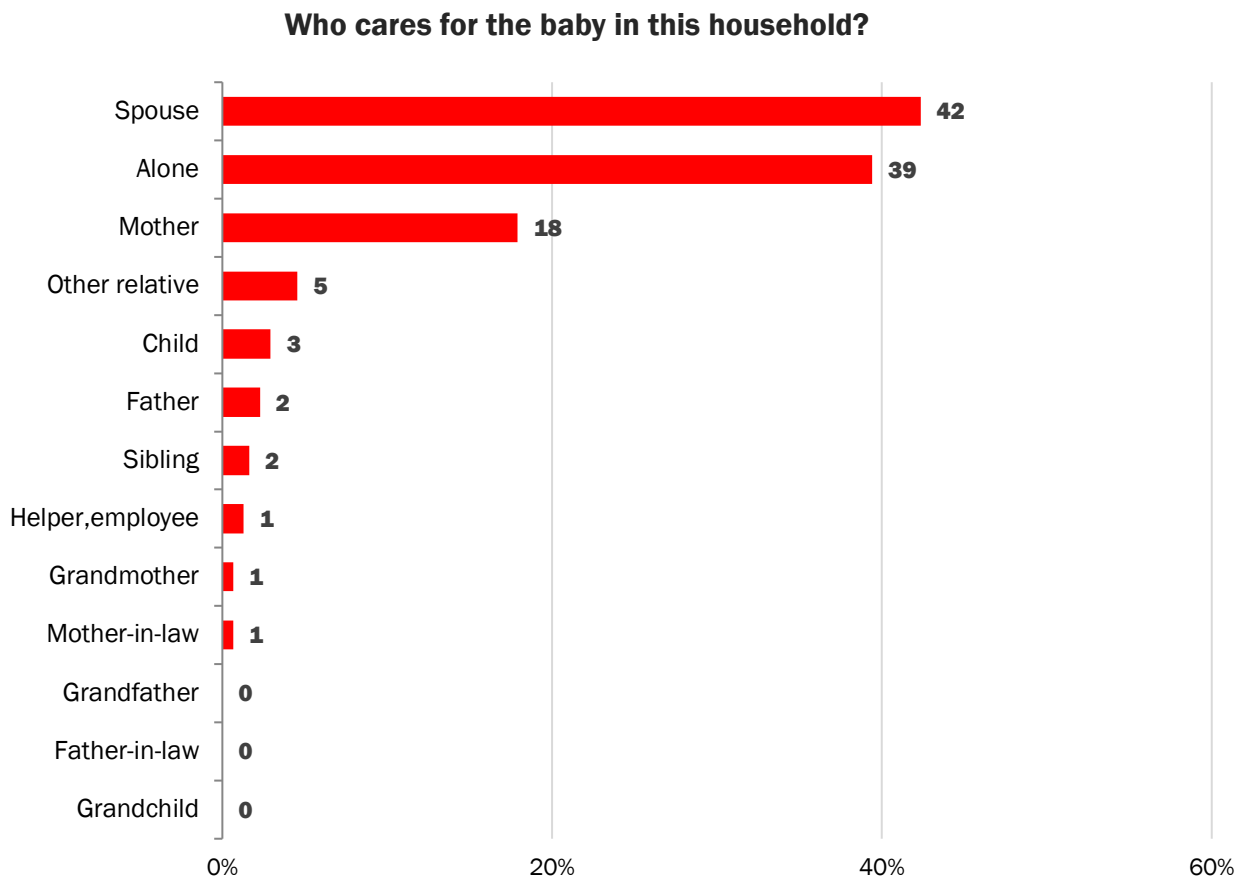
We said that 67 percent of women do housework alone, and we examined their relationship with marital status and occupation. In the table above, we see how housework changes depending on education and gender. As the level of education increases, the proportion of women who do housework alone decreases, while the proportion of men who do it alone increases. Seventy-four percent of women with less than high school education, 59 percent of high school graduate women, and 53 percent of university graduate women do housework alone. Of course, it should be emphasized again that this situation is related to the occupational groups mentioned above.

4.2. Individual/s in Need of Care

In this section, we will examine whether there are individual/s in need of care at home, besides other housework and, if so, which individuals in the household are responsible for meeting their needs.

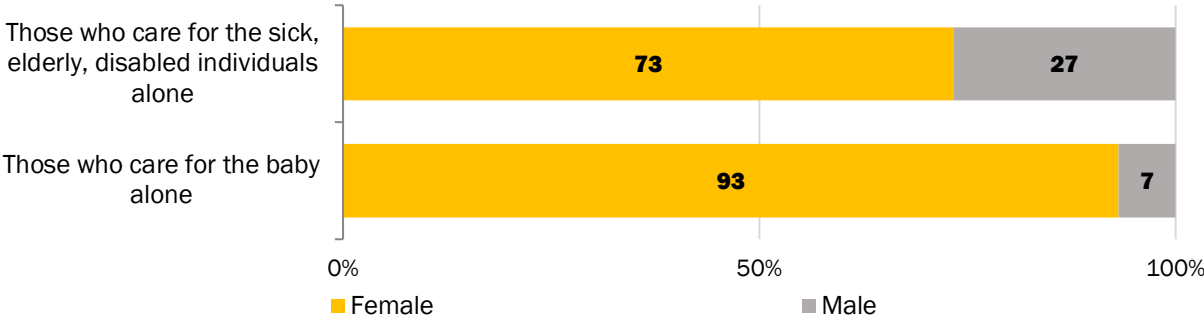
Which of the following individuals in need of care live in your household?	Number	Percent
Baby/babies	307	12,2
Sick individual/s	76	3,0
Disabled person/s	76	3,0
Elderly person/s	256	10,1
None of the above	1795	71,1
Total	2523	100,0

Of the total 2,523 people interviewed, 307 have baby/ies in their household, 76 have sick individual/s, 76 have disabled individual/s, and 256 have elderly person/s. For 71.1 percent of the interviewees, that is, of 1795 people, none of these individuals in need of care live in the household.



When we look at the person(s) who take care of the baby in the household, we see that for 42 percent of people who live in a household with a baby the spouse is responsible for the care of the baby/ies, while for 18 percent it is the respondent’s mother, and for 5 percent of respondents other relatives are responsible. The rate of those who take care of the baby alone is 39 percent.

Those who care for individuals alone



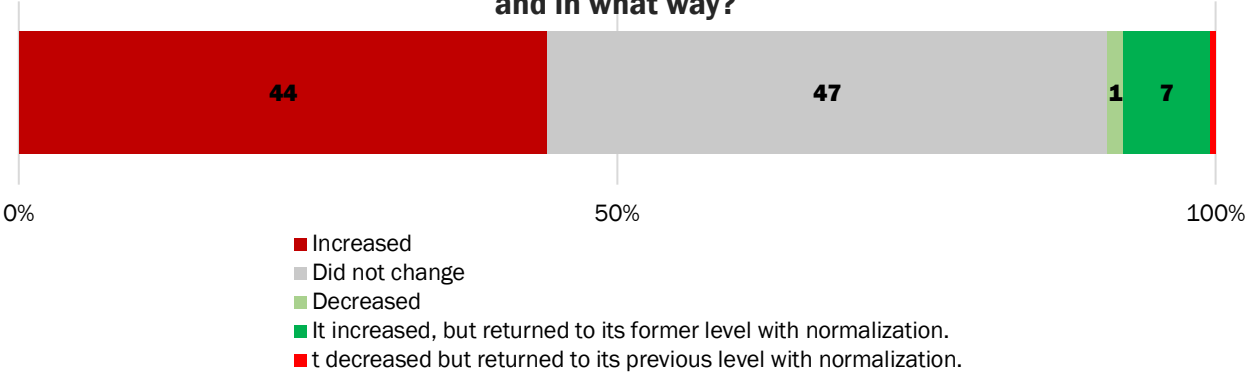
When we look at the genders of those who care for babies alone, we see another reflection of the inequality in the social roles of men and women, and in domestic roles, which we frequently mention in the findings. While 93 percent of those who say that they take care of the babies at home alone are women, only 7 percent are men.

Although the difference between those who take care of the sick, the disabled and the elderly alone is not as big as in the case of infant care, we see that three out of every four people who take care of these three groups in need of care alone are women.

4.3. Time Allocated to Housework in the Pandemic

With the mandatory lockdowns during the pandemic period, the time spent by a large part of society at home has also increased. Accordingly, within the scope of the research, we asked how the time allocated to all kinds of housework at home changed during this period.

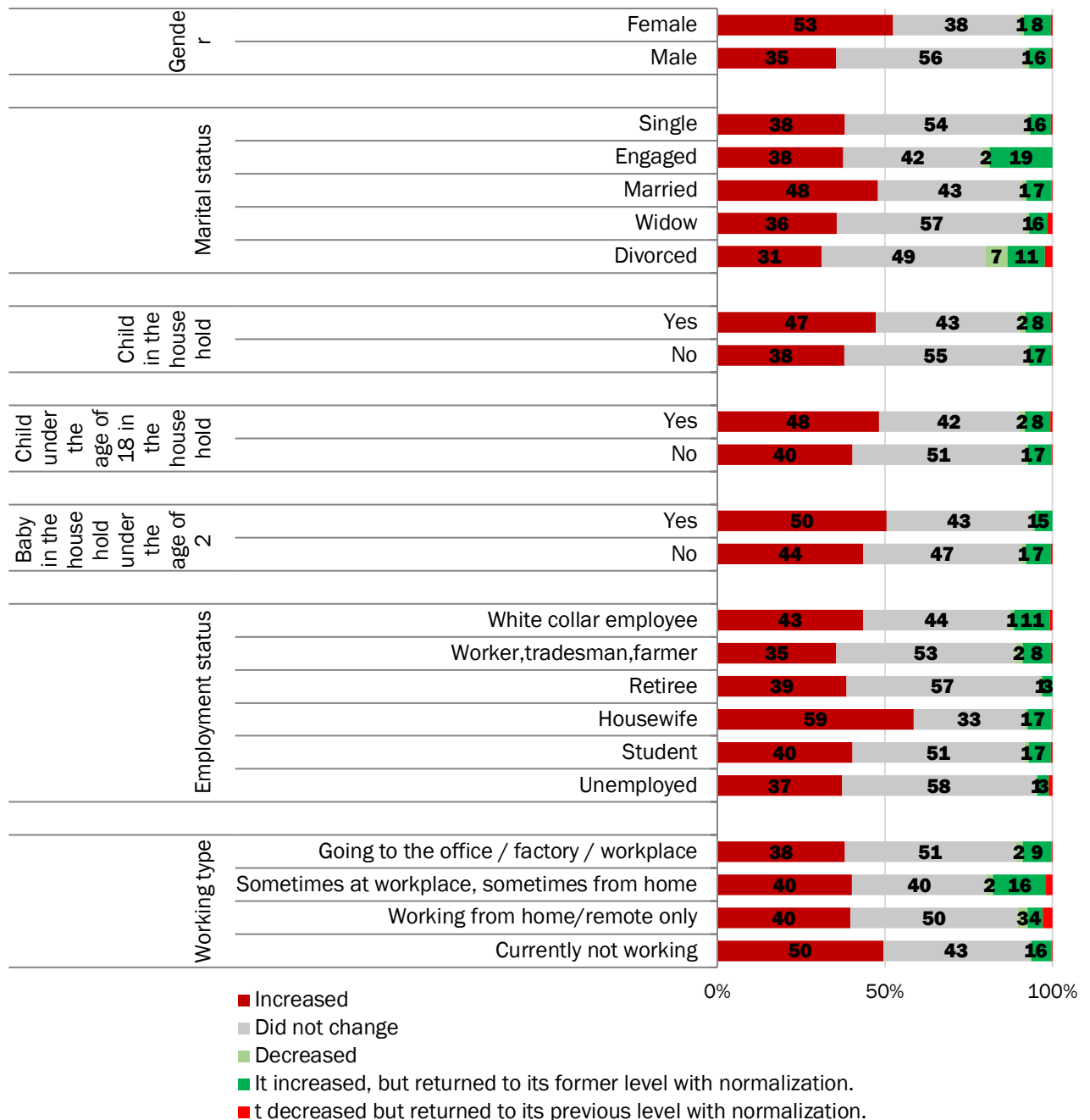
With the pandemic, did the time you devote to housework (such as cleaning, taking care of the household, cooking, gardening) change, and in what way?



Forty-four percent of people say that the time they spent on housework increased in this period, while 47 percent say that it hasn't changed. While the rate of those who say "The time I spend on housework has decreased" is 1 percent, those who say "It has increased, but it has returned to its former level with normalization" make up 7 percent of people.

When we look at what affects the change in time allocated to housework and which parameters affect this situation more, we see that gender, marital status, having a child and working status are the prominent factors.

With the pandemic, did the time you devote to housework (such as cleaning, taking care of the household, cooking, gardening) change, and in what way?



While 53 percent of women spent more time on housework due to the pandemic, this rate is 35 percent for men.

When we analyze by marital status, the time allocated to housework increased for 38 percent of single people during the pandemic, while for 54 percent it did not change. While 48 percent of married people say that the time they spent on housework increased during the pandemic, 43 percent say that there was no change.

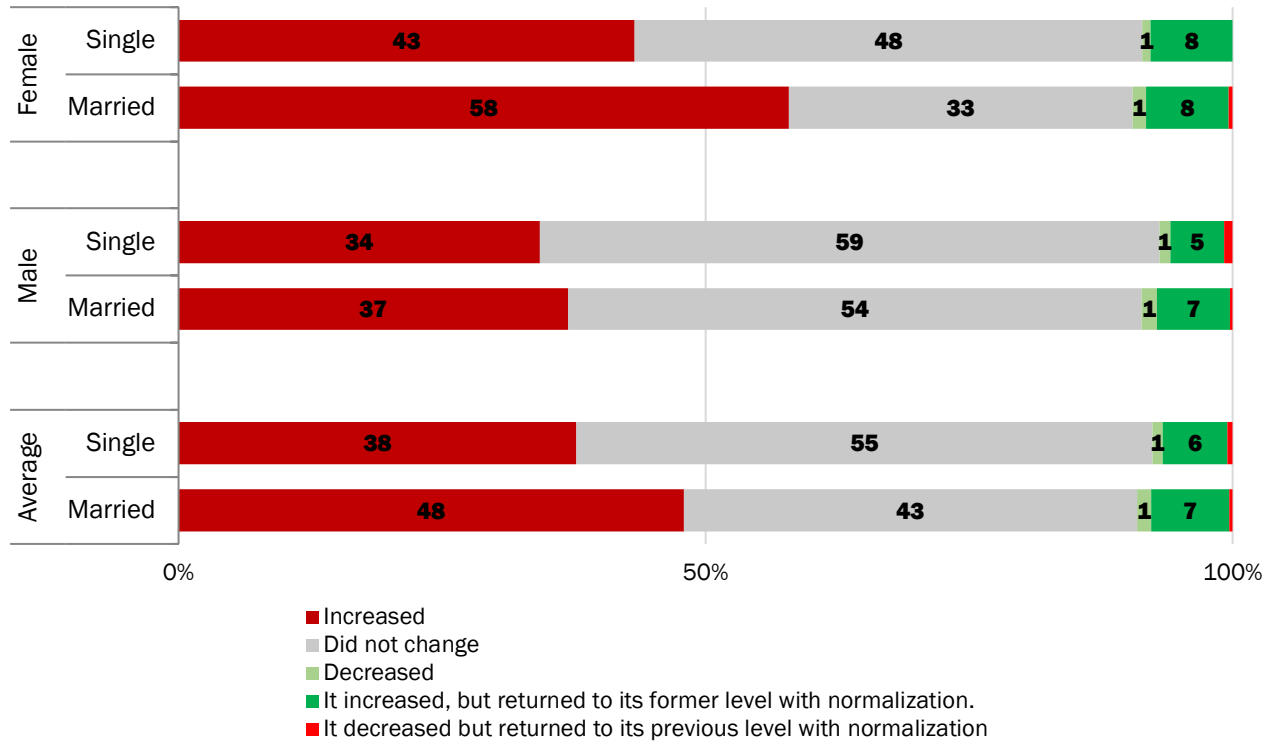
Having children and the age of children stand out as factors that significantly affect the time devoted to housework during the pandemic period. While 47 percent of people in households with children allocated more time to all kinds of household chores, this rate is 38 percent for those who do not have children in their household.

We see that 48 percent of those with children under the age of 18, and 40 percent of those who do not have children under the age of 18 in their households, have increased their time spent on housework during the pandemic period. As the age of children in the household decreases, the percentage of those who say that they increased time spent on housework increases. One out of every two people with children aged two and under says that they devoted more time to housework during the pandemic period, compared to only 44 percent of those who do not. The transition to distance education and the fact that children start to spend the time they would spend at school at home seem to have been influential in the emergence of these data.

When we look at working conditions, we can say that the cluster with the highest increase in housework during the pandemic period is housewives. Three out of five housewives say that the time they spent on housework increased during the pandemic. In this regard, housewives are followed by white-collar workers and students.

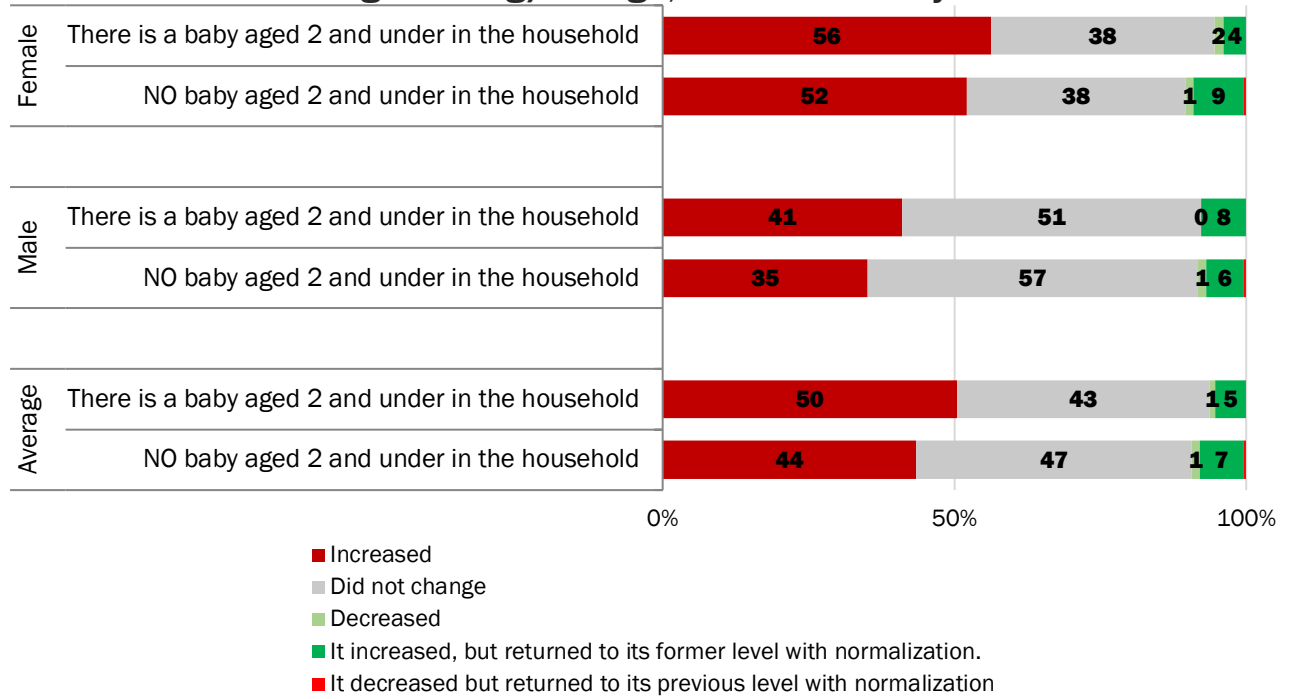
Forty-three percent of white-collar employees and 40 percent of students say that the time they spent on housework increased in this period. We can say that during the pandemic, together with remote working and distance education systems, the time they spent at home changed more than the other clusters, and the time they spent on housework was affected more than the other clusters (with the exception of housewives).

With the pandemic, did the time you devote to housework (such as cleaning, taking care of the household, cooking, gardening) change, and in what way?



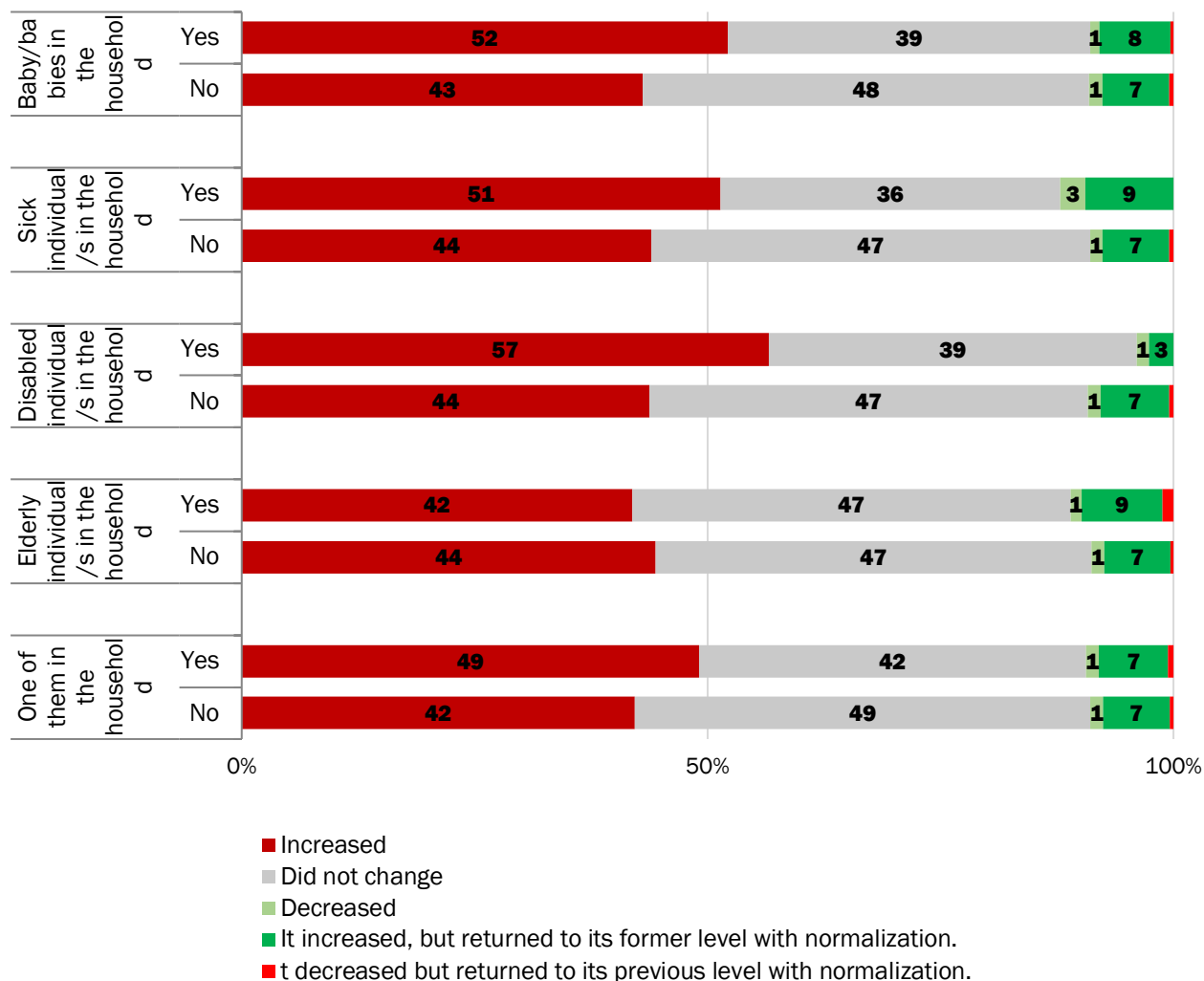
We have stated that two of the factors affecting the increase or decrease in housework during the pandemic are gender and marital status. When we examine these two variables together, we see that the cluster that increased housework the most in this period was married women. The time spent on housework increased for 58 percent of married women and 43 of single women during the pandemic. In men, marital status does not have as much effect as it does for women. The time spent on housework increased for 34 percent of single men and 37 percent of married men during the pandemic.

With the pandemic, did the time you devote to housework (such as cleaning, taking care of the household, cooking, gardening) change, and in what way?



During the pandemic, the time spent on housework increased for 56 percent of women and 41 percent of men with babies aged two and under at home. This rate is 52 percent for women and 35 percent for men who do not have a baby under the age of two at home.

With the pandemic, did the time you devote to housework (such as cleaning, taking care of the household, cooking, gardening) change, and in what way?



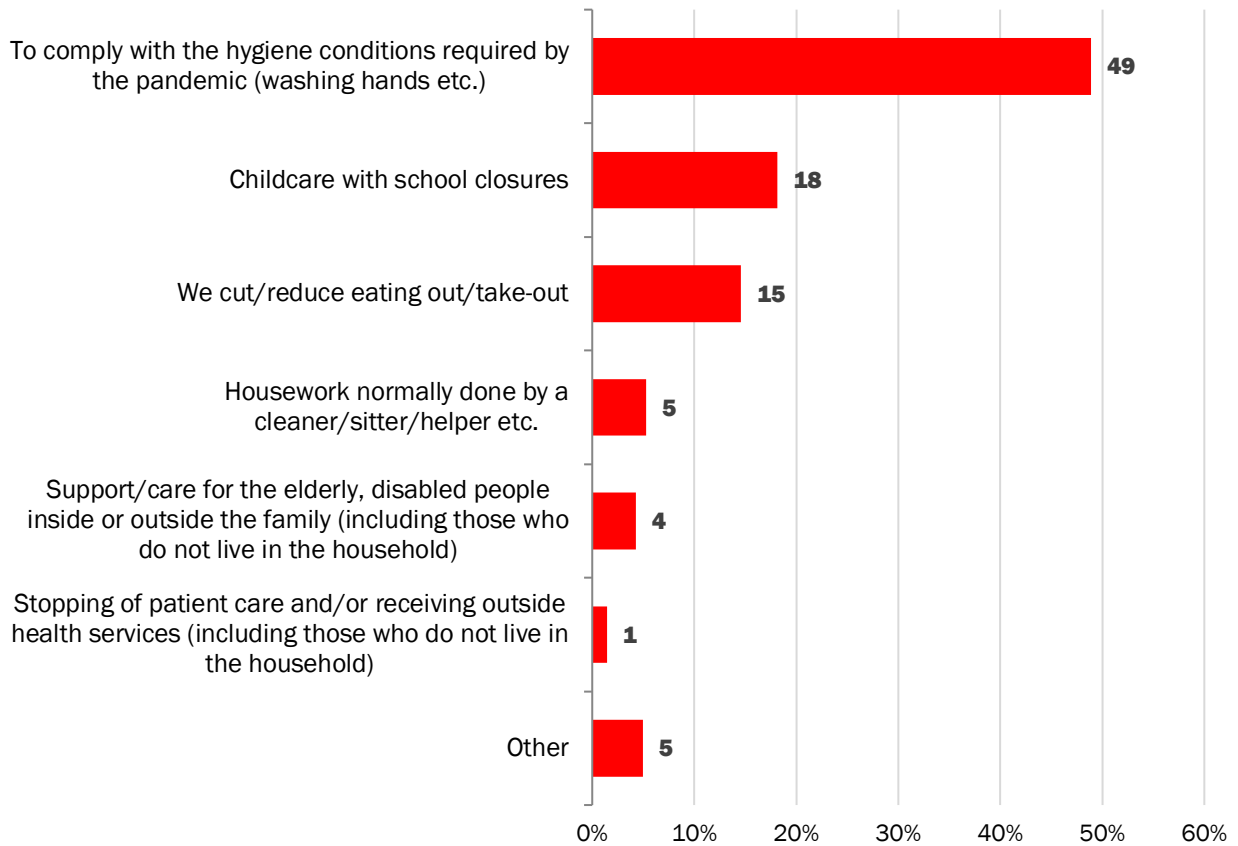
Another situation that is as important as the factors mentioned above in the change of time allocated to housework during the pandemic period is whether there are individuals in need of care at home. We see that people with babies, sick, disabled or elderly people in their households have increased their time spent on housework during the pandemic more than people who do not.

Fifty-two percent of those who have a baby/ies in their household and 43 percent of those who do not have a baby in their household say that the time they spent on housework increased during the pandemic. Fifty-one percent of those who have sick person/s in their household increased their time spent on housework, compared to 44 percent of those who do not. Fifty-seven percent of those who have a disabled person/s in their household increased their time spent on housework, compared to 44 percent of those who do not.

When we consider this situation in general, 49 percent of people who have someone in need of care at home increased their time spent on housework during the pandemic, compared to 42 percent who do not have a person in need of care in their household. From this point of view,

we can say that the presence of someone in need of care in the household is a factor that directly affects the workload at home.

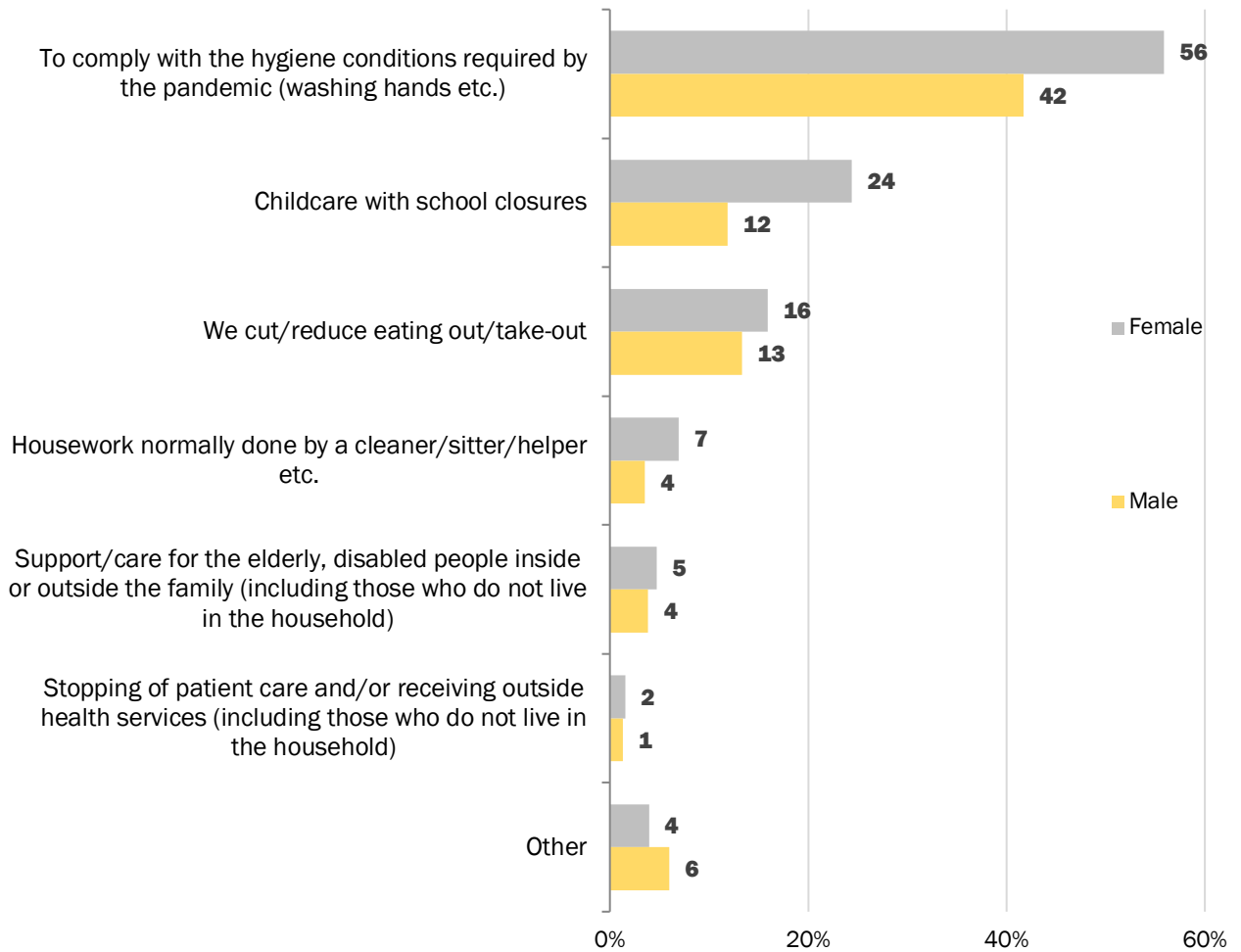
If the time spent on housework increased, which of the following caused this?



When we look at the reasons for the increase in the time allocated to housework during the pandemic, we see that the most important reason is to comply with hygiene conditions required by the pandemic. One out of every two people who say that the time they spent on housework increased during the pandemic gives this as one of the reasons.

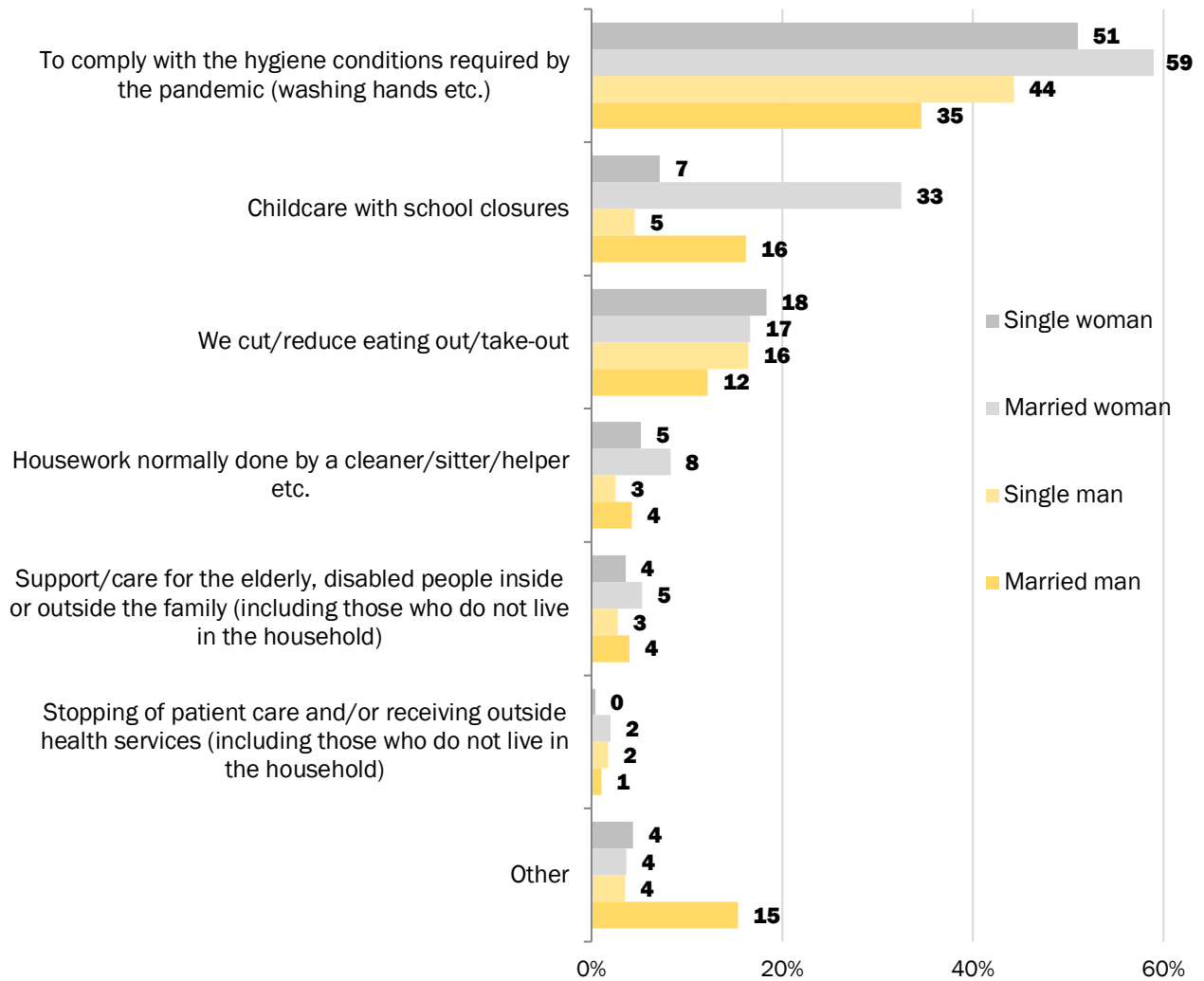
After complying with hygiene conditions required by the pandemic, we see that the next two most important factors were the closure of schools (and the corresponding increase in time allocated to child care), and the increase in time allocated to cooking at home instead of eating out and ordering. Eighteen percent of people who state that the time they spent on housework increased, indicated the increase was due to the burden of childcare due to the closure of schools, and 15 percent indicated that it was due to cooking at home.

If the time spent on housework increased, which of the following caused this?



We see that the most striking differences in the reasons for the increase in time allocated to housework during the pandemic for women and men are "To comply with the hygiene conditions required by the pandemic" and "Childcare with school closures." These two factors were more commonly reported by women than men as a cause of the increase of time spent on housework. This is another proof that women have a greater role in housework and childcare.

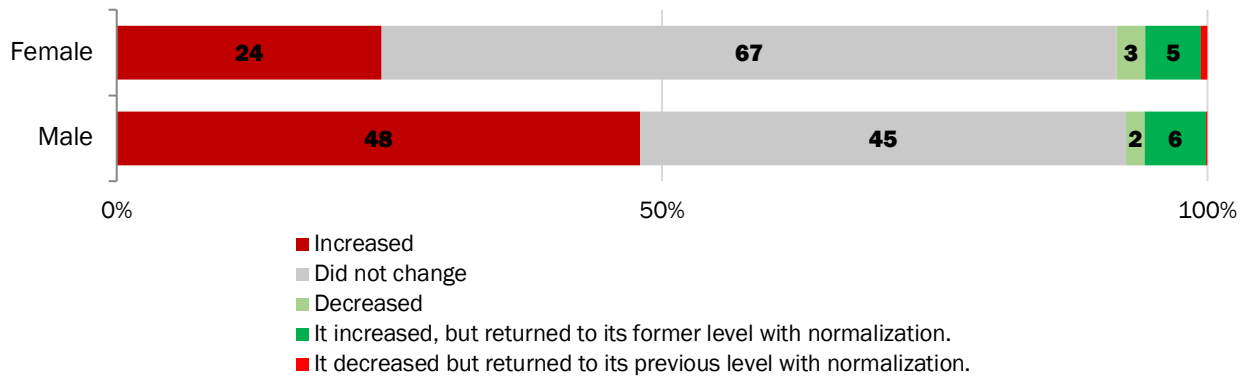
If the time spent on housework increased, which of the following caused this?



We see that "Childcare with school closures", which is one of the discriminatory situations between women and men, caused an increase in the time allocated to housework during the pandemic period for one third of married women. However, only 16 percent of married men reported spending more time on housework due to this reason.

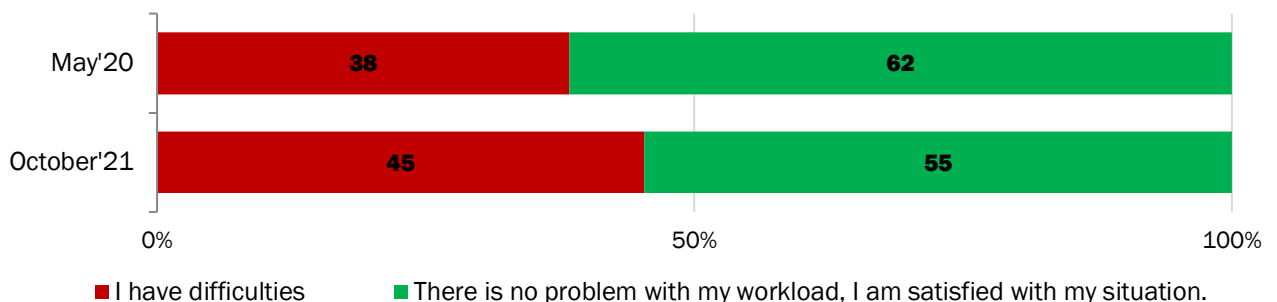
In addition to the question "With the pandemic, did the time you devote to housework (such as cleaning, taking care of the household, cooking, gardening) change, and in what way?", the answers given to the question which we asked to married people, "With the start of the pandemic, did the time your spouse devoted to housework change? ", also differed greatly according to gender.

(For those who are married) With the start of the pandemic, did the time your spouse devoted to housework change?



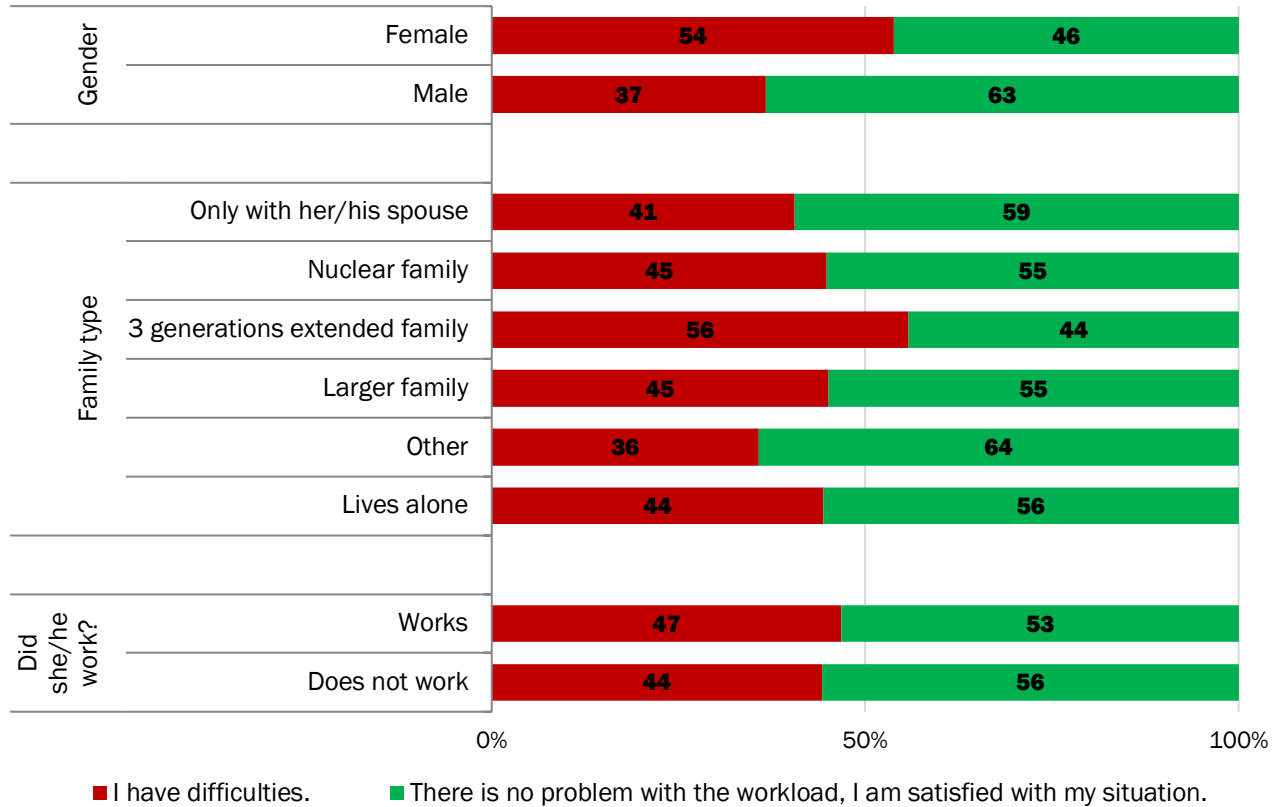
While only 24 percent of married women say that the time their spouses spent on housework increased during the pandemic, 48 percent of married men said the same. In short, the time spent on housework has increased for one out of every two married women during the pandemic.

What do you think about your total domestic and/or out-of-home workload?



After learning that the time allocated to housework has increased in a significant part of society with the pandemic, we asked what people generally thought about their total workload, both inside and outside the home. While 45 percent of people said they have difficulties in October 2021, 55 percent said that there was no problem in their workload and that they were satisfied with the situation. At the beginning of the pandemic, in May 2020, only 38 percent of people said that they had difficulties in terms of the total workload inside and outside the home. In the last year and a half, we can say that the workload in and outside the home has increased in general.

What do you think about your total domestic and/or out-of-home workload?



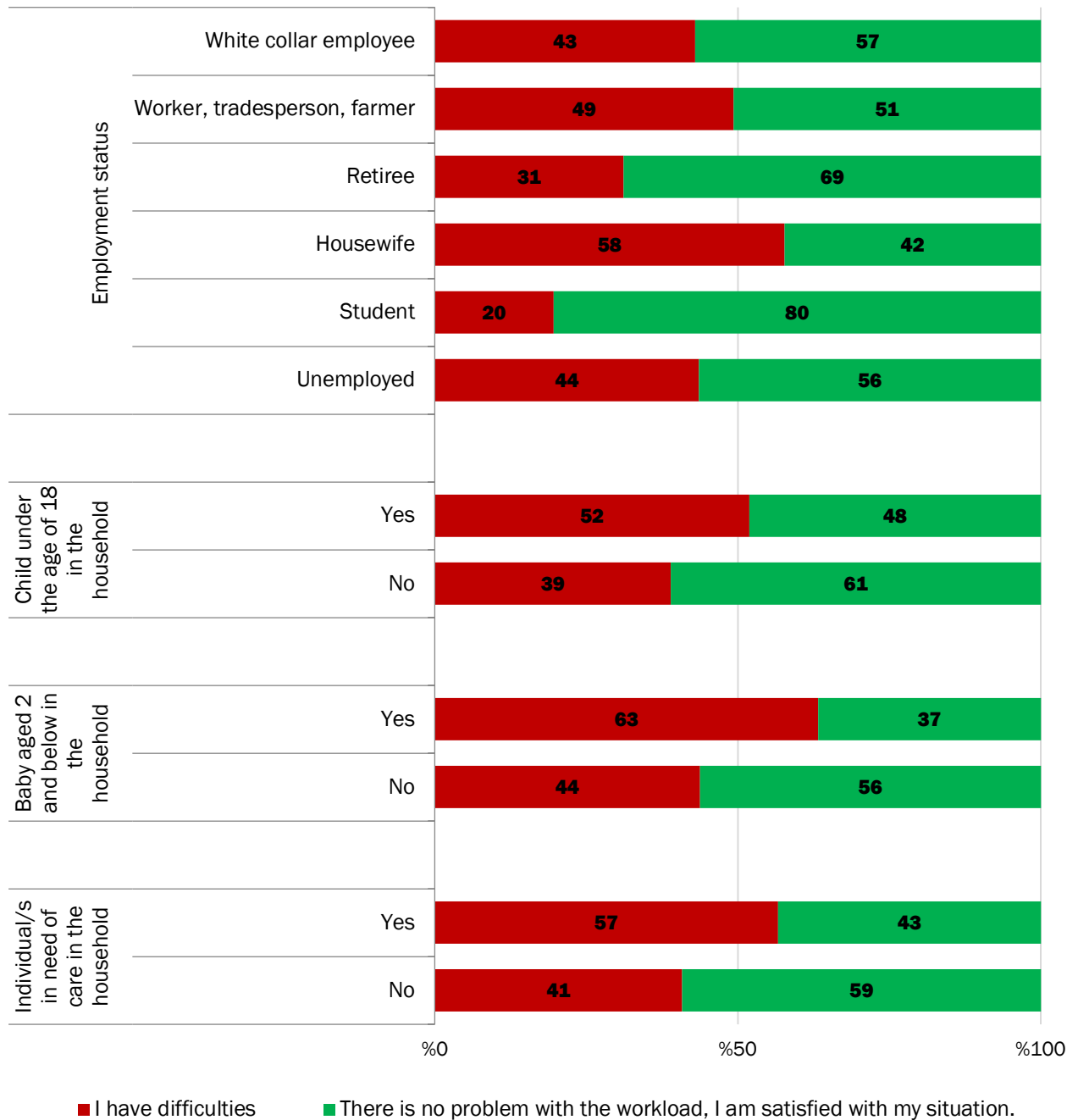
Women have more difficulties in terms of workload than men, and those who are employed have more difficulties than those who are not.

Difficulty with total domestic and/or out-of-home burden is directly related to gender and family type. Sixty-seven percent of women state that they have difficulty with the total workload, while the rate of men who say this is 37 percent.

When we look at family types, we see that those living with a 3-generation extended family are the cluster that has the most difficulty in terms of total workload, with a rate of 56 percent. In larger families, this rate is 45 percent. This can be interpreted as meaning that the burden of household chores in larger families is not on one person, but there is cooperation.

Employment status is also a factor affecting the answers given to this question, as with family type and gender. The difference between those who are employed and those who are not employed maybe less than expected because the workload of housewives is already quite high.

What do you think about your domestic and/or out-of-home workload?



Housewives, people with household members in need of care, and those with children in their household have more difficulties in domestic and out-of-home burdens compared to other clusters.

Fifty-eight percent of housewives state that they have difficulties with these burdens. When other occupational clusters are examined, 49 percent of workers, tradespeople, farmers, and 43 percent of white-collar workers state that they have difficulties with home and out-of-home workloads.

The burden increases as children's ages decrease

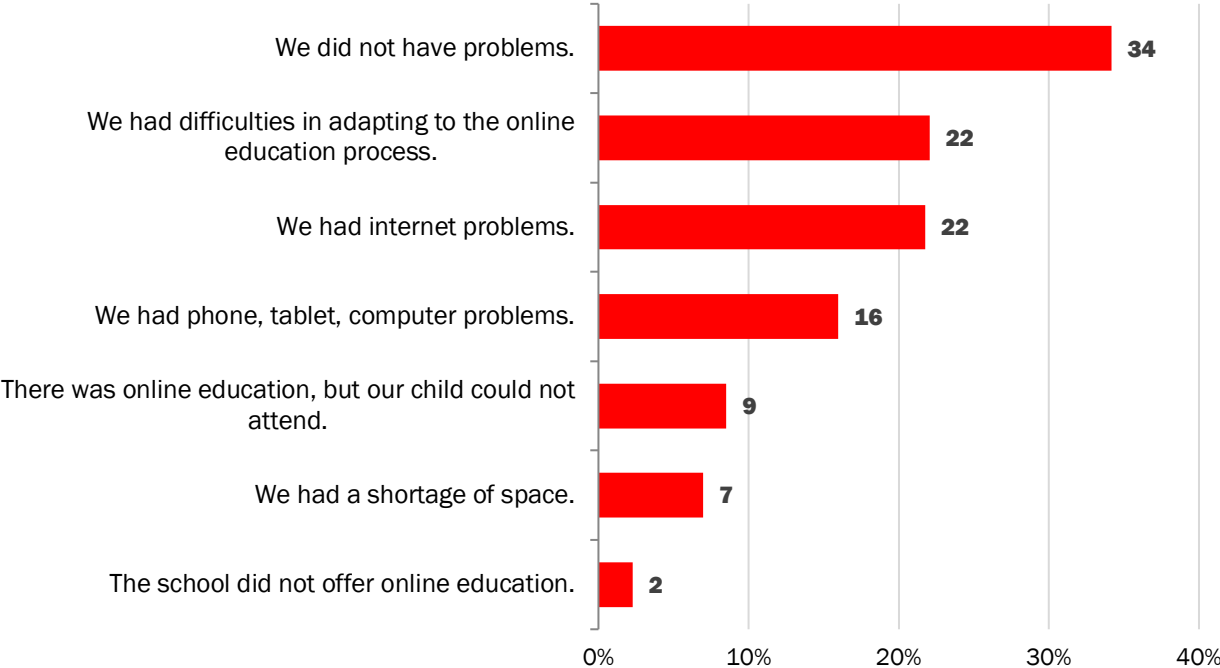
While 52 percent of those who have children under the age of 18 in their households say that they have difficulties with their workloads, this falls to 39 percent for those who do not have children under the age of 18. As the age of the children in the household decreases, the burden on the household also increases. Sixty-three percent of those with children aged two and under state that they have difficulties with the total workload inside and outside the home. When we directly examine the effect of having a person/s in need of care at home, we see that 57 percent of those in this situation have difficulties in terms of the total workload.

To summarize, the time spent on housework has increased, especially for housewives and those who have someone in need of care in their household where time spent has increased more than other clusters, and they have more difficulty in their workload than other clusters due to the pandemic.

4.4. Online Education, Remote Working and Pandemic Assistance

With the transition to distance education during the pandemic, some problems emerged. These problems were sometimes due to a lack of electronic devices and sometimes due to a lack of physical space in the house. In the question we asked on this subject, we see that only 34 percent of people had no problems with online education. In short, we can say that two out of every three people have difficulties with the online education process.

During the pandemic, did you have problems with the online education of the school-age children who live in the same household? What kind of problems?



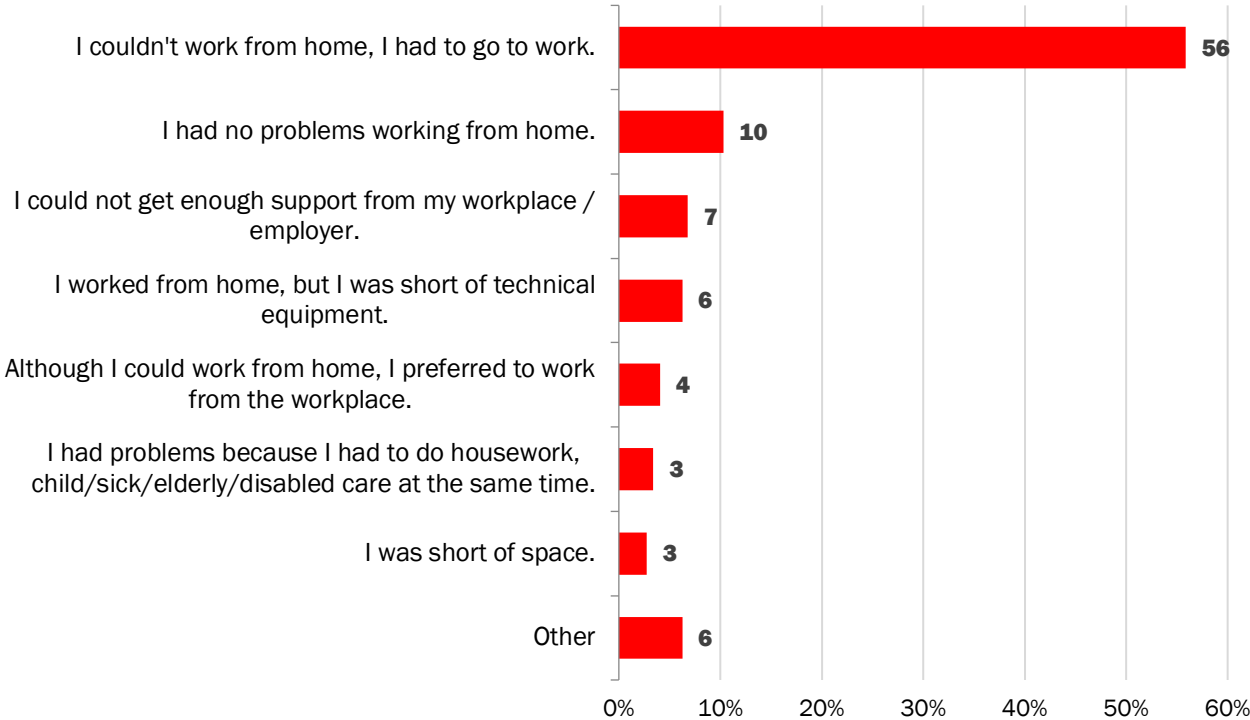
We can say that the most common problems in online education were about adapting to the process and internet access. Twenty-two percent of those who have children participating in online education say that they had problems with adaptation, and 22 percent say that they had problems with the internet. The rate of those who had phone and computer problems is 16 percent, while the rate of those who had space problems is 7 percent.

One out of 10 students could not participate in online education

In addition to these problems, it should be said that there is a segment that could not participate in the online education process. While the rate of those who say "There was online education but our child could not attend" is 9 percent, the rate of those who say "The school did not offer online education" is 2 percent. We can say that it is an important piece of data that one out of every 10 students who should attend online education could not be included in this process due to certain impossibilities.

As with distance education, the remote/home working system was one which society was unfamiliar and unprepared for before the pandemic. For this reason, those who had to work remotely experienced similar problems to those who had to continue their education online.

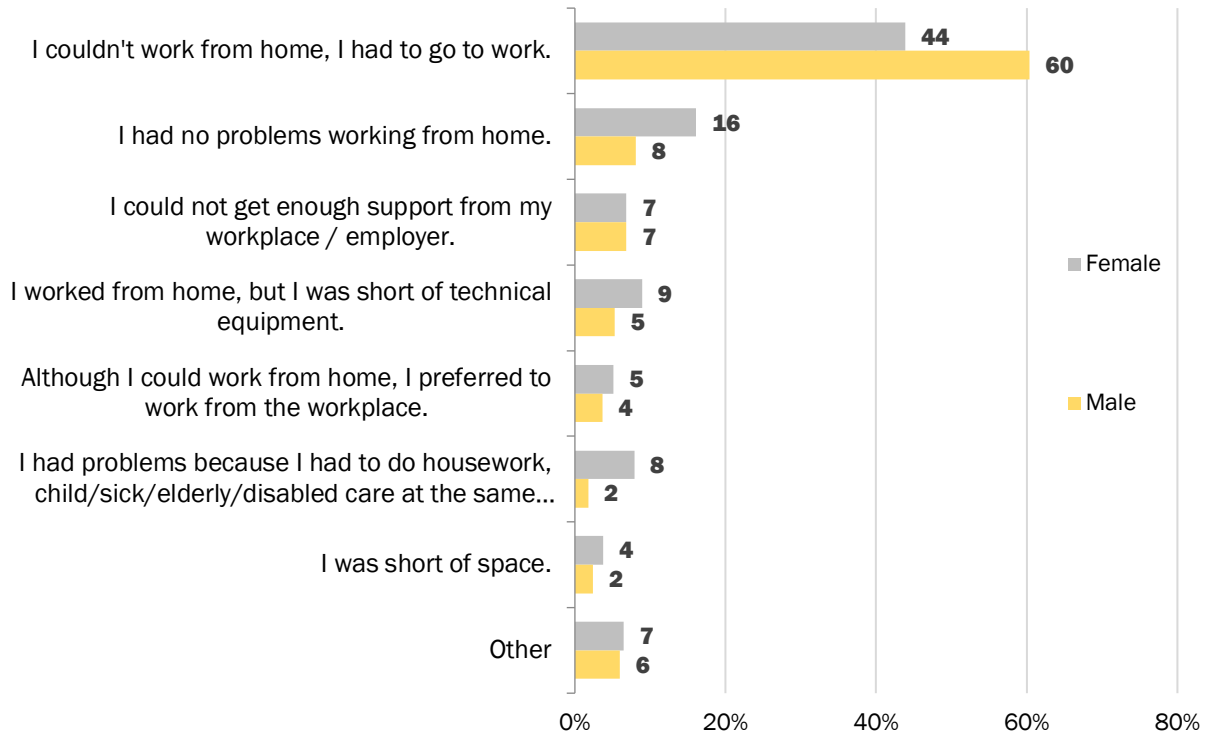
Which of the following apply to you about the paid work from home during the pandemic?



We see that 56 percent of employees could not work from home and had to go to the workplace during the pandemic period. Those who did not have problems while working from home make up 10 percent of those working. Seven percent of working people state that they did not get enough support from their workplace/employer, 6 percent state that they had technical equipment problems while working at home, 4 percent state that they worked from

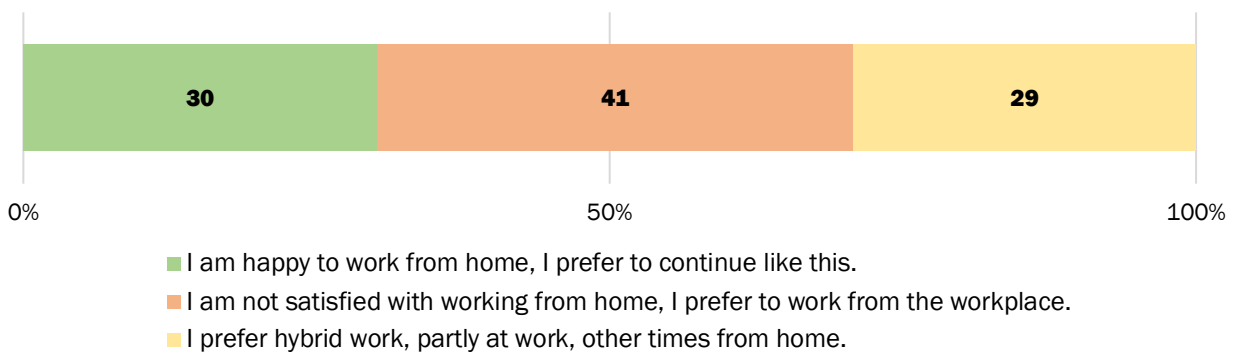
the workplace even though they had the chance to work from home, 3 percent state that they had problems because they do housework, and they take care of the disabled/children/sick/elderly, 3 percent of them say that they had problems with space, and 6 percent of them had other problems.

Which of the following apply to you about the paid-work from home during the pandemic?



During the pandemic, 44 percent of women in employment could not work from home and had to go to work, while this rate for men in employment is 60 percent. Sixteen percent of women say they did not have any problems while working from home, while only 8 percent of men say this. Another noteworthy situation is that 8 percent of women working from home also experienced difficulties due to housework and care of people at home, while this rate is 2 percent for men.

Which best expresses your opinion about paid work from home?



When we look at preferences about working from home after analyzing the problems experienced, we see that the rate of those who are satisfied with working from home is 30 percent, the rate of those who are not satisfied with working from home and prefer to go to the workplace is 41 percent, and the rate of those who prefer to work partly from home and partly from their workplace is 29 percent.

Which best expresses your opinion about paid work from home?



- I am happy to work from home, I prefer to continue like this.
- I am not satisfied with working from home, I prefer to work from the workplace.
- I prefer hybrid work, partly at work, other times from home.

Women prefer to work from home; men prefer to work from the workplace.

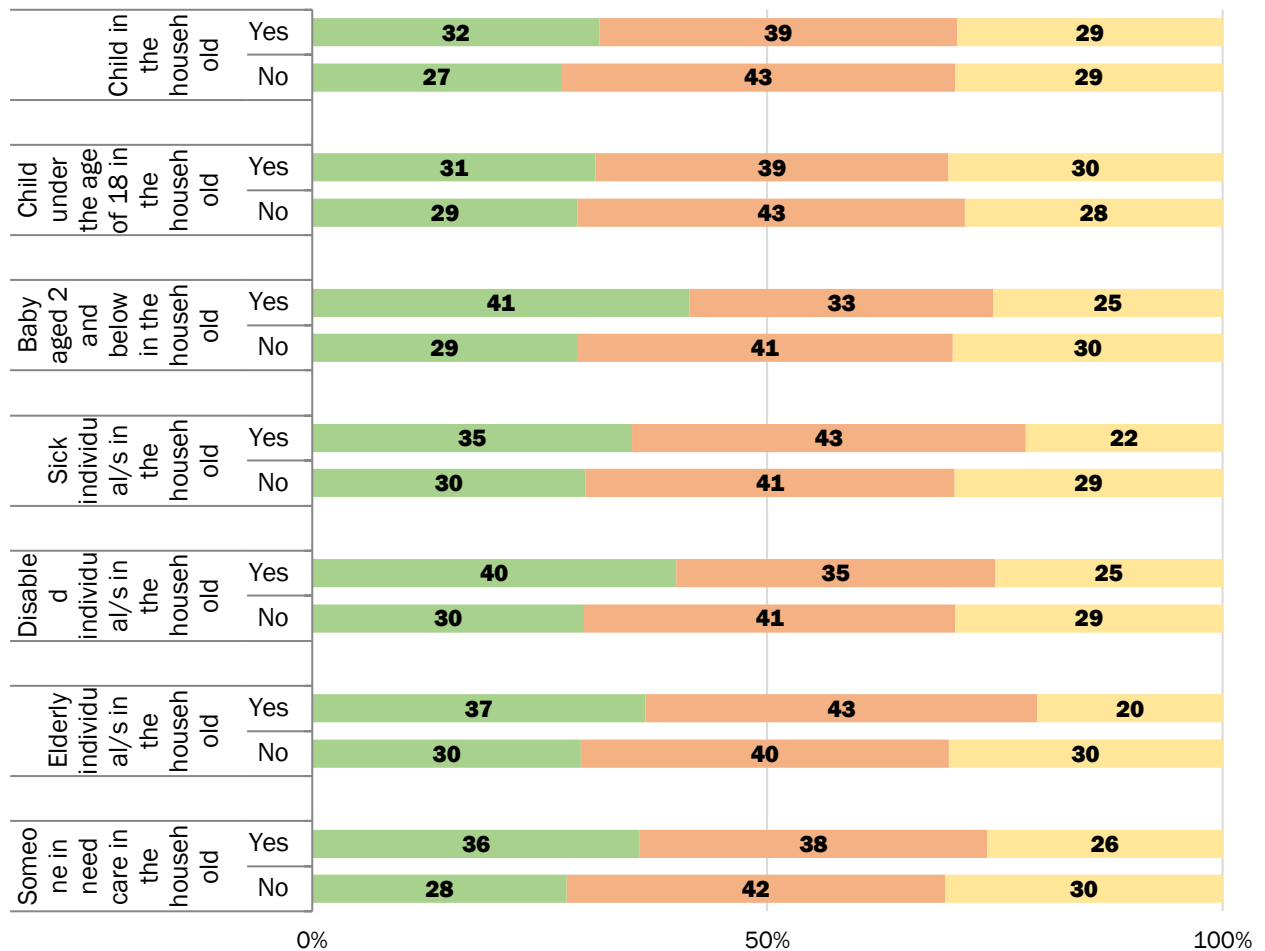
When we examine ideas about working from home according to certain situations, we see that gender and family type directly affect preferences on this subject. While 42 percent of women prefer to work from home and 30 percent prefer a hybrid working style, 21 percent of men prefer to work from home and 29 percent prefer hybrid. Considering that women are more burdened with housework, it can be interpreted that women have such preferences in relation to the time they would spend on transportation.

Three out of four people living alone prefer to go to the workplace.

When we look at family types, the preferences of those living alone on this issue draw attention. During the isolation period, when they switched to working from home, the social life of individuals living alone moved to a virtual environment, leaving them distant from physical social environments. As a result of this situation, we see that only 24 percent of those living alone prefer to work from home. The remaining 76 percent of this cluster say that they prefer to work only from the workplace or with a hybrid working style.

The most striking difference on this issue is between those who say that the time they spent on housework increased during the epidemic and those who say that it decreased. In this period, 35 percent of those with increased housework prefer to work from home, 36 percent prefer to work by going to the workplace/office, and 29 percent prefer to work with a hybrid system. These rates are 18 percent, 50 percent and 32 percent, respectively, for those who spent less time on housework. As a result, although it seems contradictory that those whose housework has increased are more likely to prefer to work from home than those whose housework has decreased, it should be taken into account that one of the important reasons for having less time to spend on housework is the increased workload from outside when working from home.

Which best expresses your opinion about paid work from home?



- I am happy to work from home, I prefer to continue like this.
- I am not satisfied with working from home, I prefer to work from the workplace.
- I prefer hybrid work, partly at work, other times from home.

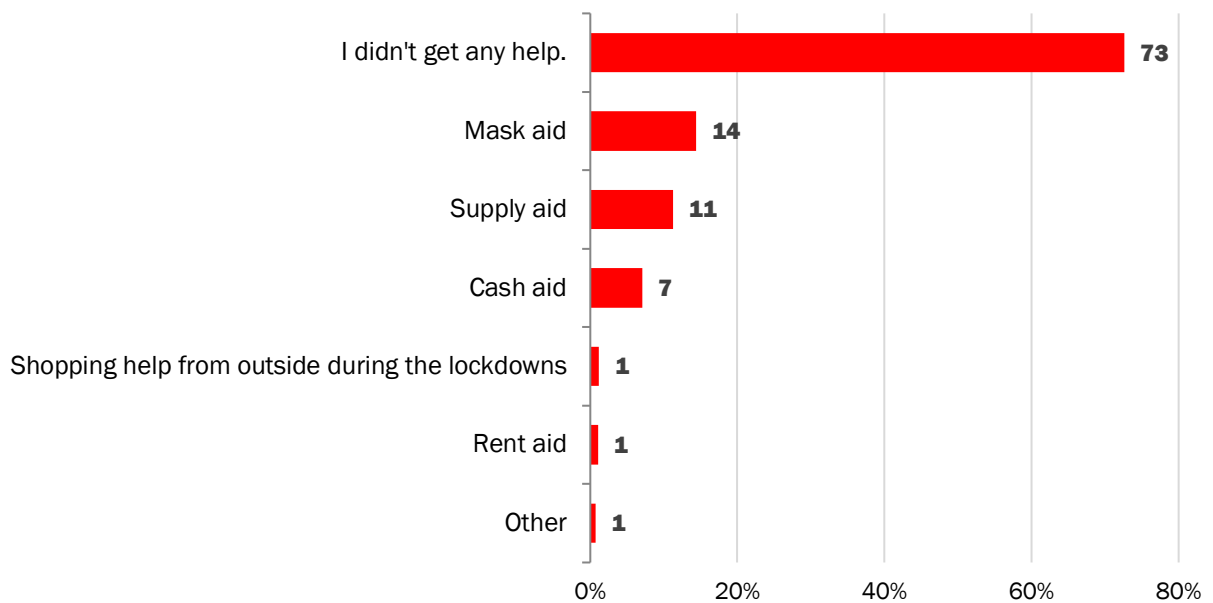
The home and business life of people who have babies, elderly, disabled and sick people in need of care are different than those who do not have any of these in their household. The care of these people is a situation that increases workload and directly affects life practices. As can be seen in the table above, ideas about working from home are also directly affected by these situations. We see that the most striking difference is between those who have children under the age of two and those who do not.

While 41 percent of people who have children under the age of two at home prefer working from home, only 29 percent of those without children at this age think so. When we look at the other clusters, we see that people who have a person/s in need of care in their household tend to prefer the home working system more than those who do not.

4.5. Assistance during the Pandemic

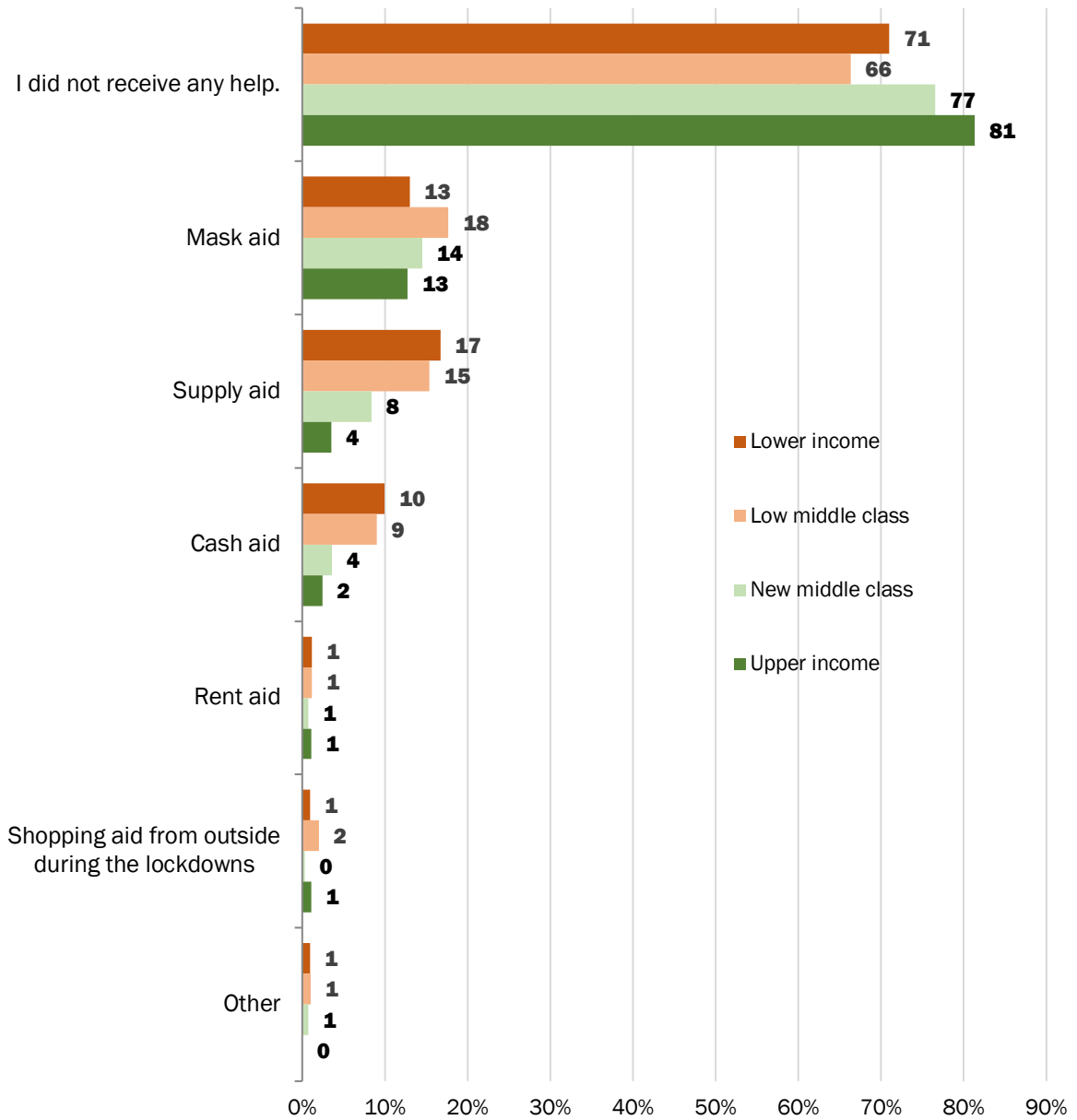
We can say that people need help both financially and morally with the layoffs, lockdowns and the change in daily practices that affected almost everyone in society during the pandemic.

**Did you receive assistance from municipalities during the pandemic?
What kind of assistance?**



When we look at what municipalities, one of the institutions responsible for providing assistance, have done in this period, 73 percent of people say that they did not benefit from any assistance. Fourteen percent of people said that they received mask aid from municipalities during the pandemic (i.e. receiving free face masks), 11 percent received supply aid (e.g. food), and 7 percent received monetary aid.

Did you receive assistance from municipalities during the pandemic? What kind of assistance?

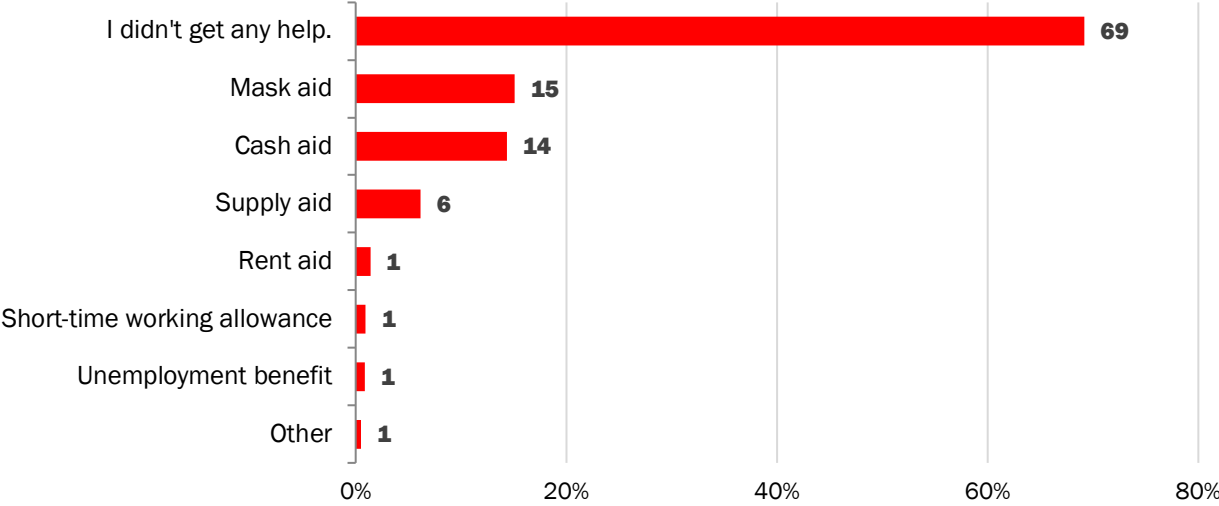


When we look at which economic classes benefit more from the assistance of municipalities during the pandemic period, we see that assistance increases as income level decreases. Twenty-nine percent of the lower-income group, 34 percent of the low middle class, 23 percent of the new middle class, and 18 percent of the upper-income group say that they benefited from some assistance provided by municipalities during the pandemic period. The economic class seems to be an important determinant, especially in terms of supply/food and monetary aid.

While 17 percent of the lower-income group and 15 percent of the low middle class benefited from supply/food aid from municipalities during the pandemic, 8 percent of the new middle class and 4 percent of the upper-income group received these.

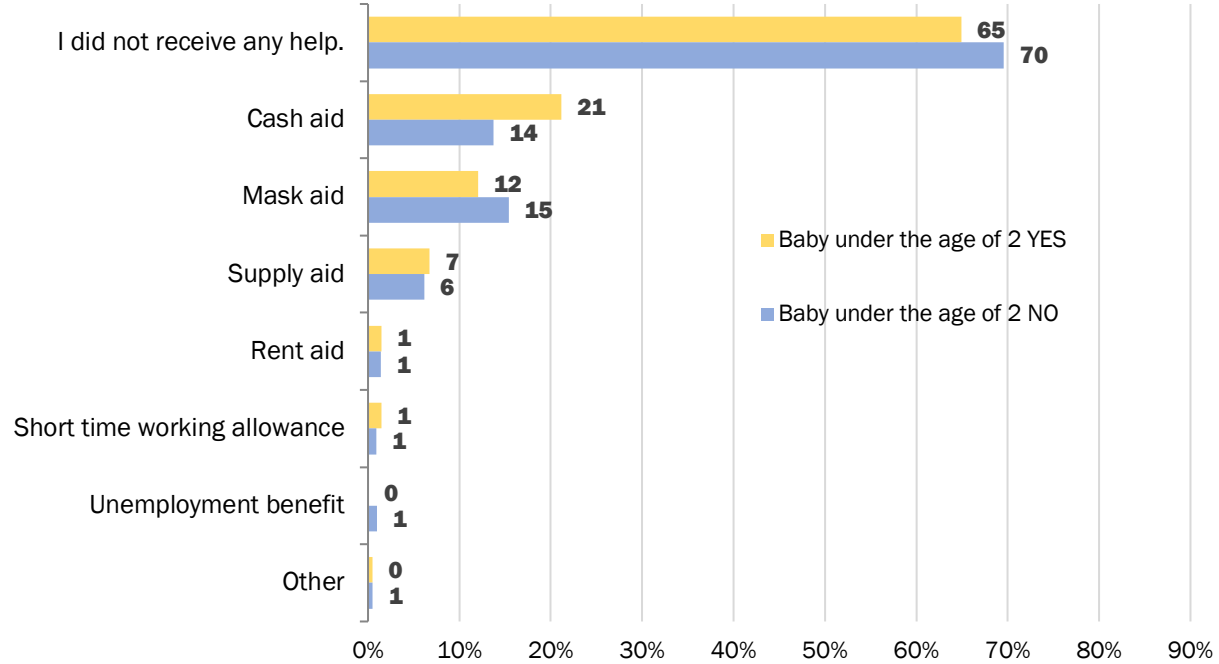
When we look at those who received monetary aid from municipalities during the pandemic, we see that 10 percent of the lower-income group, 9 percent of the low middle class, 4 percent of the new middle class, and 2 percent of the upper-income group received this form of assistance.

Did you receive assistance from the state during the pandemic?



When we look at assistance provided by the state during the pandemic, we see that 69 percent of people did not receive any aid. Those who received mask aid make up 15 percent of people, those who received monetary aid 14 percent, and those who received supply/food aid make up 6 percent.

Did you receive assistance from the state during the pandemic?



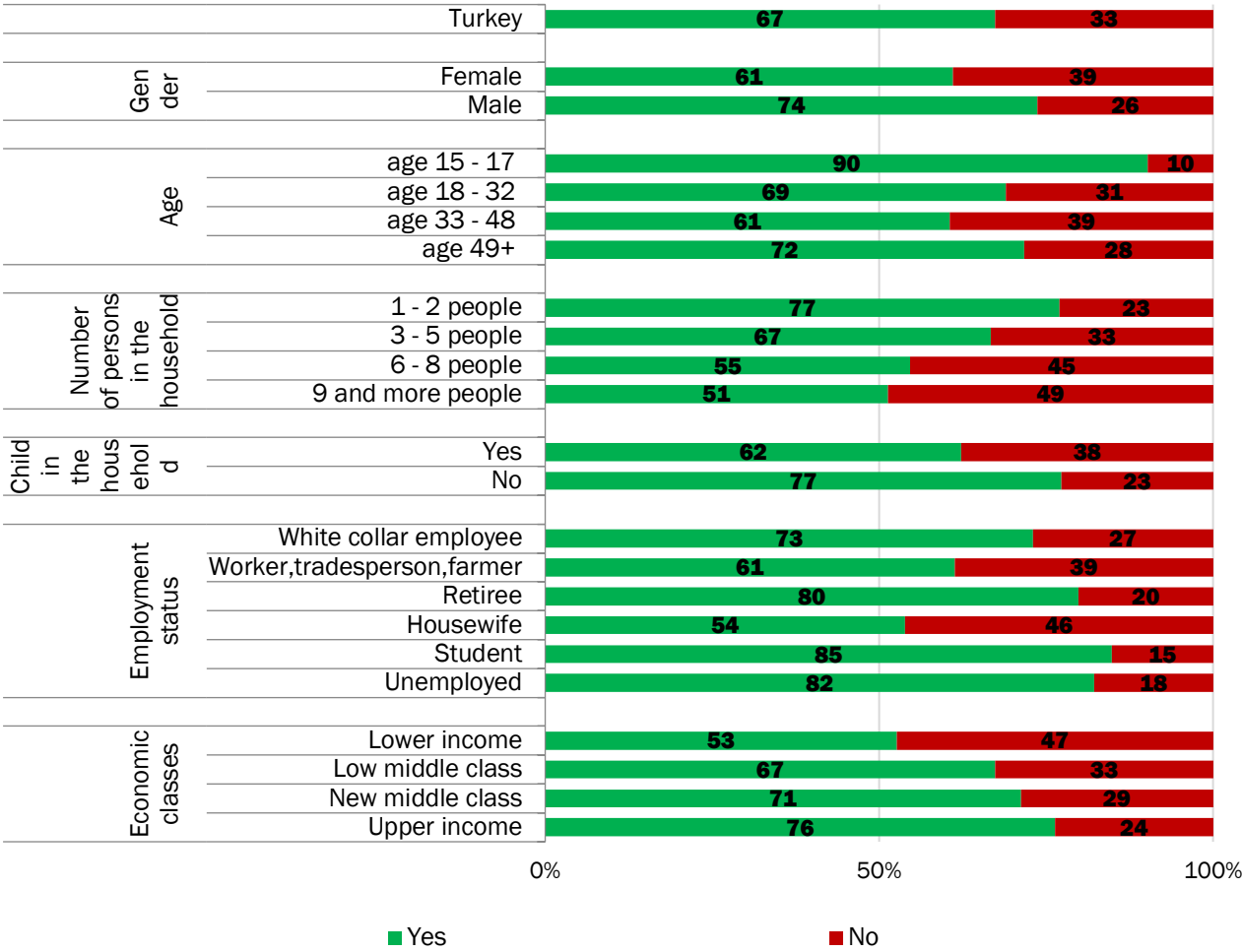
When we look at whether those with a baby under the age of two in their household benefited from assistance provided by the state during the pandemic, we see that they could benefit from state assistance a little more than those who do not have a baby under the age of two in their household.

Thirty-five percent of those who have a baby/ies under the age of two, and 30 percent of those who do not, benefited from some state assistance. We see that the biggest difference between these two clusters is in terms of monetary aid. Twenty-one percent of those who have a baby/ies under the age of two received monetary aid from the state, compared to only 14 percent of those who do not.

4.6. Activities during the Pandemic

While most of society was confined to their homes during the pandemic period, one of the most popular issues on social media was that the pandemic was an opportunity for people to take time for themselves. Of course, the extent to which this applied to individuals who were worried about their livelihood, increasing household chores, etc. was also discussed.

Could you take time for yourself during the pandemic?



In general, two out of three people say that they could spare time for themselves during the pandemic.

During the pandemic, we see that more men could spare time for themselves than women. While the rate of those who could spare time for themselves during the pandemic period is 74 percent among men, this rate is 61 percent among women.

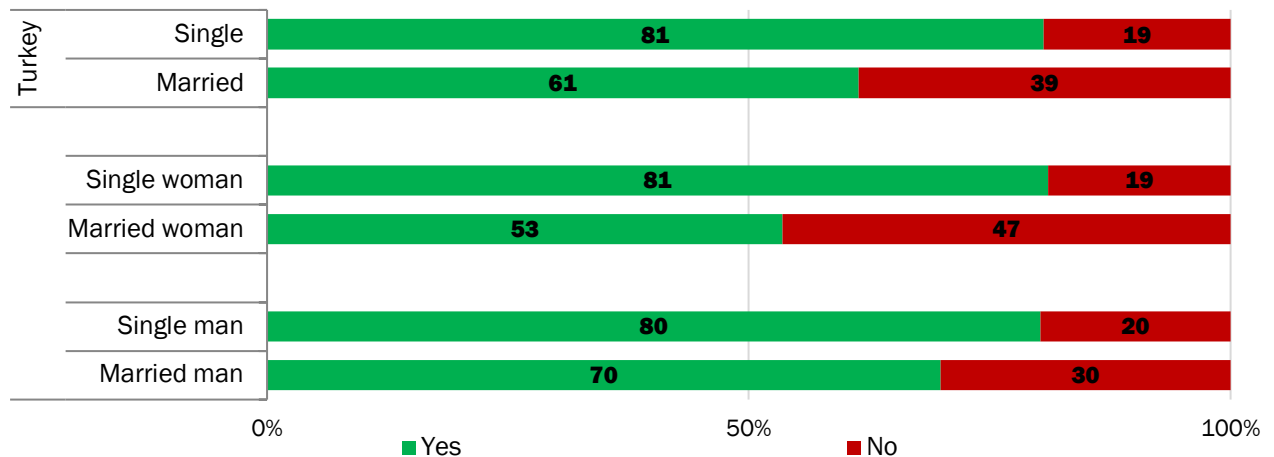
We see that the young and the old were most likely to be able to take time for themselves during the pandemic. Since the middle-aged group is the group that is most involved in the workforce, it seems that they could not spare as much time for themselves as the young and old people in this period. Ninety percent of those aged 15-17, 69 percent of those aged 18-32, 61 percent of those aged 33-48, and 72 percent of those aged 49 and over say that they could spare time for themselves during the pandemic.

When we look at the occupational clusters that affect this situation in parallel with the age groups, we see that the clusters that were most able to devote time to themselves are students, the unemployed and the retired. Eighty-five percent of students, 82 percent of unemployed people and 80 percent of the retirees were able to spare time for themselves during the pandemic. These 3 clusters are followed by white-collar employees with 72 percent. Workers, tradespeople, farmers, and housewives were able to spare less time for themselves during the pandemic compared to other clusters. The rate of those who could spare time for themselves during the pandemic is 61 percent among workers, tradespeople and farmers, and 54 percent among housewives. Housewives draw attention as a disadvantaged cluster in this regard.

In addition to these factors, the economic class draws attention as another factor that seriously affects the ability to spare time for oneself during the pandemic. The higher the income, the higher the proportion of those who can spare time for themselves. Fifty-three percent of those in the lower-income group, 67 percent of those in the low middle class, 71 percent of those in the new middle class, and 76 percent of those in the upper-income group were able to spare time for themselves during the pandemic period. Based on this, we cannot say that the statements we mentioned at the beginning about the pandemic being an opportunity for people to take time for themselves are valid for everyone.

In addition to age, occupation and economic condition, we see that the number of people in the household and the presence of children in the household also affect people's ability to spare time for themselves during the pandemic. During the pandemic, as the number of people in the household increases, the proportion of those who could spare time for themselves decreases. We see that those who have children in their household could spare less time for themselves than those who do not have children in their household.

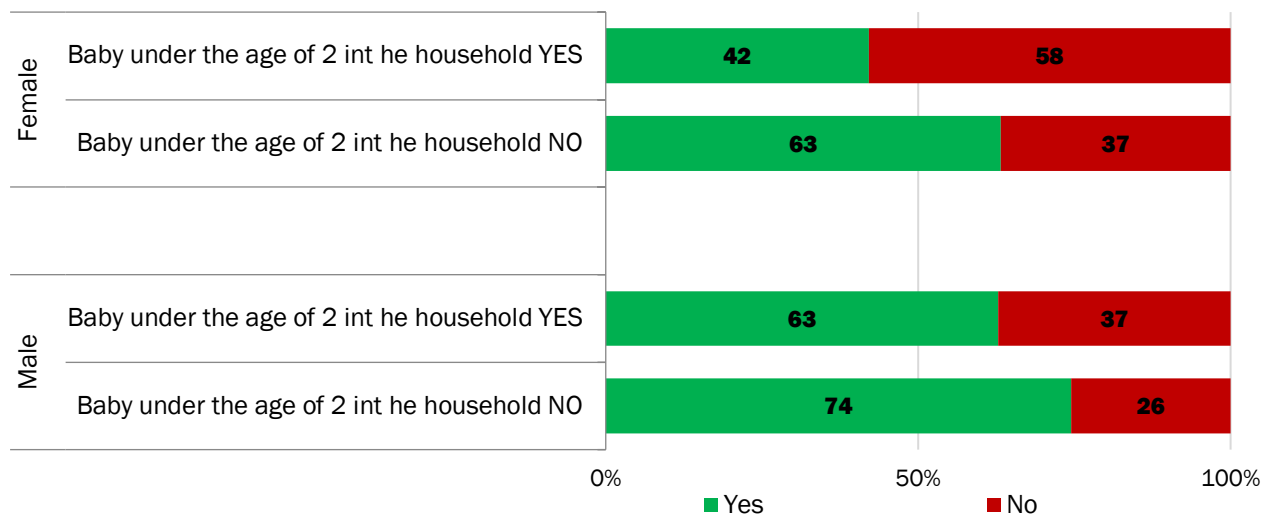
Could you take time for yourself during the pandemic?



Marital status is another factor that significantly affected the ability to spare time for oneself during the pandemic period. In Turkey, 81 percent of singles and 61 percent of married people were able to spare time for themselves during the pandemic.

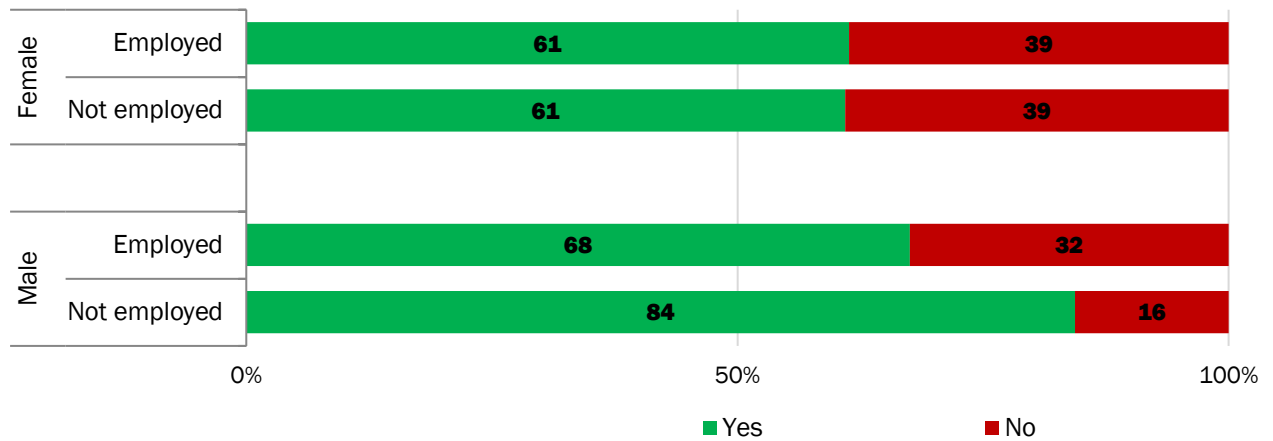
Married women were able to spare less time to themselves than both single women and married men. Four out of five single women and single men say they could take time for themselves during the pandemic. Only half of married women were able to spare time for themselves during the pandemic. Married women seem to be more disadvantaged than other clusters in this regard.

Could you keep time for yourself during the pandemic?



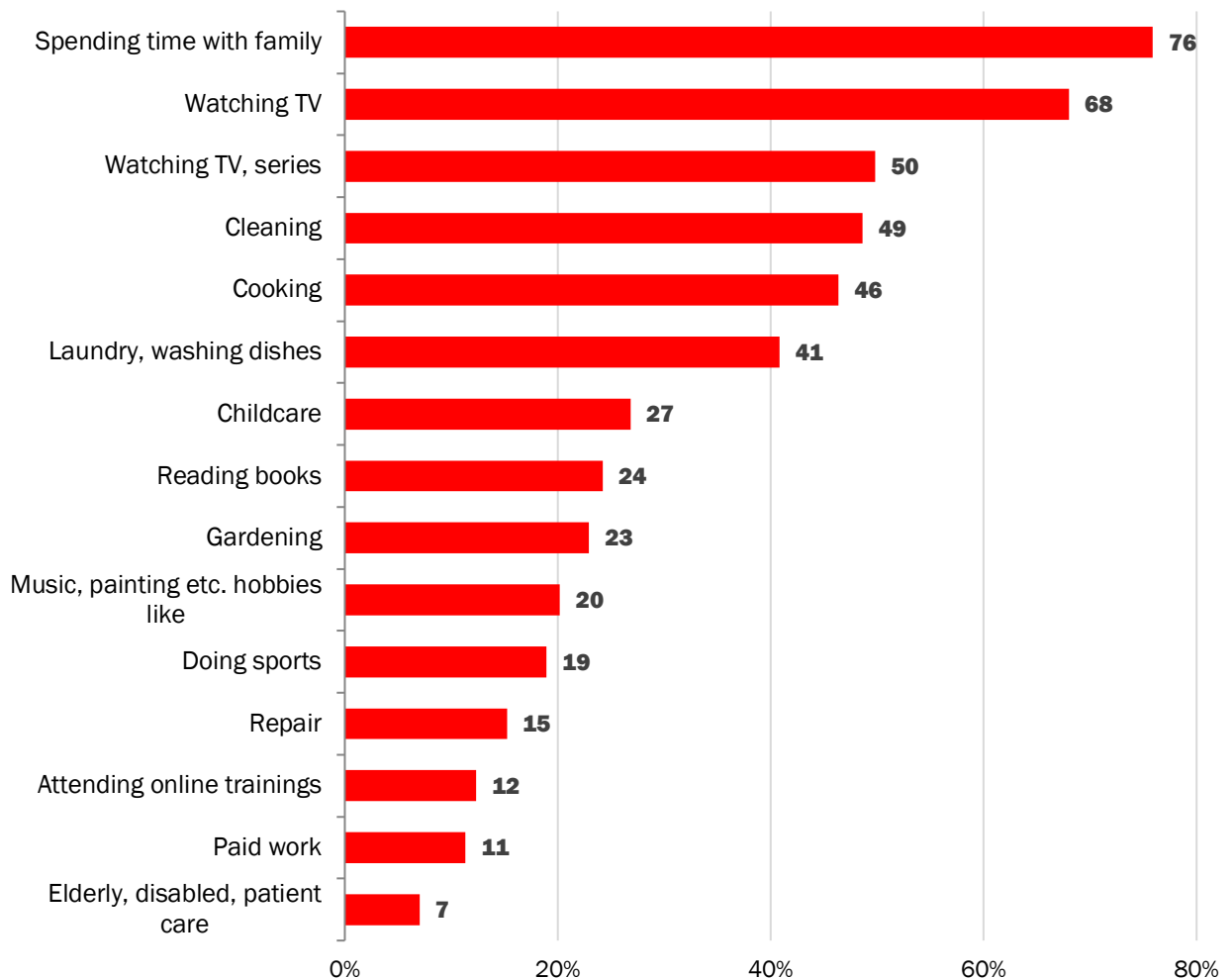
Another cluster that is more disadvantaged is women who have babies aged two and under at home. Only two of every five people in this cluster say that they could take time for themselves during the pandemic period. On the other hand, three out of five men who have babies aged two and under at home were able to spare time for themselves during the pandemic.

Could you take time for yourself during the pandemic?



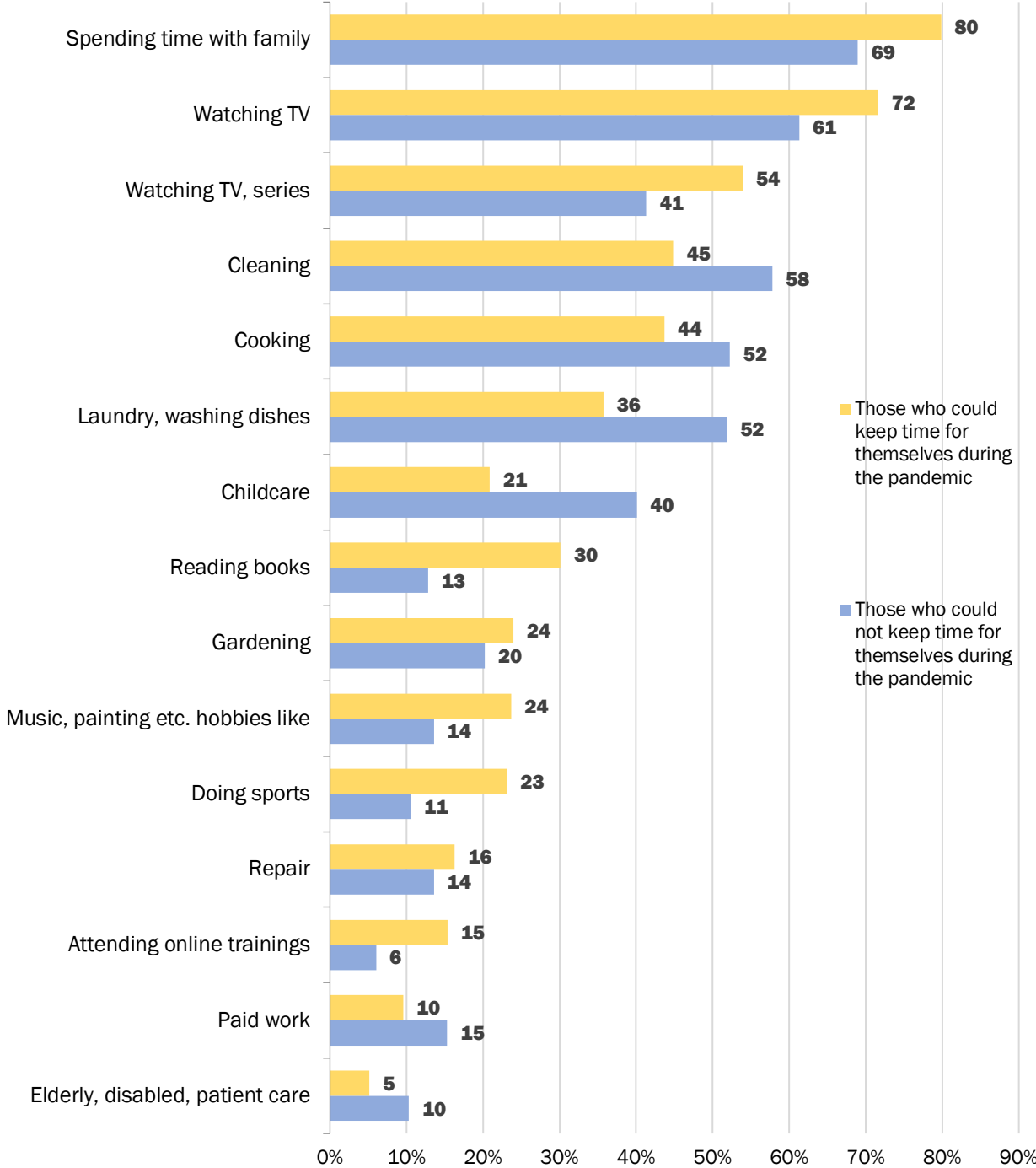
While 61 percent of employed and non-employed women were able to take time for themselves during the pandemic, 68 percent of employed men and 84 percent of unemployed men say that they could do so. The fact that the employment status of women makes no difference can be explained by unpaid domestic labor.

Which activities did you do more during the pandemic?

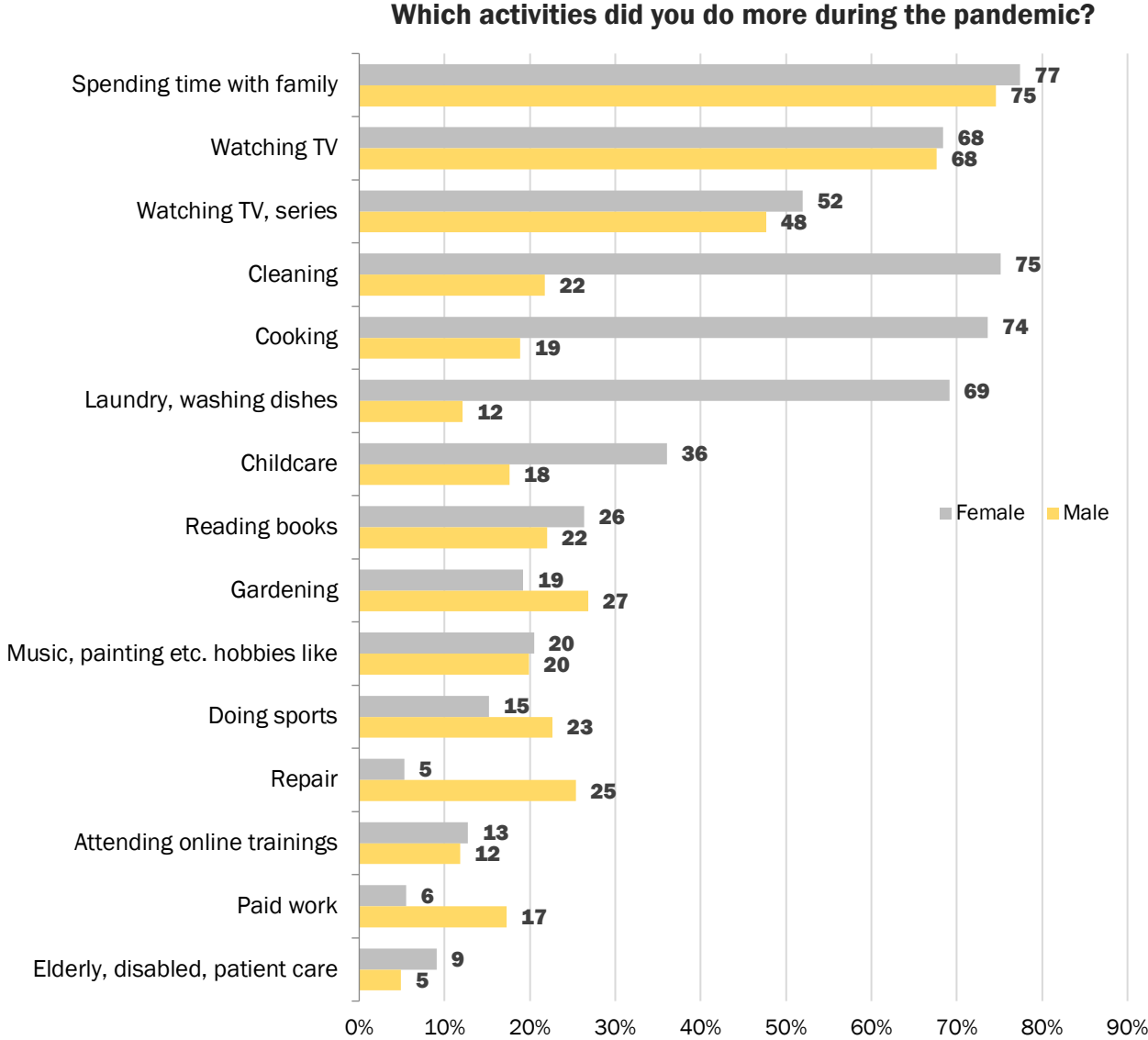


When we look at what activities and what kind of things society spends more time on during the pandemic, we see that 76 percent of people spent more time with their families, 68 percent watched more television and 50 percent watch more TV series/movies. These three activities are followed by housework. Forty-nine percent of people say that they spent more time on cleaning, 46 percent on cooking, 41 percent doing laundry and washing dishes, and 27 percent spent more time on child care compared to the time before the pandemic. This shows us that the time allocated to compulsory housework has increased as well as the time allocated to pleasure and hobbies during the pandemic period.

Which activities did you do more during the pandemic?

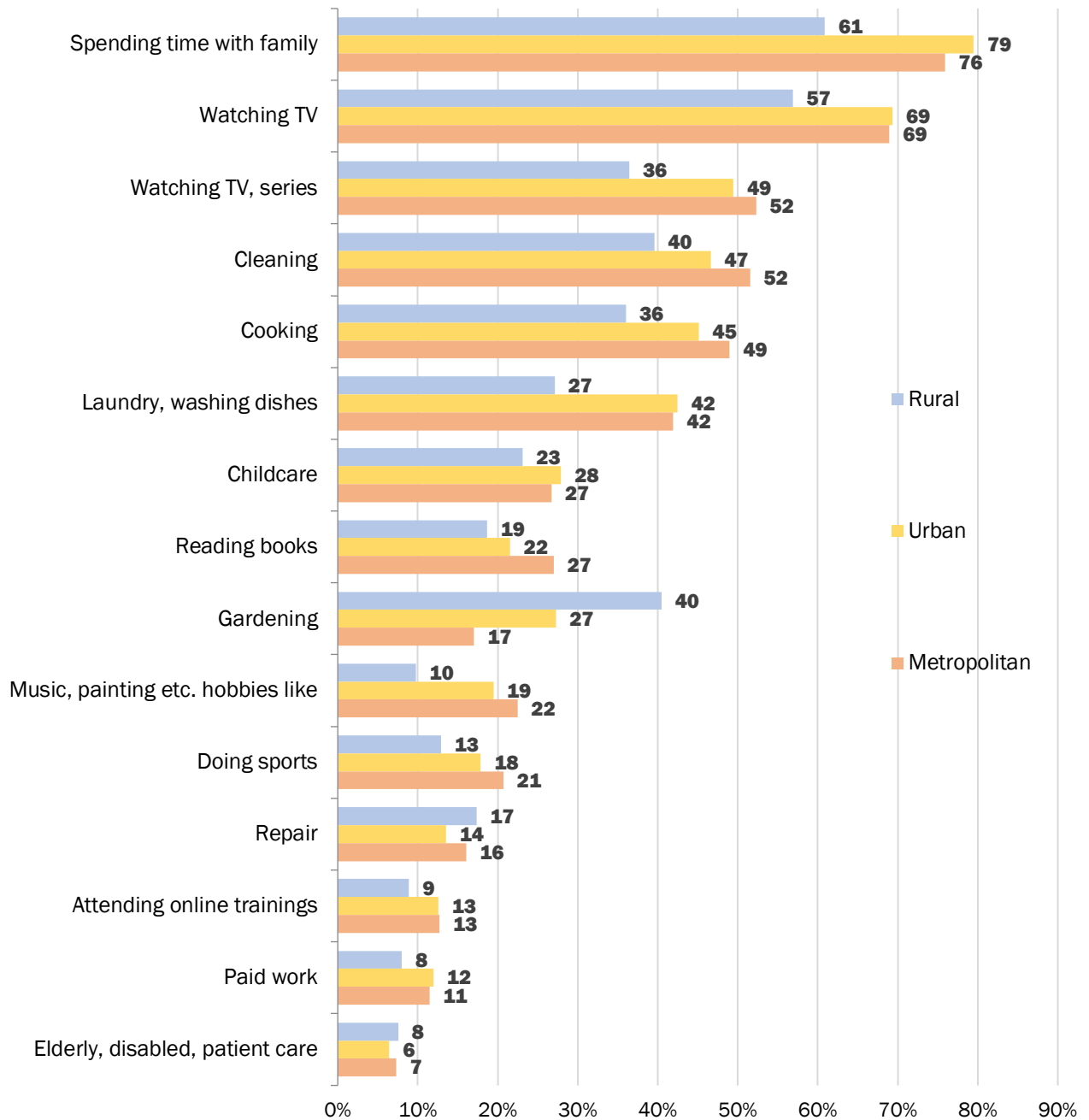


We see that there are certain differences between those who could spare time for themselves during the pandemic and those who could not. We see that those who could not spare time for themselves during the pandemic spent more time on cooking, laundry, washing dishes, cleaning and childcare than those who could spare time for themselves. Those who could spare time for themselves were able to spare more time for pleasure, hobbies and entertainment.



When we look at the activities and jobs that women and men do more during the pandemic, men were spent more time on renovation/repair and gardening than women, and went to work more. Housework is what women did more. During the pandemic, 75 percent of women cleaned more and 74 percent cooked more. These rates are 22 percent and 19 percent among men, respectively. Besides, we also see that women spent more time on laundry, dishes and baby care than men, and this difference is very large.

Which activities did you do more during the pandemic?

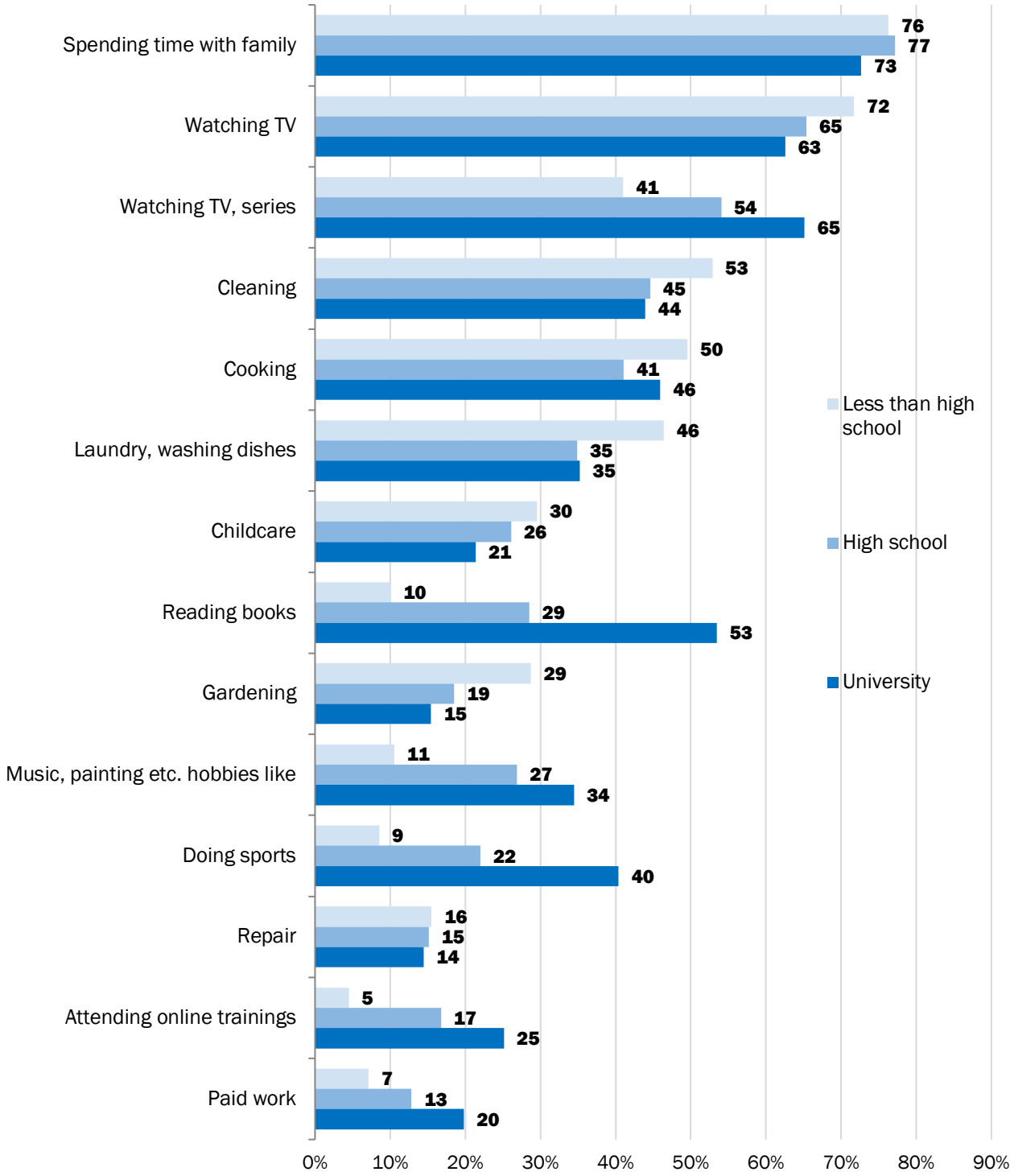


The place where people live directly affects their lifestyles, and in this respect, we see in the chart above that the changes in activities carried out during the pandemic period vary according to the situation of living in rural, urban and metropolitan areas.

While 40 percent of those living in rural areas spent more time on gardening during the pandemic, this rate is 27 percent in urban residents and 17 percent in metropolitan areas.

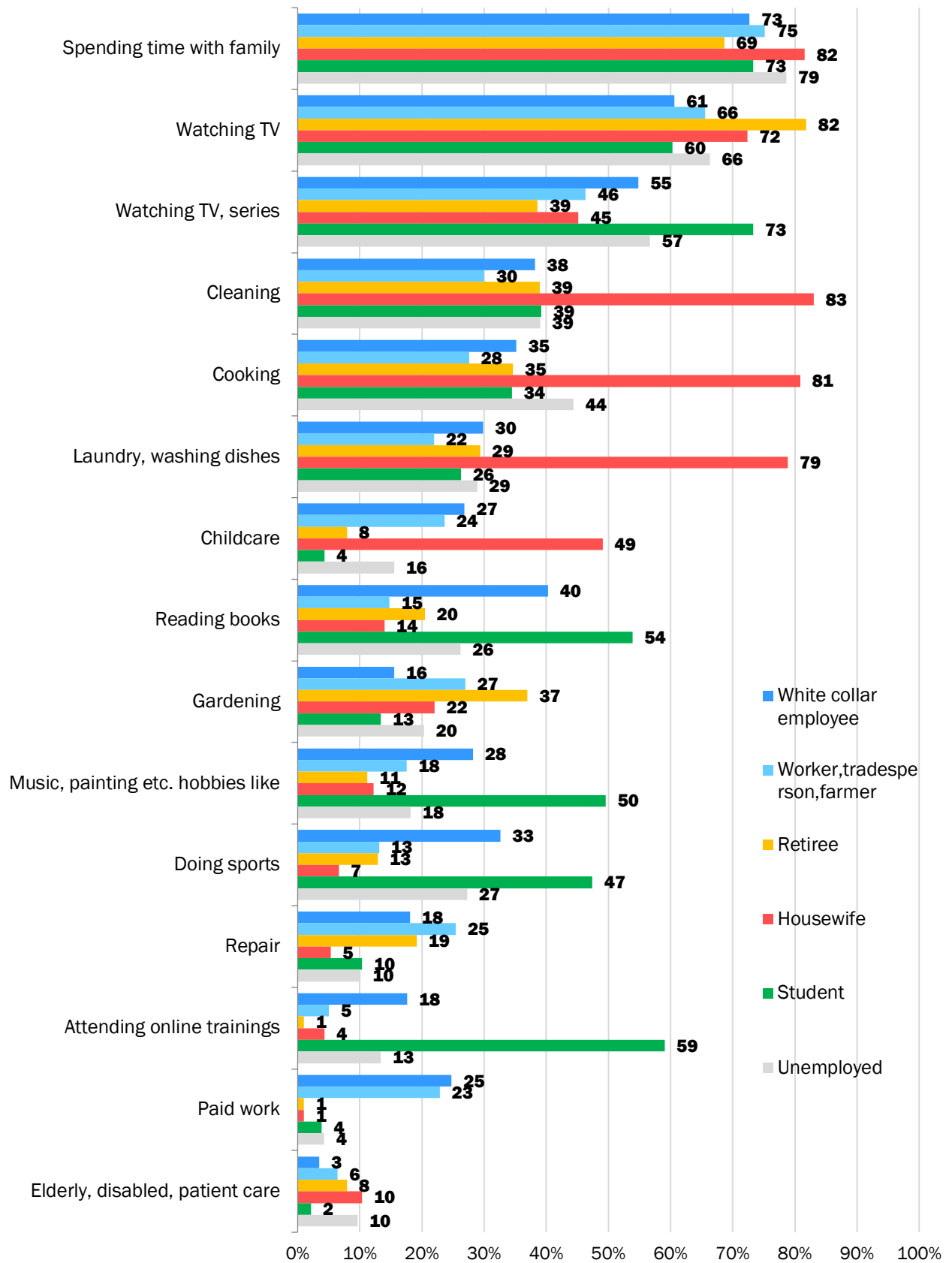
We can see that the people living in the metropolis say that they spent more time on cooking and cleaning during the pandemic period compared to those living in rural and urban areas. This does not necessarily indicate that people in the metropolis do more cooking and cleaning compared to those living in rural and urban areas, but merely that those habits have changed more relative to before the pandemic.

Which activities did you do more during the pandemic?



Education level is another factor that affects the activities of the pandemic period. As the level of education increases, we see that the number of people who spent time reading books, watching movies and TV series and doing sports, hobbies such as music and painting, online education and working increases significantly.

Which activities did you do more during the pandemic?



Educational status also affects working status, and working status affects the activities of the pandemic period. While talking about the activities and jobs that women and men spend time on, we said that the time allocated to housework is much more for women than for men. In occupational clusters, we see that the time that housewives allocate to housework has increased considerably more than for other clusters.

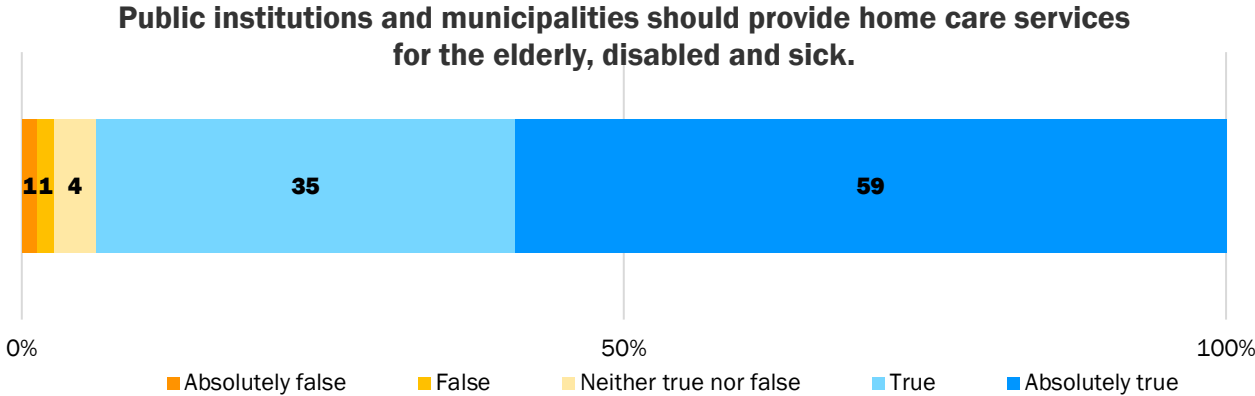
The activities of students, who are the youngest cluster, during the pandemic also differed from other clusters. Naturally, students are ahead of other clusters when it comes to participating in online education. In addition, we can say that students spent more time watching TV series, movies, reading books, doing sports and hobbies compared to other clusters.

White-collar workers and students spent more time on similar things during the pandemic

White-collar employees are similar to students in terms of their changes to activities during the pandemic period. In each job and activity that students increased their time more on than other clusters, white-collar employees follow them. This is due to the fact that age and lifestyle affect daily practices.

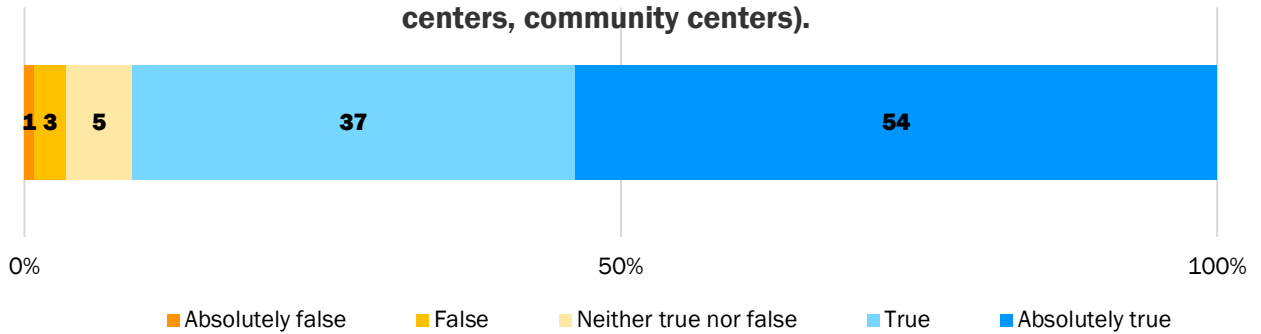
4.7. Roles of Public Institutions on Children and Individuals in Need of Care

In the previous sections, we talked about home care for sick, elderly and disabled individuals. In this regard, it is necessary to mention what society thinks about the roles of the state and public institutions.



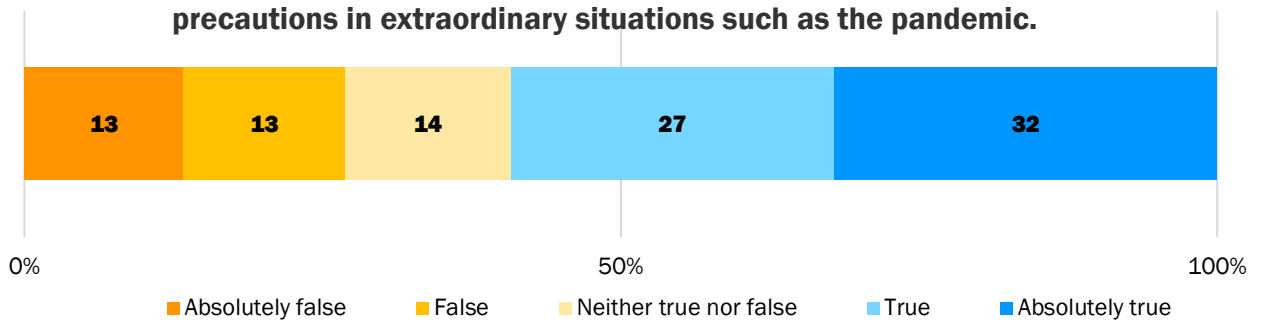
While 94 percent of people agree with the idea that “Public institutions and municipalities should provide home care services for the elderly, disabled and sick,” only 2 percent think that this idea is absolutely false or false.

Public institutions and municipalities should provide care services for the elderly and disabled through day centers (such as active living centers, community centers).



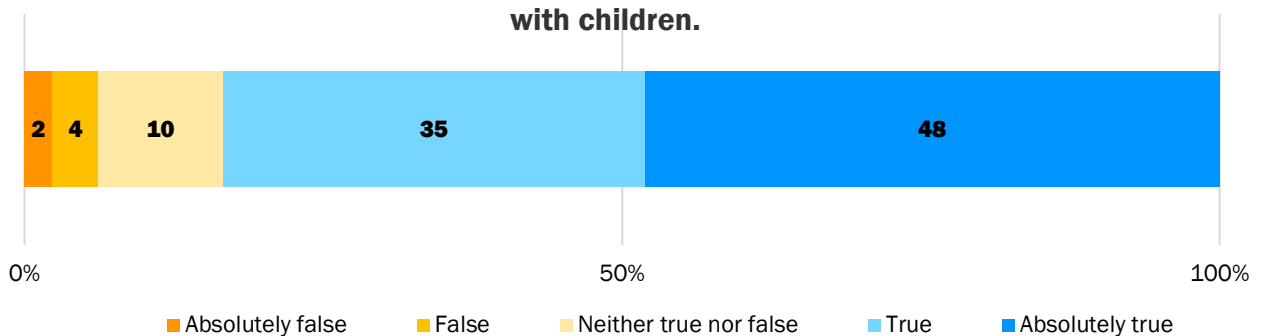
While the rate of those who think that the idea of “Public institutions and municipalities should provide care services for the elderly and disabled through day centers (such as active living centers, community centers)” is absolutely true or true is 91 percent, 4 percent of the society thinks that this idea is absolutely false or false.

Nurseries and kindergartens should remain open by taking necessary precautions in extraordinary situations such as the pandemic.

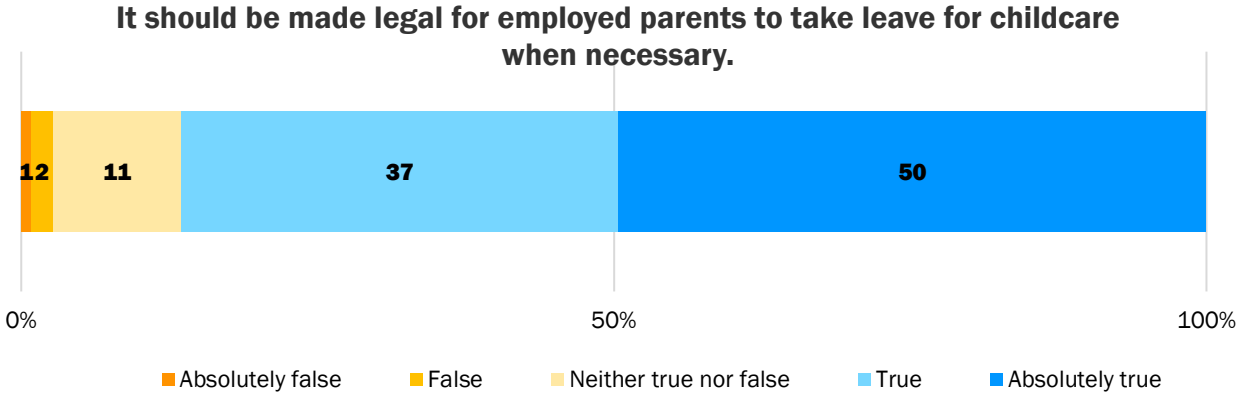


We mentioned that the care of children and babies, another group in need of care, increased the burden of parents during the pandemic period. Here we look at the views of society on five major childcare policies that could alleviate the burden of parents and working parents. Fifty-nine percent of people agreed that “Nurseries and kindergartens should remain open by taking necessary precautions in extraordinary situations such as the pandemic”, while 26 percent of the society says this idea is false or absolutely false.

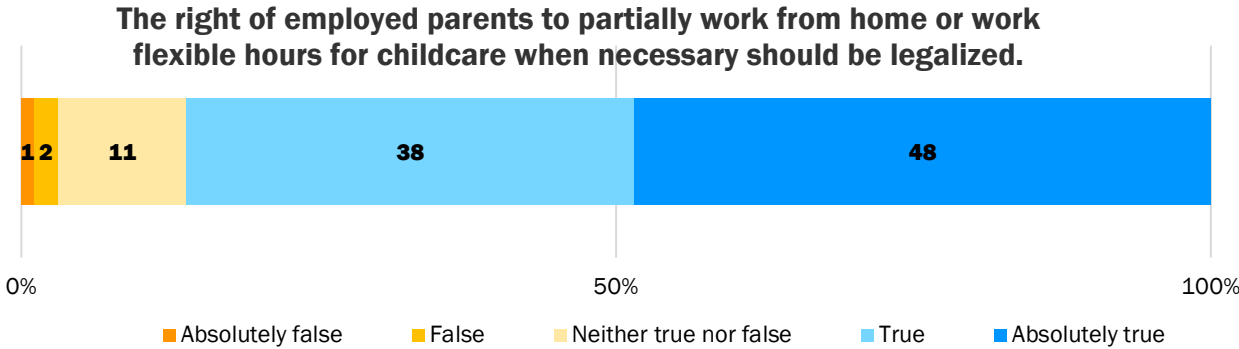
Quality nurseries and kindergartens should be provided to all families with children.



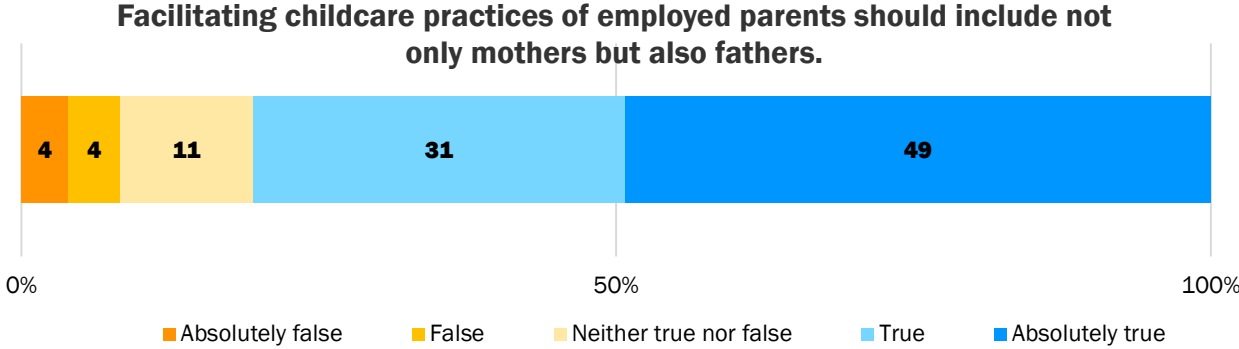
We see that the idea of “Quality nurseries and kindergartens should be provided to all families with children” is evaluated as true or absolutely true by 83 percent of people. Only 6 percent of people do not agree with this opinion.



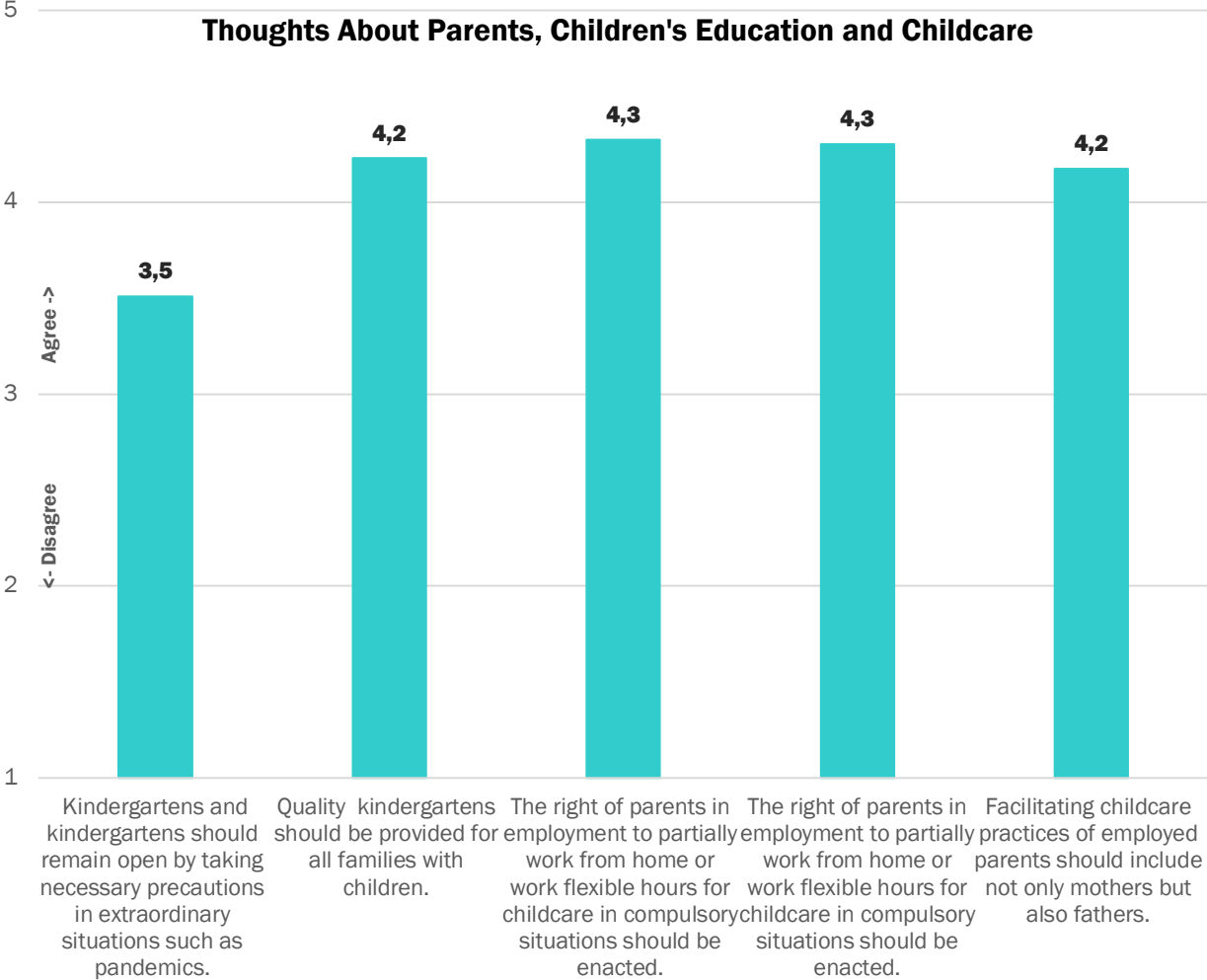
While 87 percent of people has a positive response to the statement that “It should be made legal for employed parents to take leave for childcare when necessary,” which concerns working parents, 3 percent consider is as false or absolutely false.



While 86 percent of people say that the idea that “The right of employed parents to partially work from home or work flexible hours for childcare when necessary should be legalized.” is true or absolutely true, 3 percent say that this idea is false or absolutely false.

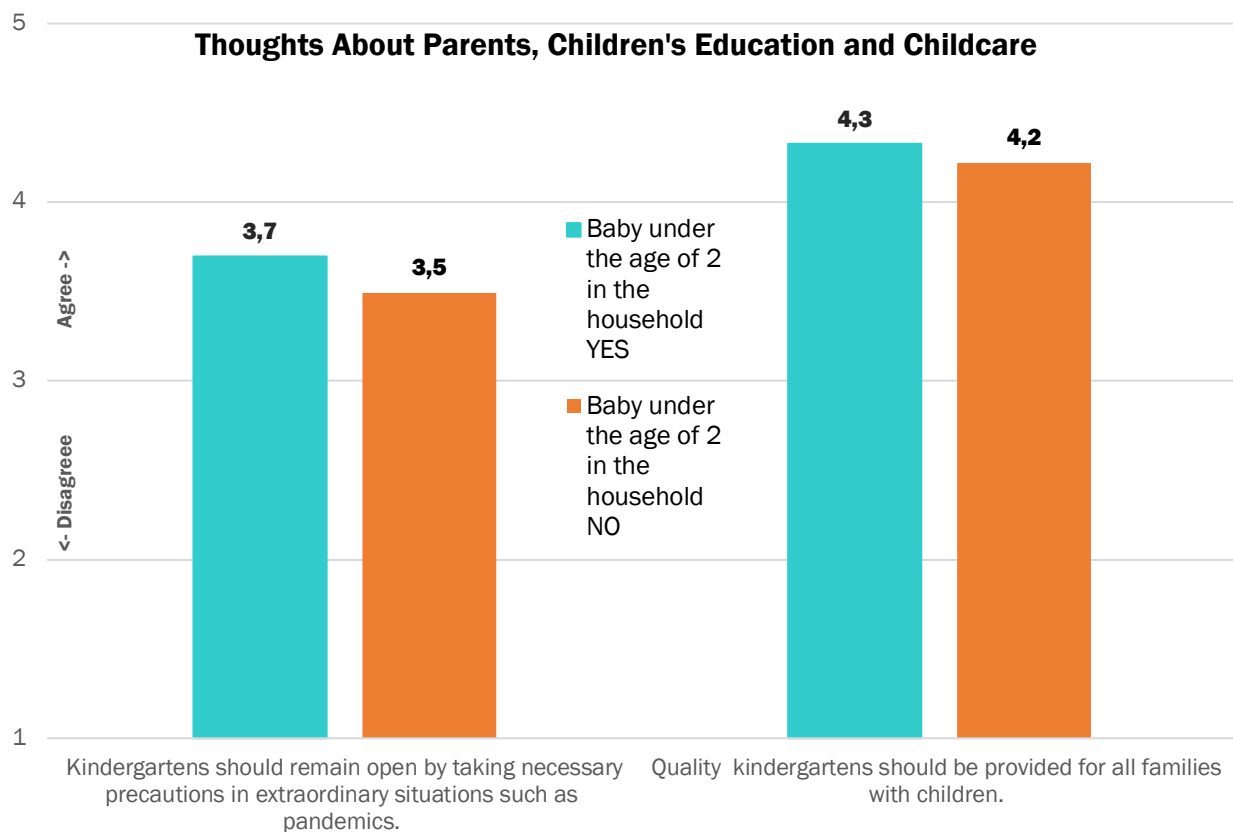


Finally, while 80 percent of people evaluate the idea that “Facilitating childcare practices of employed parents should include not only mothers but also fathers” as true or absolutely true, 8 percent of people evaluate it as false or absolutely false.



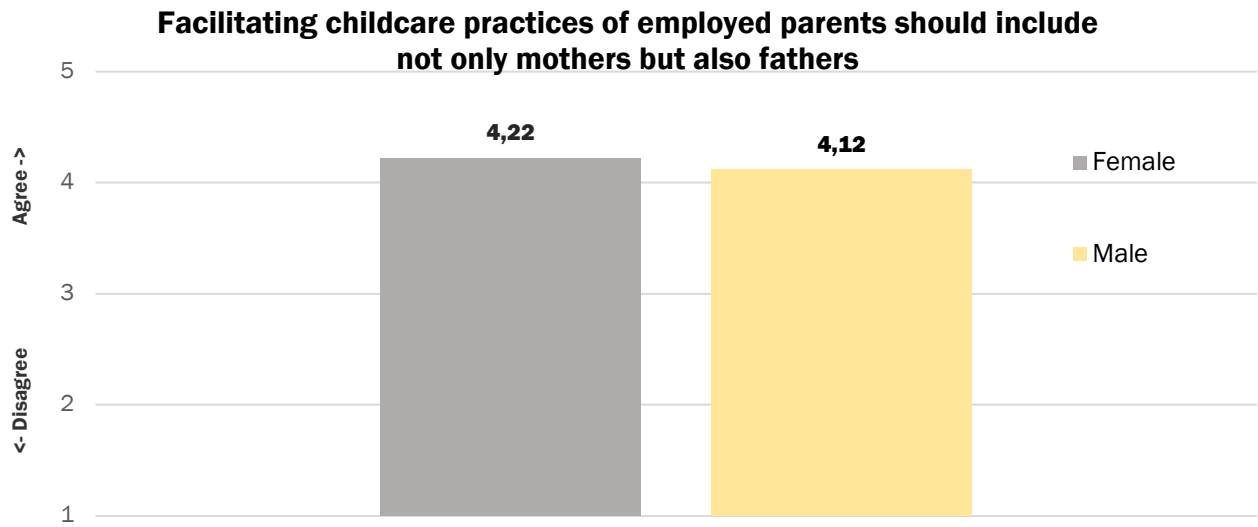
When we look at the average attitudes towards these five childcare policy options, we see that the option with the highest support from people is “It should be made legal for employed parents to take leave for childcare when necessary” (Average 4.3). On the other hand, the judgment that “Nurseries and kindergartens should remain open by taking necessary precautions in extraordinary situations such as the pandemic” finds less support in society than the others (Average 3.5). Despite the fact that this option, unlike the other four, facilitates the work of families with children, we can argue that it finds less support than the others due to the difficulties it will cause to people working in the mentioned institutions.

Although the general public has a tendency to approve these options, we can say that there are differences in the approval rates of certain groups.



It can be said that those who have baby/ies under the age of two in the household and those who do not have slightly different ideas from each other on the two issues we see in the chart above. Those who have a baby under the age of two in their household tend to agree more with the idea that “Nurseries and kindergartens should remain open by taking necessary precautions in extraordinary situations such as the pandemic” than individuals who do not have a baby under the age of two in their household. Those who have a baby under the age of two in their household tend to agree with this idea, with an average of 3.7 on a scale of one (absolutely false) to five (absolutely true), while those who do not have an average of 3.5.

We see that those who have babies under the age of two tend to agree more with the idea of “Quality nurseries and kindergartens should be provided to all families with children” (4.3 on average) than those who do not have a baby under the age of two (4.2 on average).



The point where women and men differ the most among these five options is “Facilitating childcare practices of employed parents should include not only mothers but also fathers.” Although there is not a big difference in their approach to this option, it is noteworthy that women tend to agree more with the idea that a facilitating practice should include men as well.

5. TIME USE

We used a matrix system as follows to determine the daily time use of the interviewees within the scope of the research. In order to eliminate differences such as work or religious practices, we posed the question asking them to describe “last Tuesday or Wednesday” instead of “any day”. We did not choose Fridays or even Thursday evenings, as these days have different daily habits for people who fully practice their religions. As our subscribers know, we only carry out our field research on weekends. Therefore, we should not have been making this measurement on the day of the survey. As a result, we tried to collect data by asking about “last Tuesday or Wednesday, for example,” in addition to the phrase “an ordinary day”.

Time	Eating	Entertainment	Work	Education	Housework	Transport	Television	Internet	Worship	Shopping	Other	Sleep
06:00 - 06:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
07:00 - 07:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
08:00 - 08:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
09:00 - 09:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10:00 - 10:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11:00 - 11:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12:00 - 12:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13:00 - 13:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14:00 - 14:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15:00 - 15:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16:00 - 16:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17:00 - 17:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18:00 - 18:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19:00 - 19:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20:00 - 20:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21:00 - 21:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22:00 - 22:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23:00 - 23:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
00:00 - 00:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
01:00 - 01:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
02:00 - 02:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
03:00 - 03:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
04:00 - 04:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
05:00 - 05:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Morning

Afternoon

Evening

Night

We asked the participants in the research at what time they slept and woke up first, and then asked them to say what they did one by one in the remaining time periods, according to the above categories. Of course, we have processed the information into our system on the basis that it is possible to do more than one thing in one time period.

Hours	Eating	Transport	Work	Education	Housework	Shopping	Worship	Entertainment	Television	Internet	Other	Sleep
06:00 - 06:59	11,6	3,7	3,2	0,3	3,1	0,1	12,9	0,2	0,8	0,6	0,5	61,4
07:00 - 07:59	23,3	12,6	8,7	1,1	7,0	0,4	1,5	0,4	2,1	2,1	1,6	40,4
08:00 - 08:59	22,8	10,6	23,5	3,2	10,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	4,5	3,8	2,1	23,1
09:00 - 09:59	17,4	5,1	30,5	5,1	15,8	1,2	1,1	1,3	7,2	5,4	2,7	11,8
10:00 - 10:59	13,2	2,5	33,5	6,3	16,9	1,9	0,7	1,6	10,0	6,3	3,6	5,4
11:00 - 11:59	8,0	1,9	34,6	7,0	17,8	2,8	1,6	3,0	10,4	6,4	4,3	2,3
12:00 - 12:59	23,9	1,6	27,5	5,8	15,8	4,1	10,7	3,5	9,5	7,7	4,2	1,3
13:00 - 13:59	18,8	2,2	29,8	5,9	14,4	4,7	7,7	5,2	10,0	7,5	3,8	0,9
14:00 - 14:59	9,4	1,2	33,2	6,2	12,4	5,1	3,8	7,2	10,4	7,6	4,4	0,9
15:00 - 15:59	5,9	1,7	33,3	5,9	11,1	4,5	5,9	7,8	12,3	7,7	4,6	0,9
16:00 - 16:59	5,8	3,5	31,8	4,6	11,5	5,5	8,4	7,2	13,1	7,2	4,0	1,1
17:00 - 17:59	11,2	6,4	25,9	3,3	11,6	4,6	5,1	7,0	14,0	8,5	4,4	1,0
18:00 - 18:59	19,1	7,5	16,8	2,2	11,0	4,5	8,0	7,1	16,5	10,0	5,5	1,1
19:00 - 19:59	24,7	4,2	10,4	2,2	10,2	3,3	7,2	8,4	25,1	13,3	5,0	0,7
20:00 - 20:59	17,3	3,3	6,2	2,1	8,4	2,3	6,2	11,0	33,8	16,8	5,7	2,0
21:00 - 21:59	7,8	1,1	3,9	1,9	6,3	1,3	4,1	9,9	38,4	18,9	6,5	6,1
22:00 - 22:59	3,1	1,1	2,4	1,6	3,7	0,6	3,4	7,2	34,6	21,3	5,7	18,8
23:00 - 23:59	1,4	0,4	2,0	1,1	2,0	0,4	1,7	4,5	21,9	18,2	4,6	41,6
00:00 - 00:59	0,8	0,4	0,8	0,4	0,8	0,2	0,5	2,1	7,1	9,0	2,7	80,7
01:00 - 01:59	0,2	0,1	0,6	0,4	0,3	0,1	0,4	1,2	2,5	4,4	1,3	91,1
02:00 - 02:59	0,0	0,1	0,5	0,3	0,2	0,1	0,0	0,2	1,0	2,0	0,7	96,1
03:00 - 03:59	0,0	0,0	0,4	0,2	0,2	0,0	0,2	0,1	0,5	0,8	0,4	98,0
04:00 - 04:59	0,1	0,0	0,5	0,1	0,2	0,1	1,2	0,3	0,2	0,4	0,6	97,4
05:00 - 05:59	0,1	0,2	0,5	0,1	0,2	0,2	2,8	0,4	0,3	0,3	0,6	95,9

We have also given more detail about the categories of activities in the description below. The aim here was to define what other activities are covered by concepts such as entertainment, work or shopping, which may differ from person to person.

Eating: Breakfast, lunch, dinner, etc.

Entertainment: Visiting neighbors/relatives, social life, cinema, theatre, traveling

Work: Main job or side job, income-generating activity, working in the field

Education: School, study, courses

Housework: Cleaning, care of household residents, cooking, gardening

Transport: To and from home to work, school or any other place

Television: watching TV, listening to the radio and music

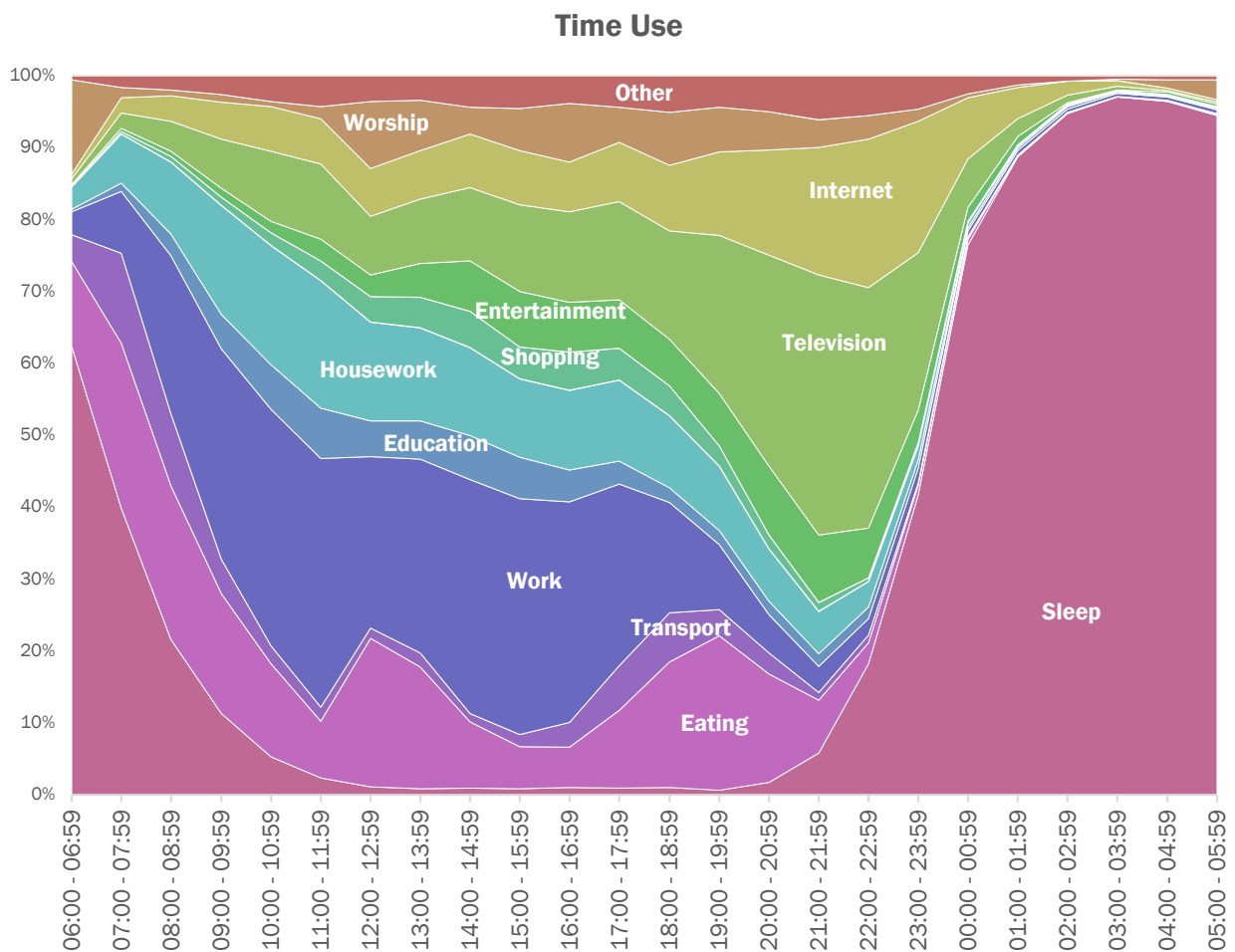
Internet: Social media, online gaming, etc.

Worship: Praying, reading the Qur'an, etc.

Shopping: Market, grocery shopping, go out shopping.

Other: Sports, volunteer work, etc.

5.1. What Do We Do in a Day?

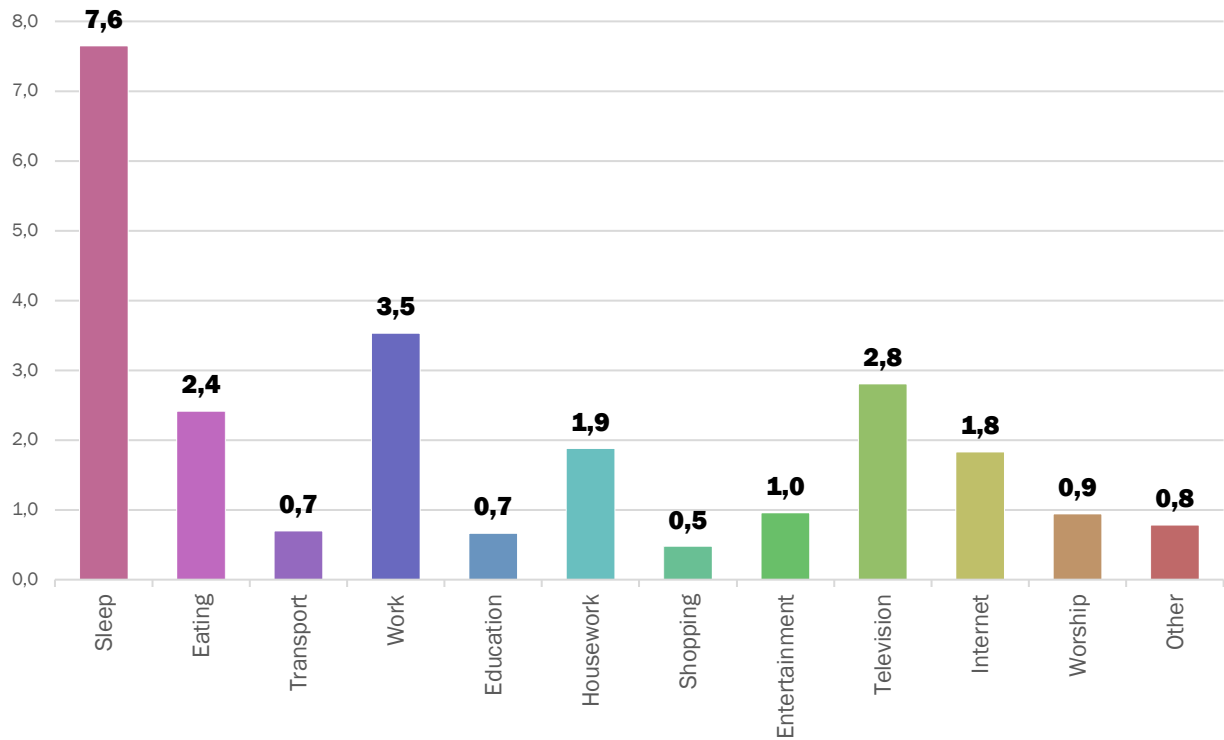


In the image above, we see in detail what society spends time on and what it is doing at what hours.

We see that two out of every five people sleep between 23:00 and 23:59 at night, and more than half of the society starts their day between 07:00 and 07:59 in the morning.

We see that work and education generally end between 19:00 and 19:59 in the evening, and the habit of watching television and going online increases during these hours. Before we examine all these data in more detail, we will look at how much time is spent on which tasks in a day.

One Day of Society

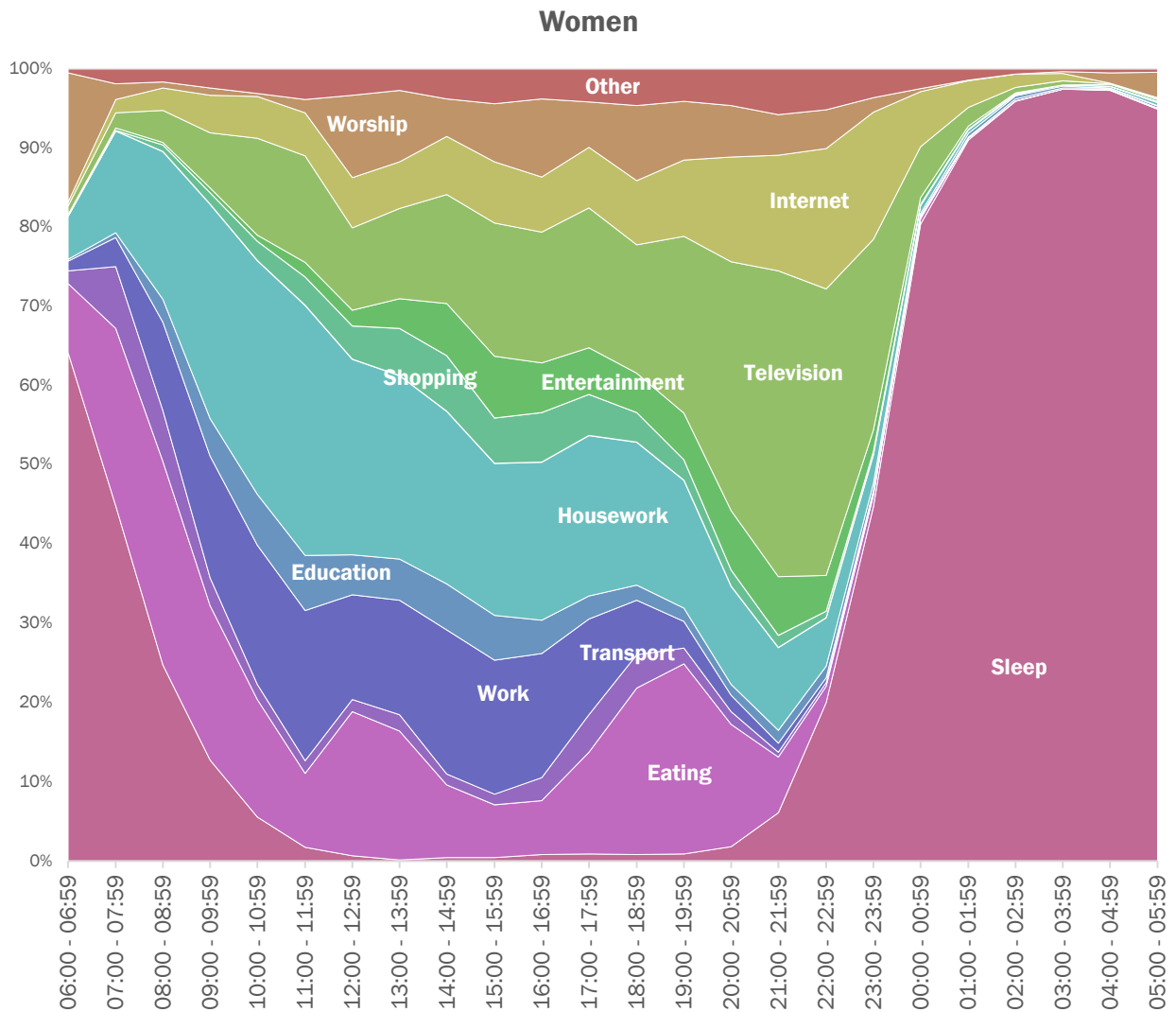


We spend 6 hours in total on housework, education and work, and 4 and a half hours on television and the internet.

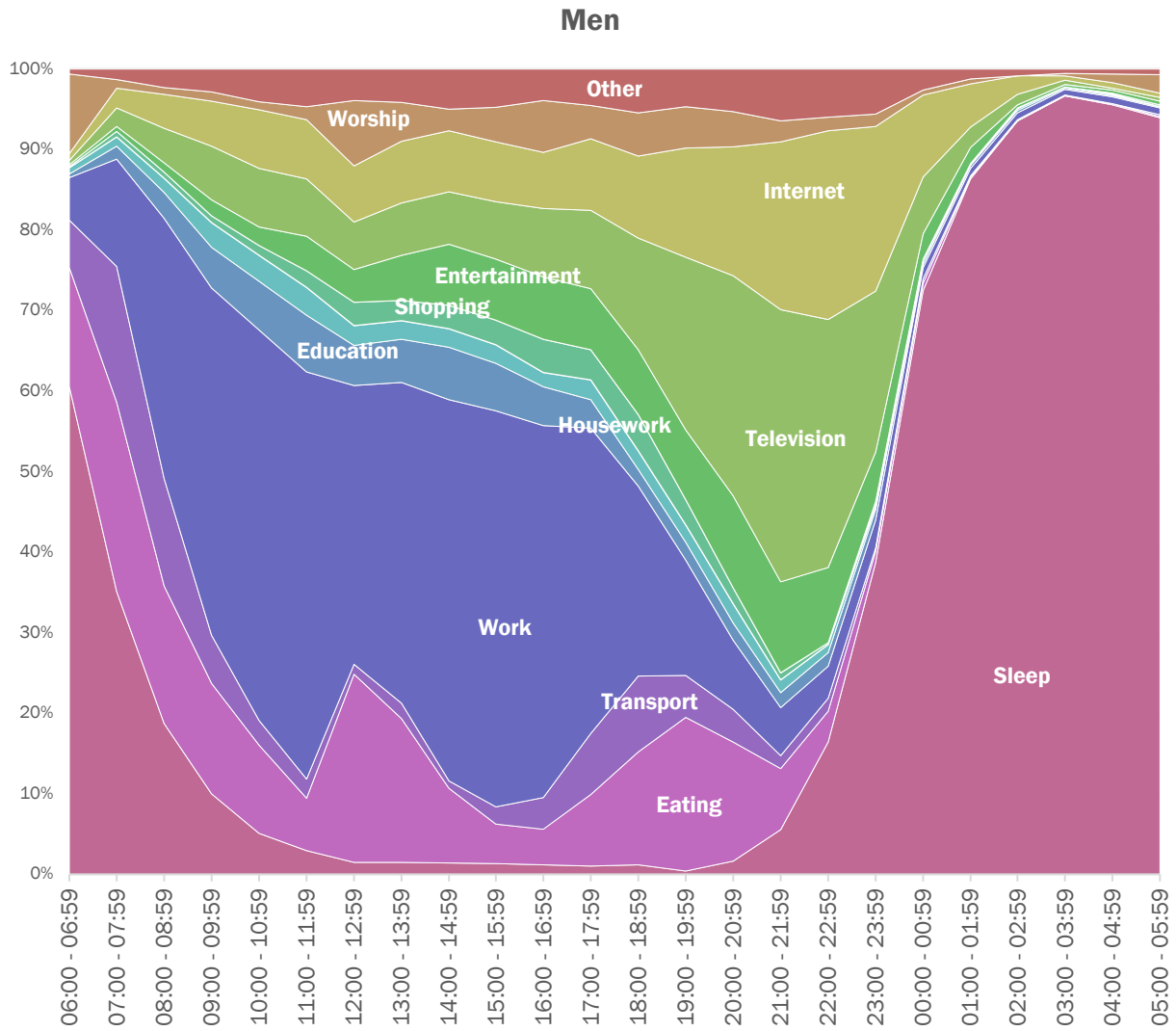
We see that the average sleep time in Turkey is 7.6 hours. When we look at what is done in the remaining 18 hours, we see that an average of 3.5 hours is spent on work, 1.9 hours on housework, and 0.7 hours a day is spent on education. There is a lot of time spent with television and the internet. While Turkish society watches television for an average of 2.8 hours a day, they spend 1.8 hours on the internet.

5.2. How Do Women and Men Spend Their Day?

The fact that men constitute a significant part of the workforce in Turkey makes the days of men and women quite different from each other. While women concentrate on housework during the day, a significant part of a man's day is spent at work.



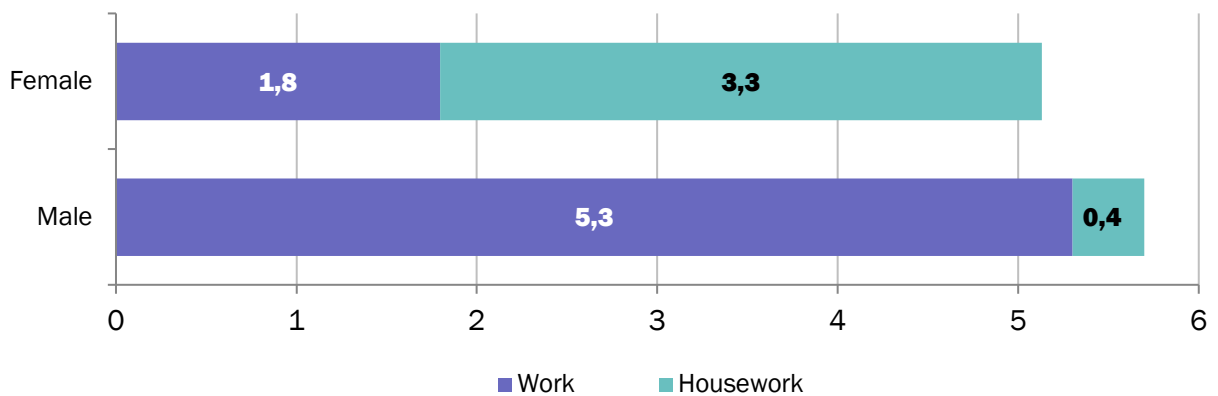
Women's housework starts between 07:00 and 07:59 and continues until 21:00 and 21:59 in the evening. The time period between 09:00-09:59 and 13:00-13:59 is the time when most housework is done.



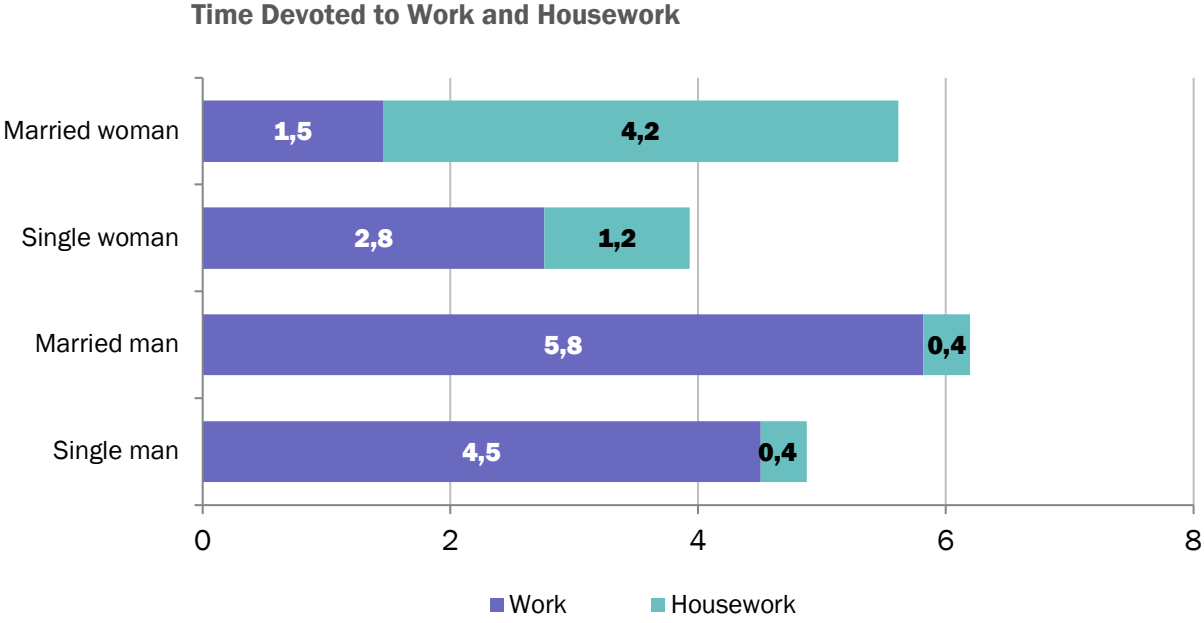
In the table above, we see that men spend a significant part of the day working. We can say that two out of every three men are working between 08:00-08:59 and 18:00-18:59.

As we mentioned above, the time that women spend on housework and men on work takes up a significant part of their day.

Time Devoted to Housework and Work



While women spend an average of 3.3 hours on housework a day, this time is only 0.4 hours for men. When we look at time spent on work, we see that men spend an average of 5.3 hours a day working, while this time is 1.8 hours for women. While women spend a total of 5.1 hours a day on housework and work, men spend 5.7 hours. In short, men work 36 minutes longer than women.



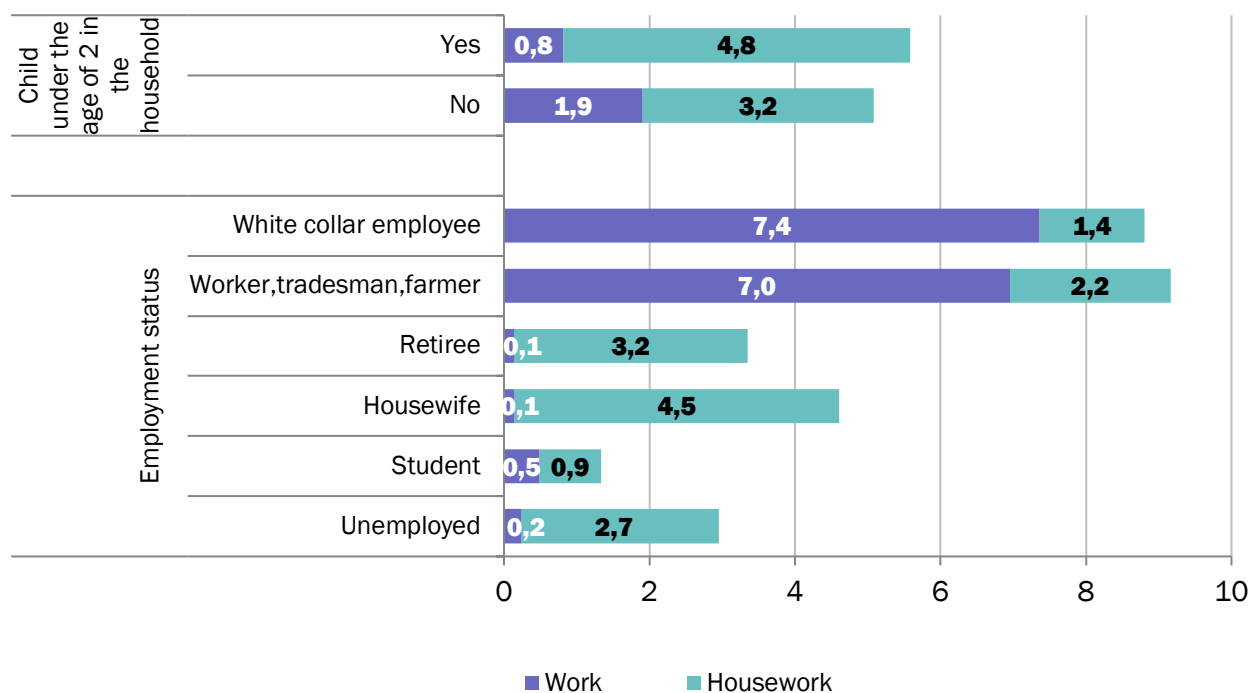
Marital status is also a factor that affects the amount of time men and women devote to work in a day. While both married and single men spend an average of 0.4 hours a day on housework, married men spend 5.8 hours a day and single men spend 4.5 hours working.

Single women spend more of their time at work than married women, while married women spend a significant part of their day doing housework. While the total time that married women allocate to housework and work is 5.7 hours in a day, this period is 4 hours for single women. Among these four clusters, married men spend the most time in a day with a total of 6.2 hours for these two activities.

5.2.1. Women

When examining the difference between men and women, we stated that women spend much more time on housework. On the other hand, we see that the average working time of women is also significant. When we look at how much working conditions and baby care affect these issues, we see that women themselves may be in quite different situations.

Time Devoted to Work and Housework (only women)



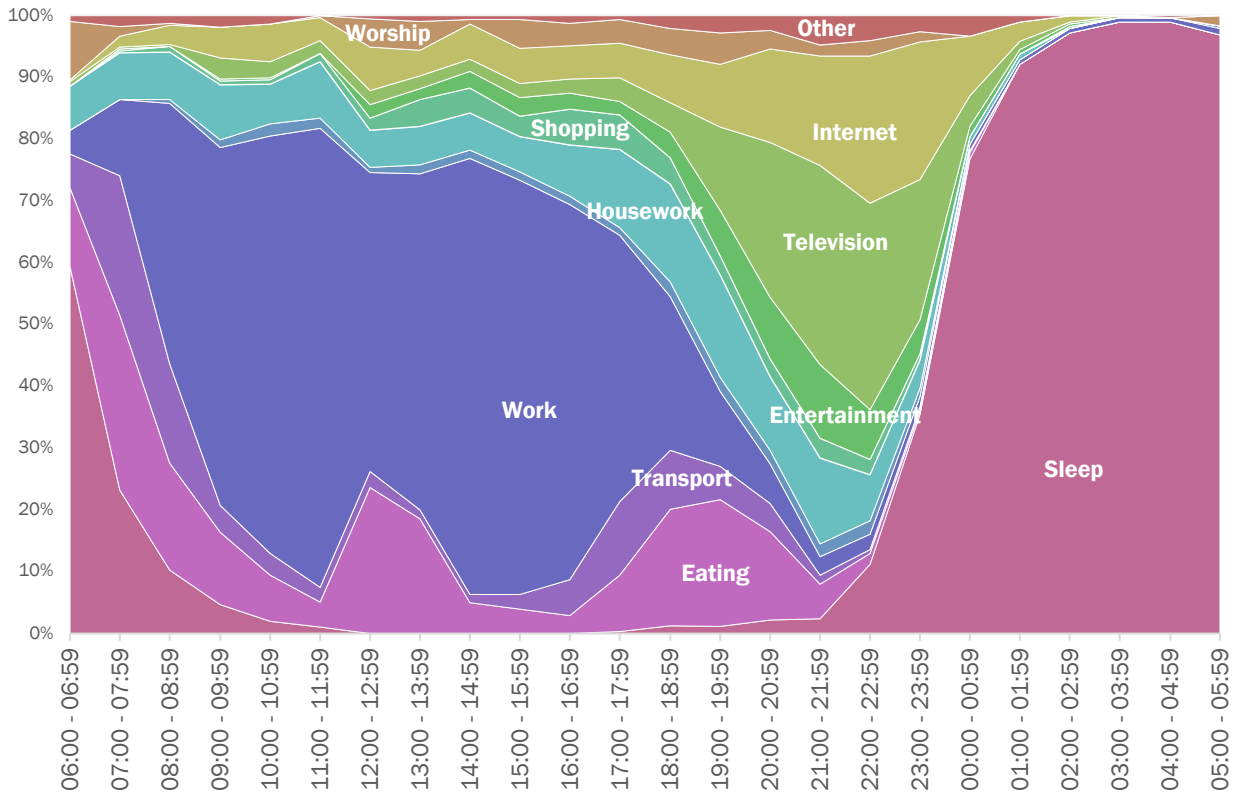
Women with children under the age of two do 1.5 times more housework than those without children.

First of all, we see that the presence of a child under the age of two at home significantly affects the time women spend on housework. While women with children under the age of two at home do 4.8 hours of housework, women who do not have children under the age of two do 3.2 hours of housework. Having a baby at home increases the time devoted to housework 1.5 times.

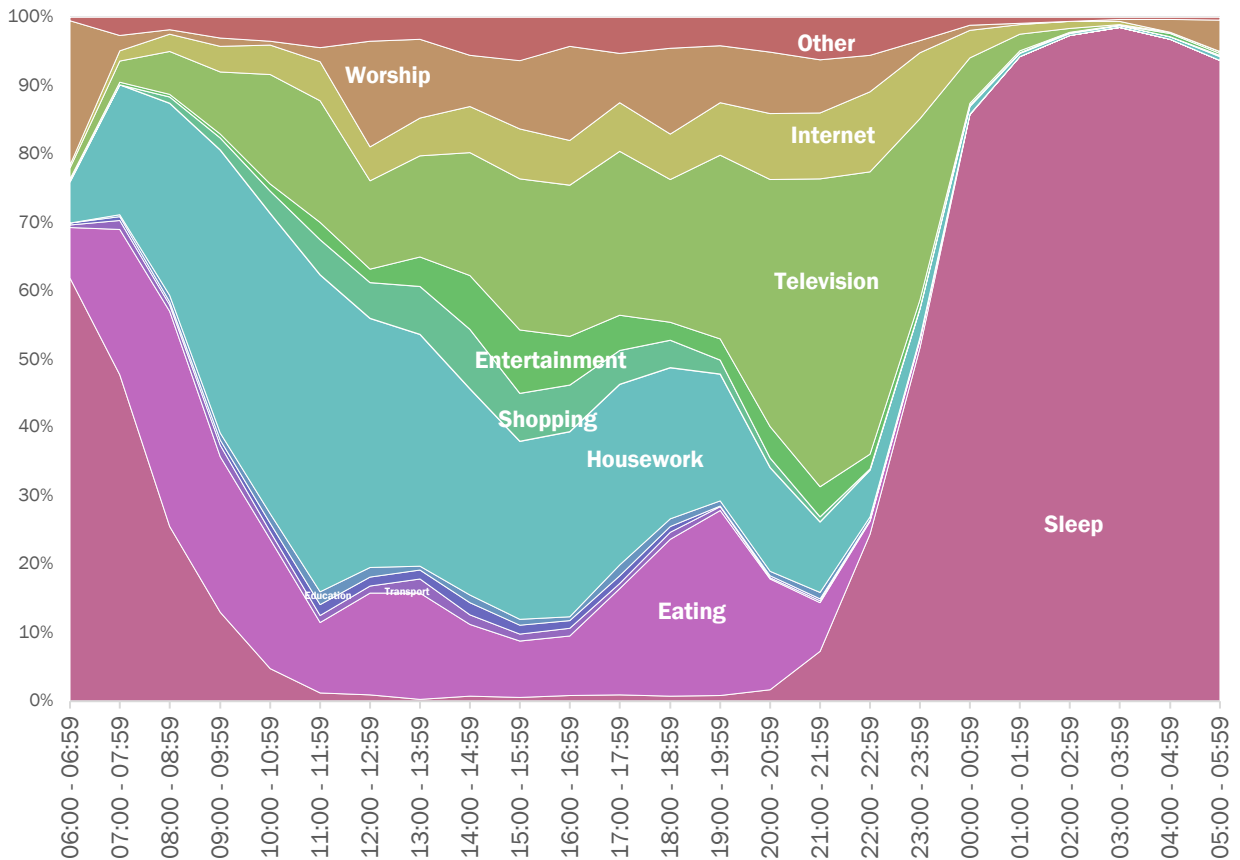
Women in employment spend 9 hours with housework and work.

When we look at the employment status, we see that the time spent by working women on housework is less than women who are not included in the labor force or unemployed. However, the total time they spend on work and housework in a day is approximately twice that of women who are not employed. White-collar working women spend 7.4 hours a day, while women workers, tradespeople and farmers spend 7 hours at work. Housewives, on the other hand, spend 4.5 hours a day doing housework. This time corresponds to 1/3 of the time remaining after sleep.

EMPLOYED WOMEN



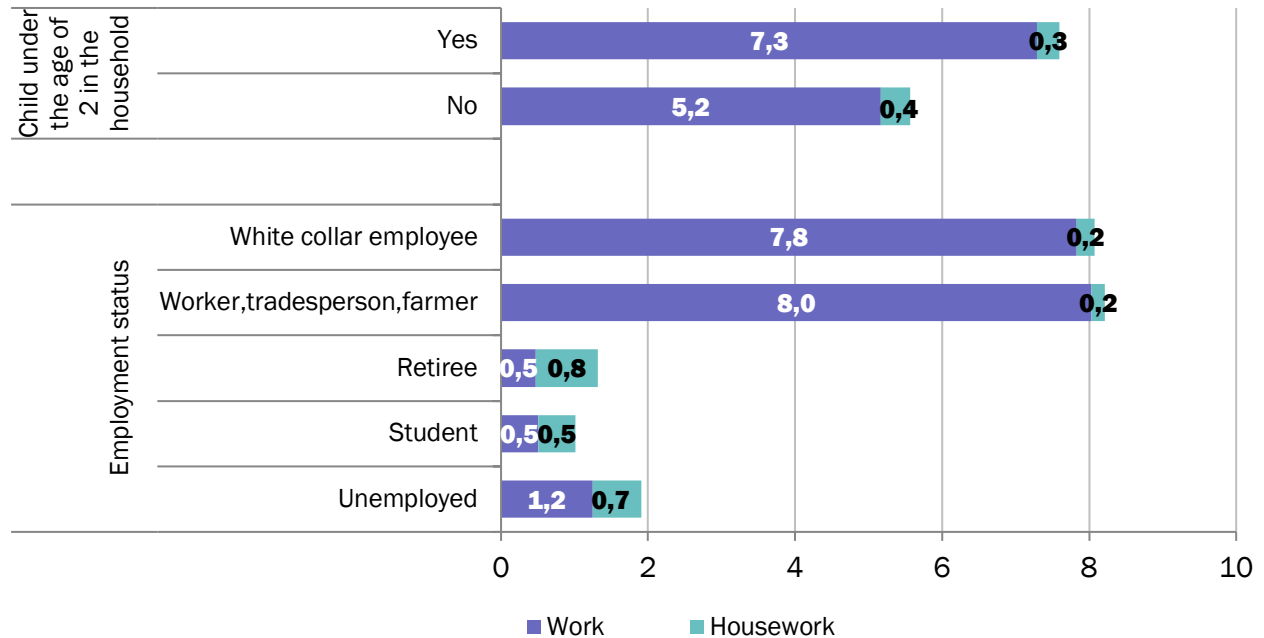
HOUSEWIVES



5.2.2. Men

Unlike women, having a child under the age of two at home or employment status does not significantly affect the time allocated to housework for men.

Time Devoted to Housework and Work (Only Men)

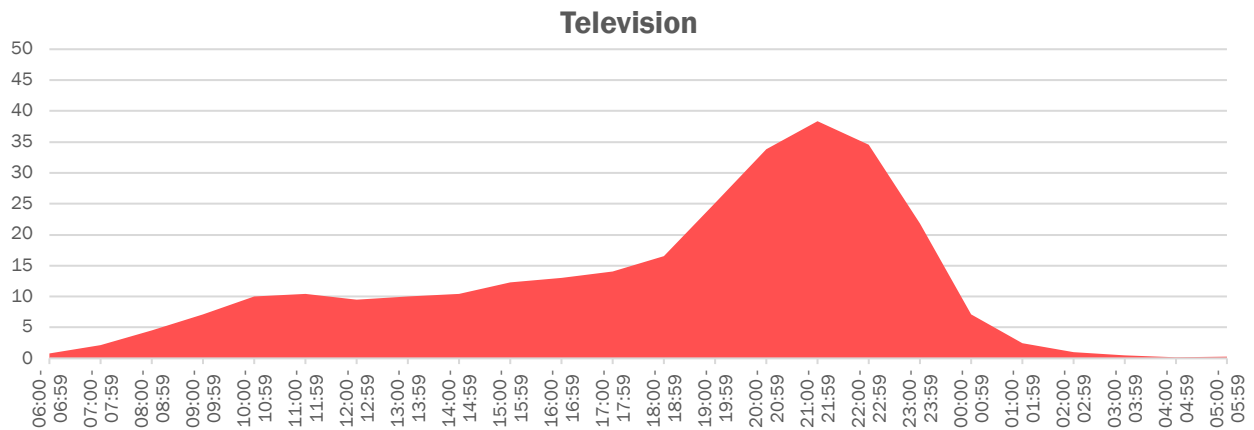


Men who have children under the age of two in their households spend an average of 0.3 hours, or about 18 minutes, on housework, while men who do not have children under the age of two in their household spend an average of 0.4 hours, or about 24 minutes. On the other hand, men with children under the age of two in their household spend an average of 7.3 hours a day at work, while men without children under the age of two in their household spend 5.2 hours.

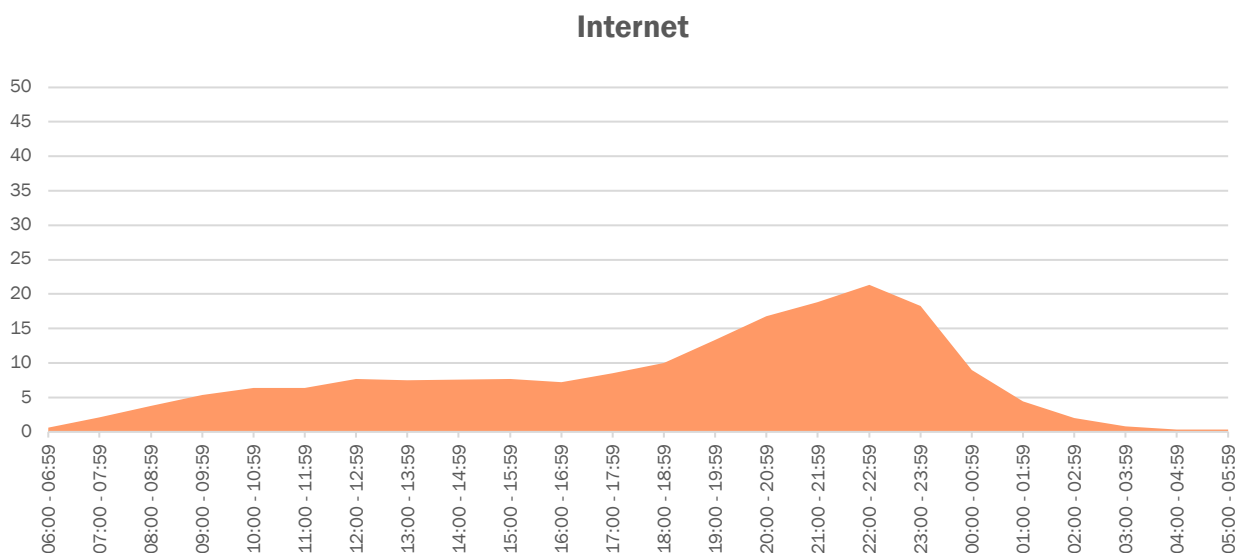
When we look at occupational clusters, we see that employed men spend less time on housework than men who are not working. While white-collar workers, workers, tradespeople and farmers allocate 10-15 minutes a day to housework, retirees, students and unemployed men spend more than half an hour. In addition, we see that employed men spend about 8 hours a day working in a paid job.

5.3. Time Allocated to Television and Internet

With the effect of the pandemic, television and the internet have become an important part of daily life in Turkey. The economic environment, which makes it increasingly difficult to socialize outside, also causes this situation to continue despite normalization. The time spent watching television and using the internet during the day is also an indicator of this situation. First of all, we will examine which times of the day are prime times for television and the internet, and then which groups spend how much time in these mediums.



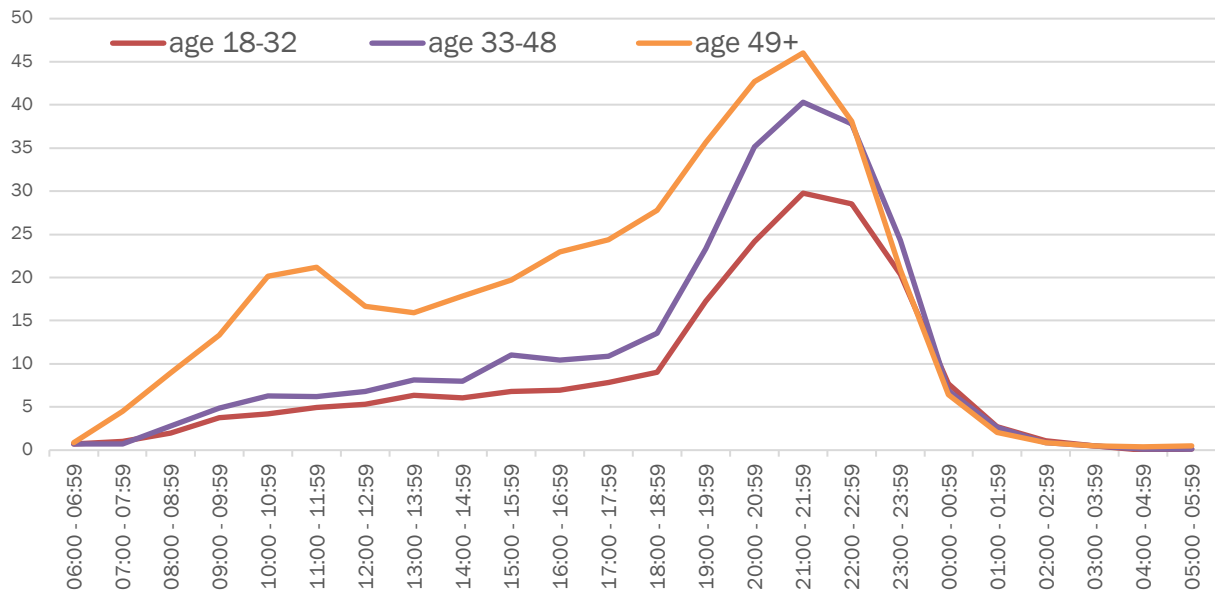
We see that the tendency to watch television in society increases between 18:00 and 18:59 and reaches its highest level between 21:00 and 21:59. We see that 38 percent of people watch television in the time period 21:00-21:59, which is expressed as prime time.



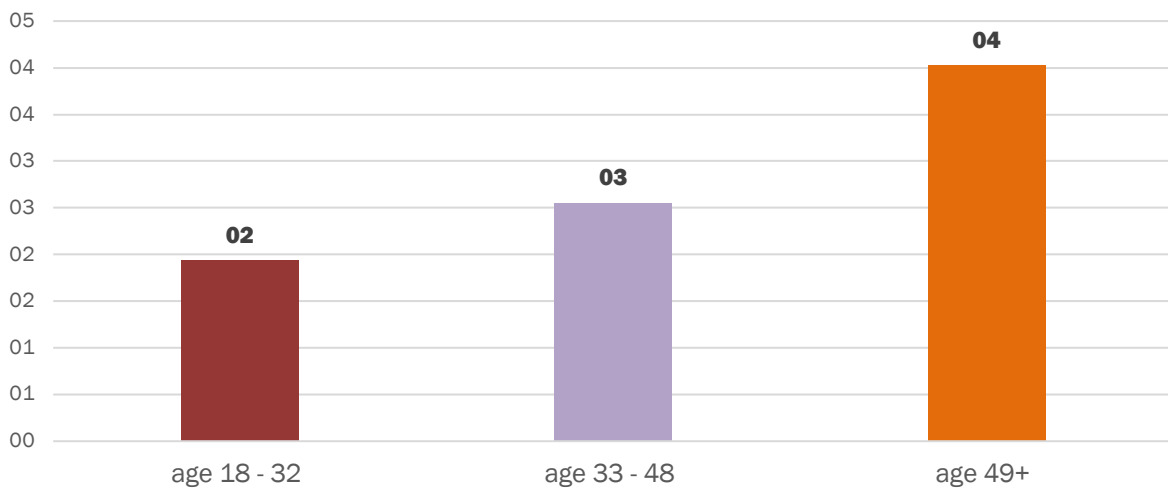
Although internet usage is lower than television, we see that the time pattern of internet use is similar to that of television. Unlike television, we see that the time interval in which internet is used the most is 22:00-22:59. Twenty-one percent of people spend this hour on the internet. To summarize briefly, the time interval between returning from work and going to sleep is spent on the internet and television throughout society.

Age groups are one of the factors that most affect the time spent with television and the internet. As age decreases, the time spent with the internet increases, and as age increases, the time spent with television increases.

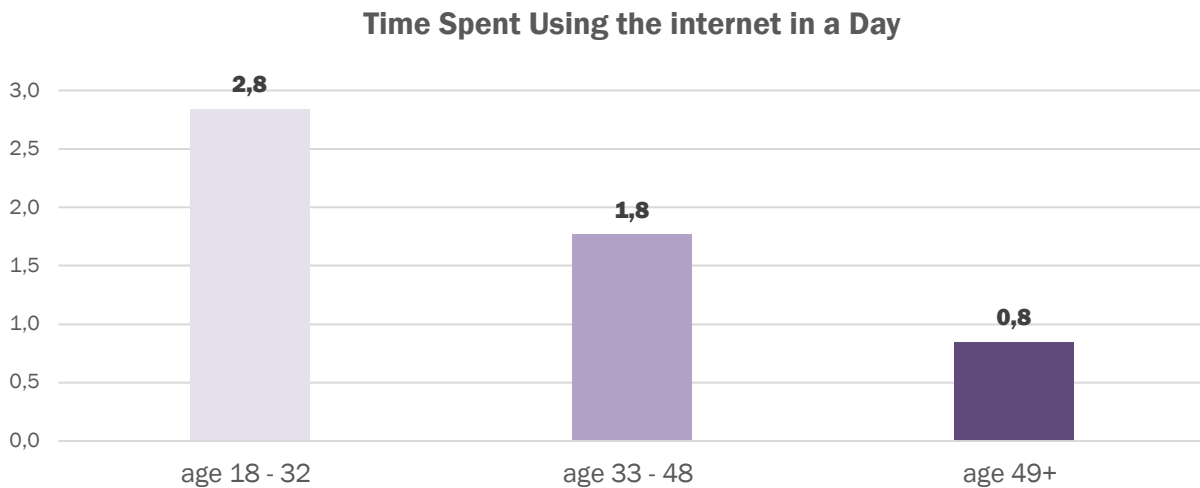
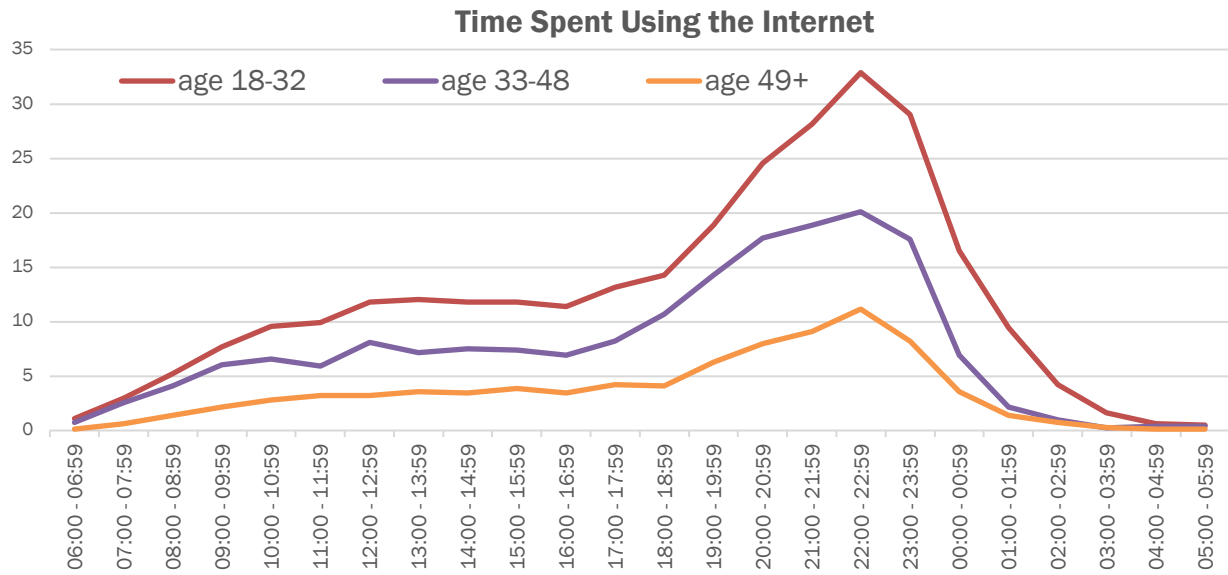
Time Spent Watching Television



Time Spent Watching Television in a Day



Those aged 18-32 watch television an average of 1.9 hours a day, those aged 33-48 watch television an average of 2.6 hours, and those aged 49 and over watch television for 4 hours a day. Due to the fact that there are more students and employees in the 18-32 age group and 33-48 age group than 49 years old and above, these two age groups generally start watching television between 18:00 and 18:59, while those aged 49 and above start watching television in the morning and afternoon. In addition, we can say that between 21:00 and 21:59, which is prime time, 46 percent of people aged 49 and over, 40 percent of those aged 33-48, and 30 percent of those aged 18-32 watch television.



When we look at the hours of internet use by age groups, we see that the time pattern of internet use is similar across age groups, but young people spend more time on the internet. Those aged 18-32 spend 2.8 hours a day, those aged 33-48 spend 1.8 hours a day, and those 49 and over spend 0.8 hours a day.

The fact that social media has more opportunities compared to traditional media, is easy to access, allows socialization, has an interactive structure and contains content that will appeal to people from all walks of life, naturally makes the internet the first choice for most people born into the age of technology.

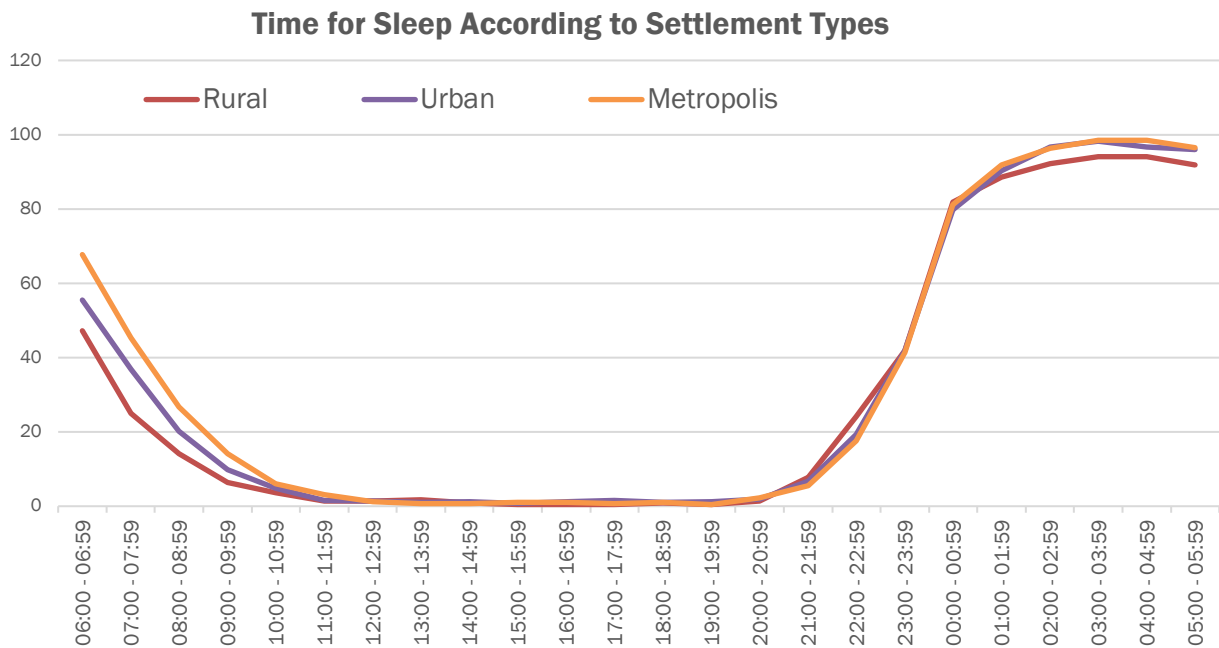
The advantages of the internet can be attractive for all age groups. This includes the convenience of watching a television series shown on a national channel on a digital platform due to its shorter commercial duration and the ability to pause at any time, the interactive environment created by the broadcaster's immediate response to a question asked on a live broadcast platform, the opportunity to communicate with their playmates on voice communication channels at the same time as if they were side by side while playing a game and of course

being informed about events in the world and in Turkey before the evening news. But as age increases, it becomes necessary to set aside more established habits and learn more new things in order to belong to this digital culture and world. For this reason, young people's dominance of the internet world and the time they spend in this world is considerably higher than that of middle-aged and elderly people.

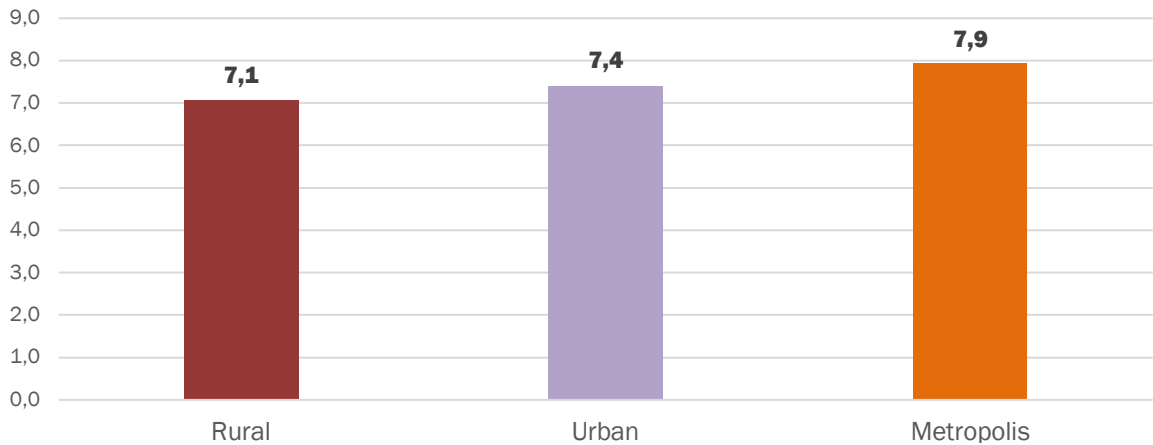
The difference in the time spent on television and the internet also gives us an idea of the difference in intergenerational practices. Especially when we look at the hours of internet access, only 2 percent of the 33-48 age group and 49 and over age group use the internet after 00:00-00:59, while 5 percent of the 18-32 age group continues spending time on the internet until 03:00 and 03:59 at night.

5.4. Time Uses of People Living in Metropolis, Urban and Rural Areas

Certain life practices differ for people living in metropolitan areas and people living in urban and rural areas. For example, while people in the countryside sleep less and start the day early, the situation in the metropolis is the opposite. In addition, people in metropolitan areas spend more time on transport and work than those living in rural areas. In general, the place of residence directly affects daily habits and obligations.

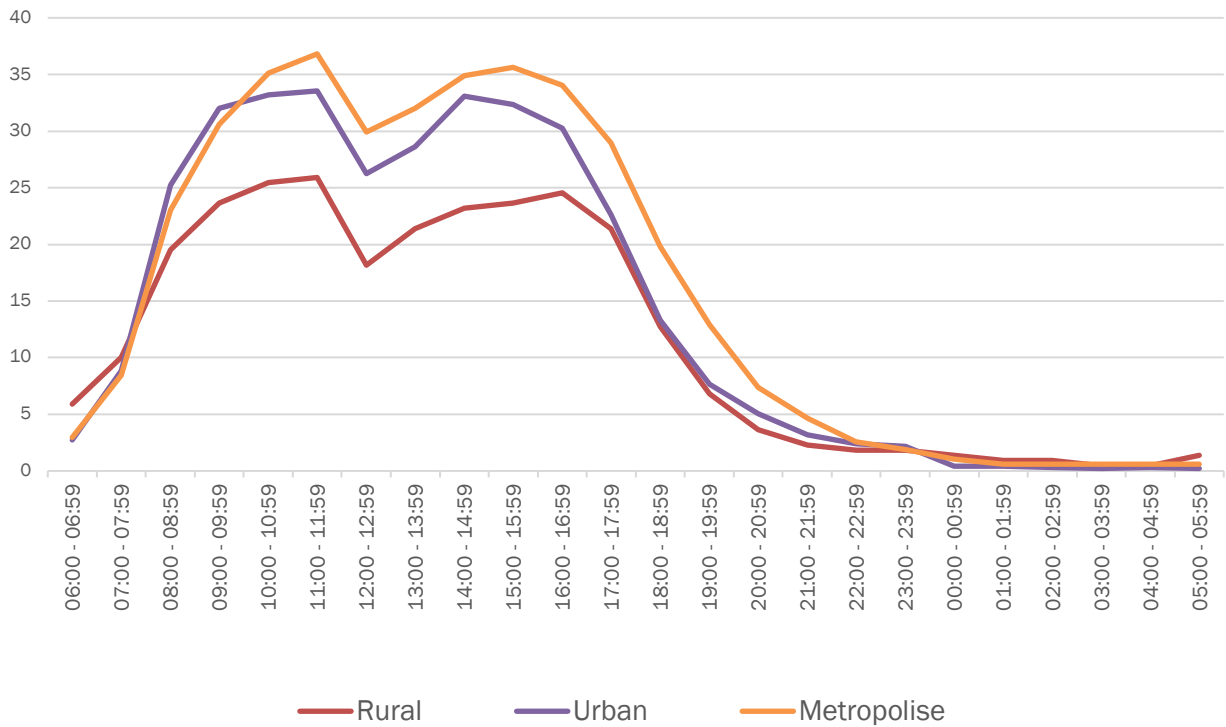


Time for Sleep According to Settlement Type

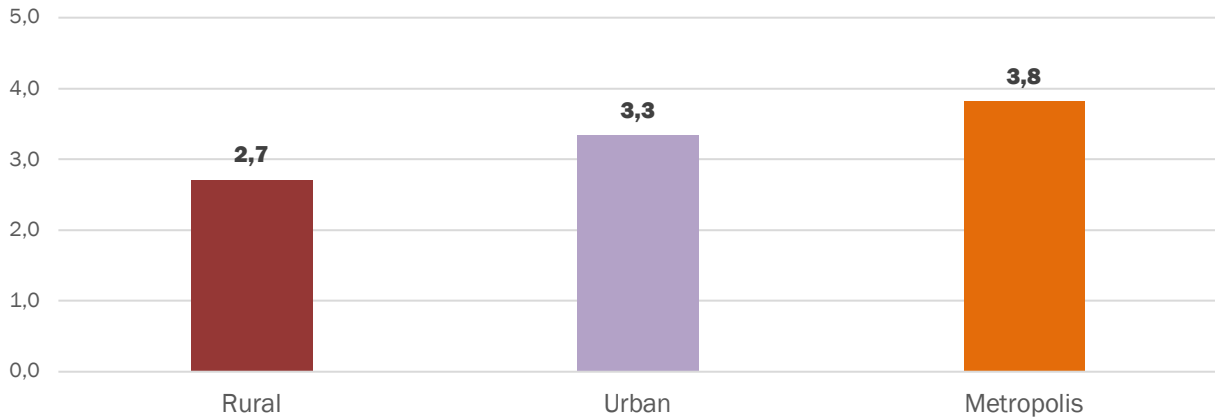


Those living in the metropolis sleep an average of 7.9 hours a day, those living in the city 7.4 hours, and those living in the rural areas 7.1 hours. When we look at the time intervals in which the day starts in general, we see that more than half of people living in rural areas wake up between 06:00 and 06:59. We see that people living in cities and metropolitan areas typically start their day one hour later than those in rural areas, and more than half of those living in these settlements wake up between 07:00 and 07:59. Although rural people sleep less and start the day earlier, it is difficult to say that this is related to going to work.

Time Devoted to Work According to Settlement Types

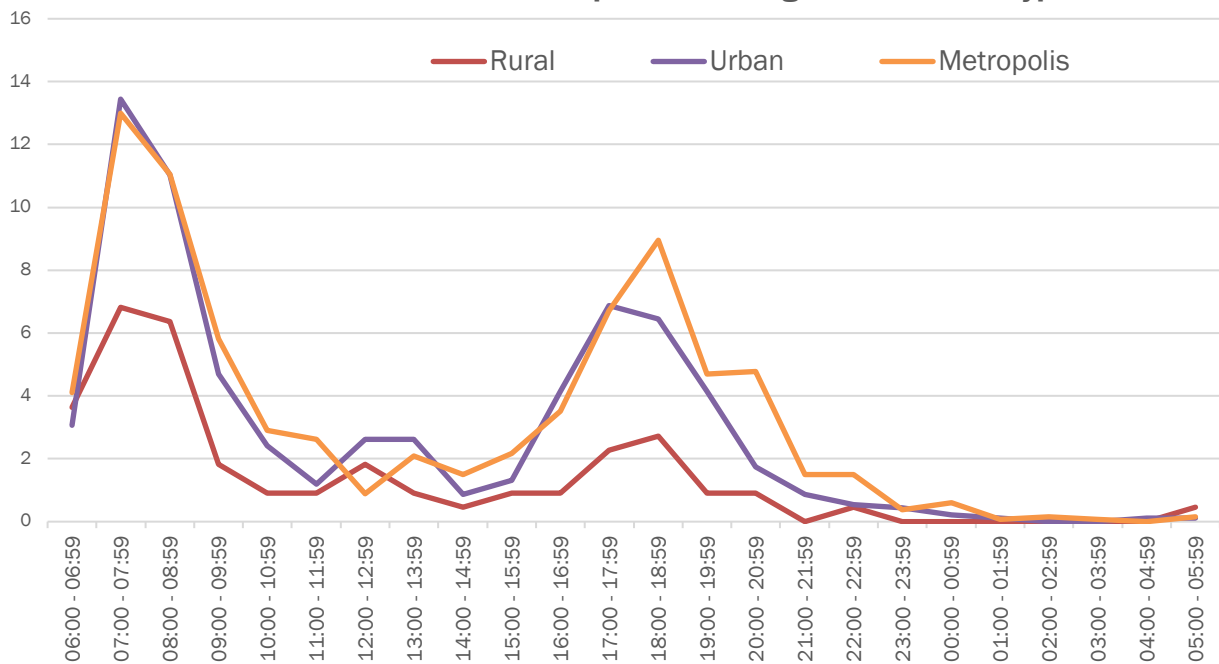


Time Devoted to Work According to Settlement Types

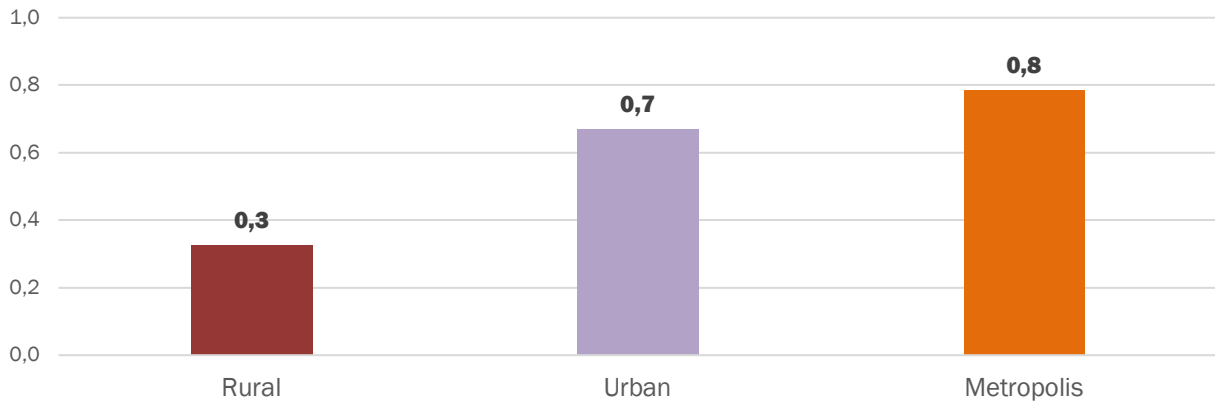


When we look at the time spent at work and how much time is spent on work in a day, we see that the time spent at work increases as we move from the countryside to the metropolis. On average, 3.8 hours a day for those living in the metropolis, 3.3 hours for those living in the city, and 2.7 hours for those living in rural areas are spent at work. Looking at the timeline above, it can be interpreted that those in the metropolis leave work one hour later than those in rural and urban areas. When we look at the time spent at work by each settlement, we see of the time period where most people are at work is the same for each settlement type, between 11:00 and 11:59. Between these hours, 37 percent of those in the metropolis, 34 percent of those in the city, and 26 percent of those in the countryside are at work. The fact that the rates of employment are different in each settlement also directly affects the time spent on transport.

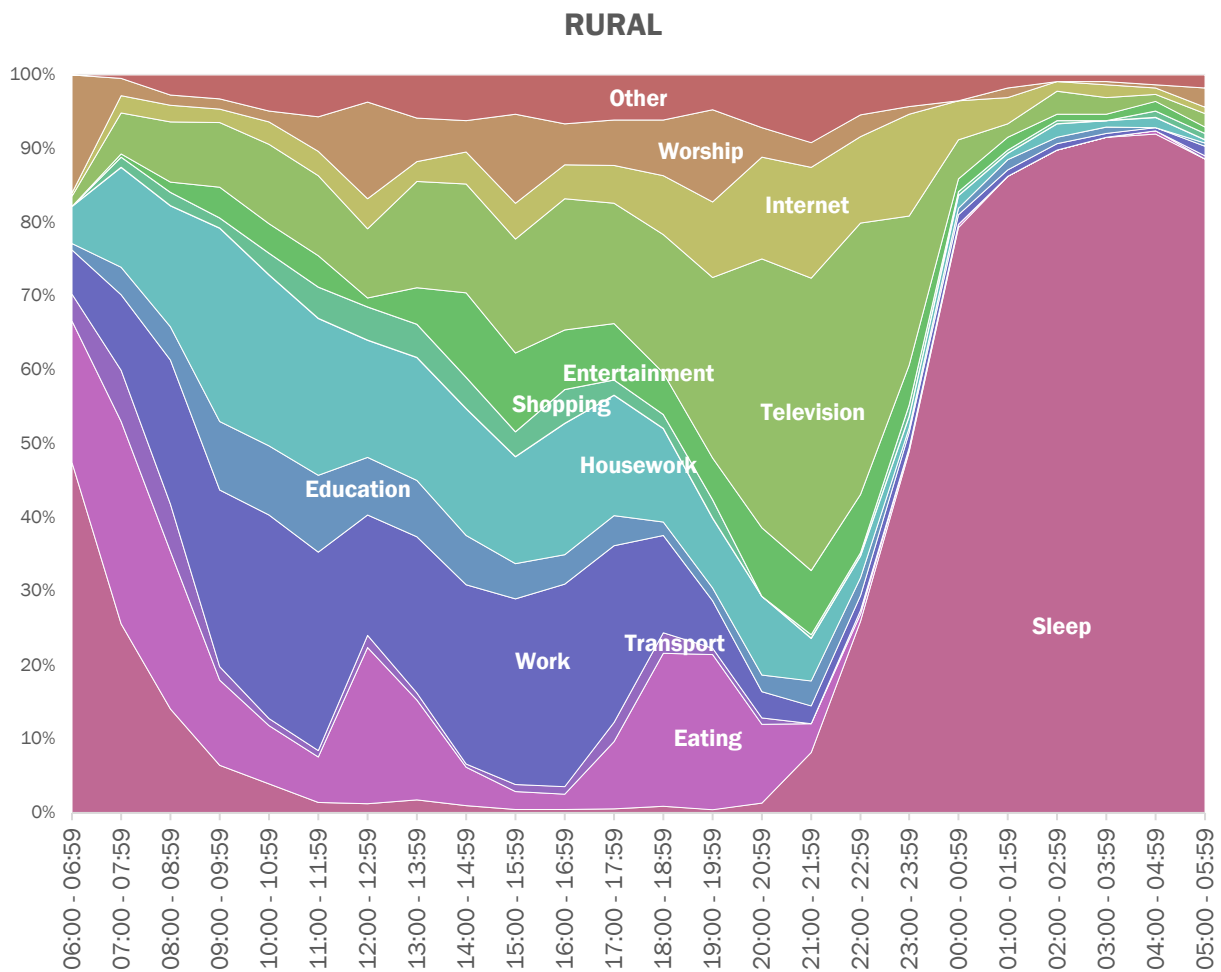
Time Devoted to Transport According to Settlement Types



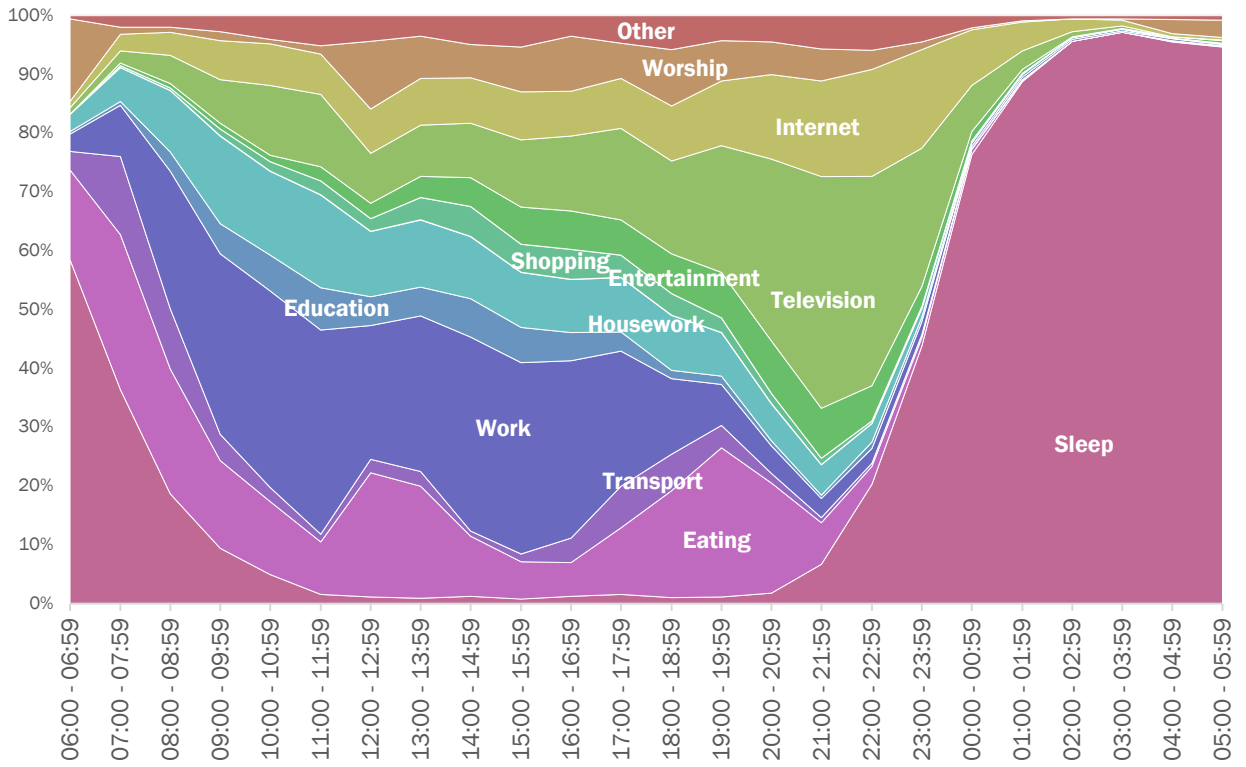
Time Devoted to Transport According to Settlement Types



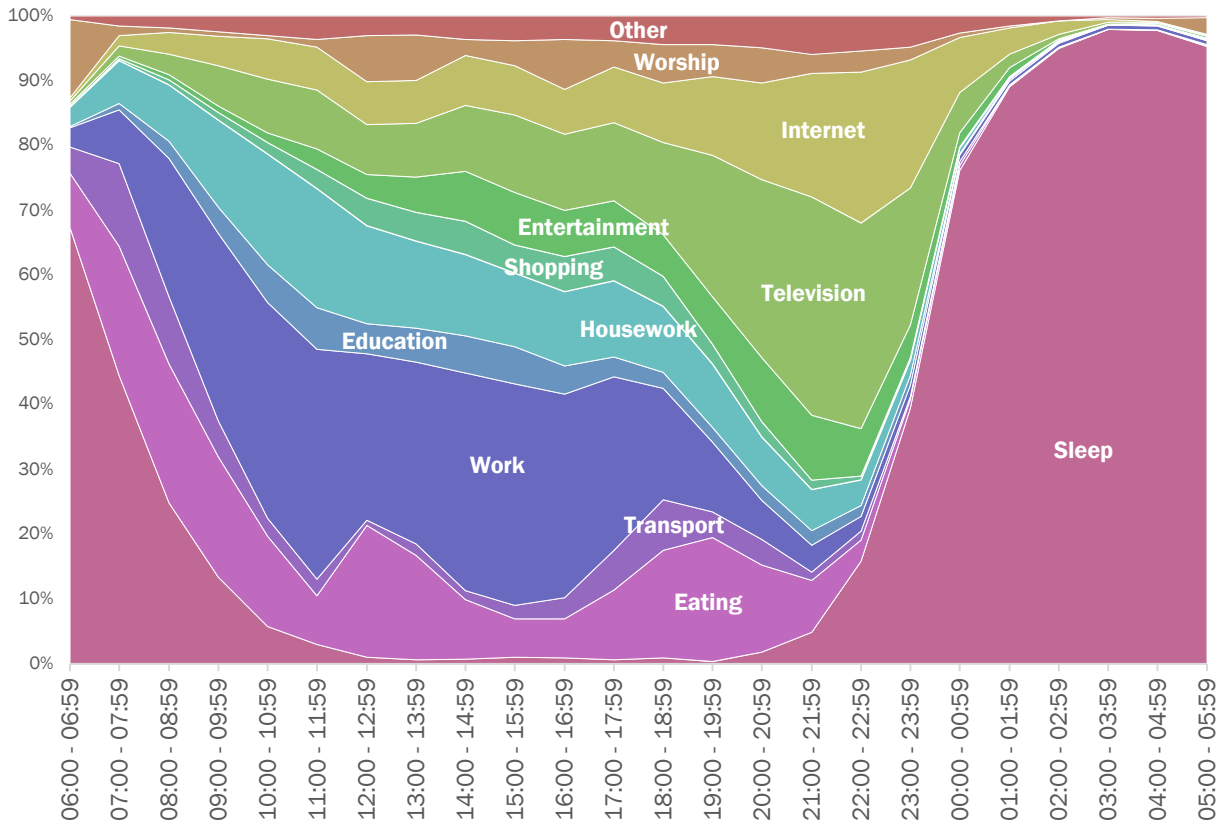
We see that people living in metropolises spend more time on transport in a day than those living in rural areas. Those living in the metropolis spend an average of 0.8 hours a day, those living in the city 0.7 hours, and those living in rural areas spend 0.3 hours on transport. We can say that this situation is directly related to the employment rates in rural and metropolitan areas.



URBAN



METROPOLITAN

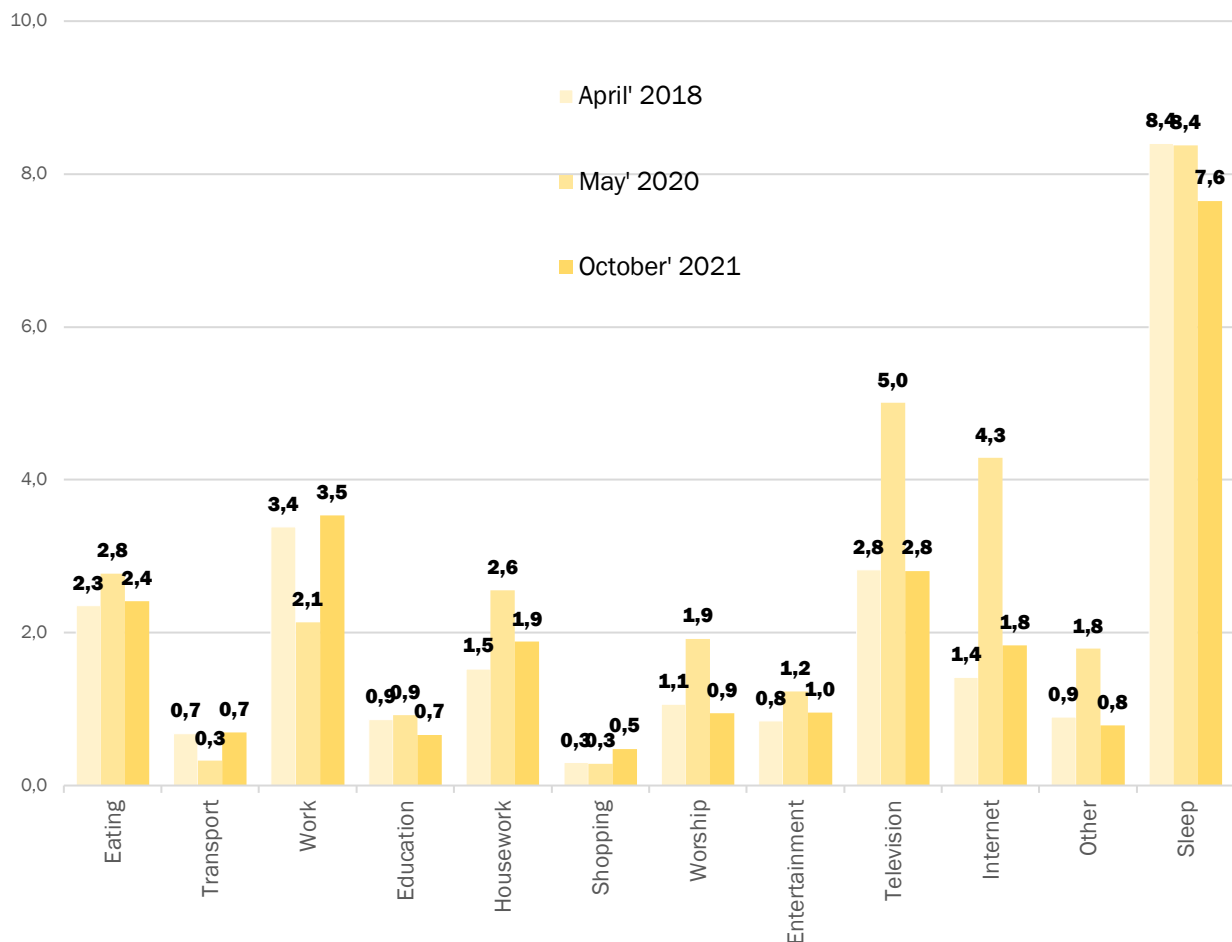


6. WHAT HAS CHANGED FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE PANDEMIC TO NOW?

The global coronavirus pandemic, which swept across the whole world in the last two years, also affected our country, with the first case seen in Turkey in March 2020. During the pandemic period, great changes took place in the daily, business and home life of a large part of society. With the subsequent discovery of the vaccine, normalization steps have been taken in our country and around the world, starting from the summer months of 2021. By comparing the findings of the research we conducted in May 2020, which is one of the periods when the pandemic showed its greatest impact, with the findings of the research we carried out in October 2021, we will examine which habits of society and which practices in daily life have changed in the period from the state of total lockdown until today.

As it is known, with the lockdowns during the most intense periods of the pandemic, the environments where people can socialize and spend their time have shifted to digital and virtual environments for most individuals. When we look at the findings of the research in May 2020, the time spent watching television and online confirms this situation.

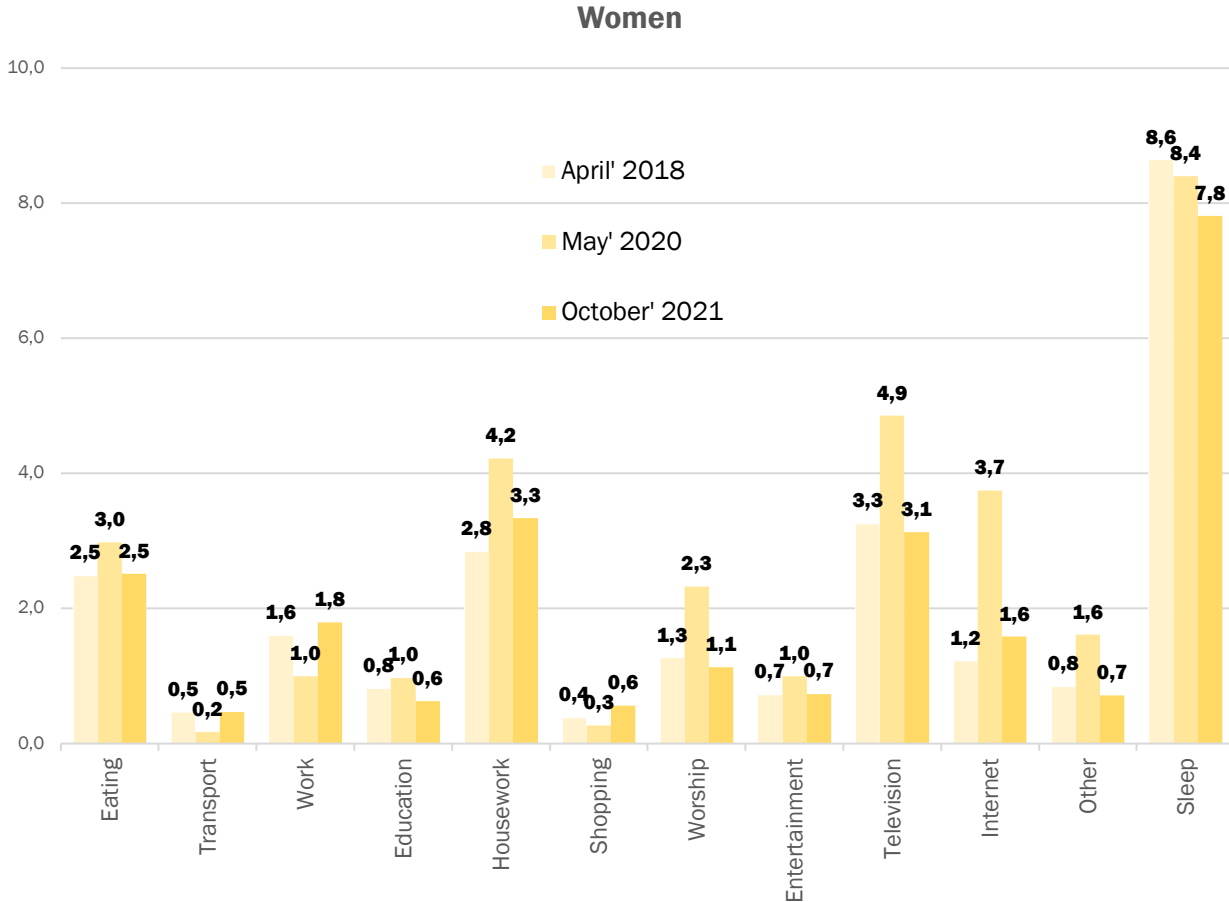
What Changed Since the Start of the Pandemic?

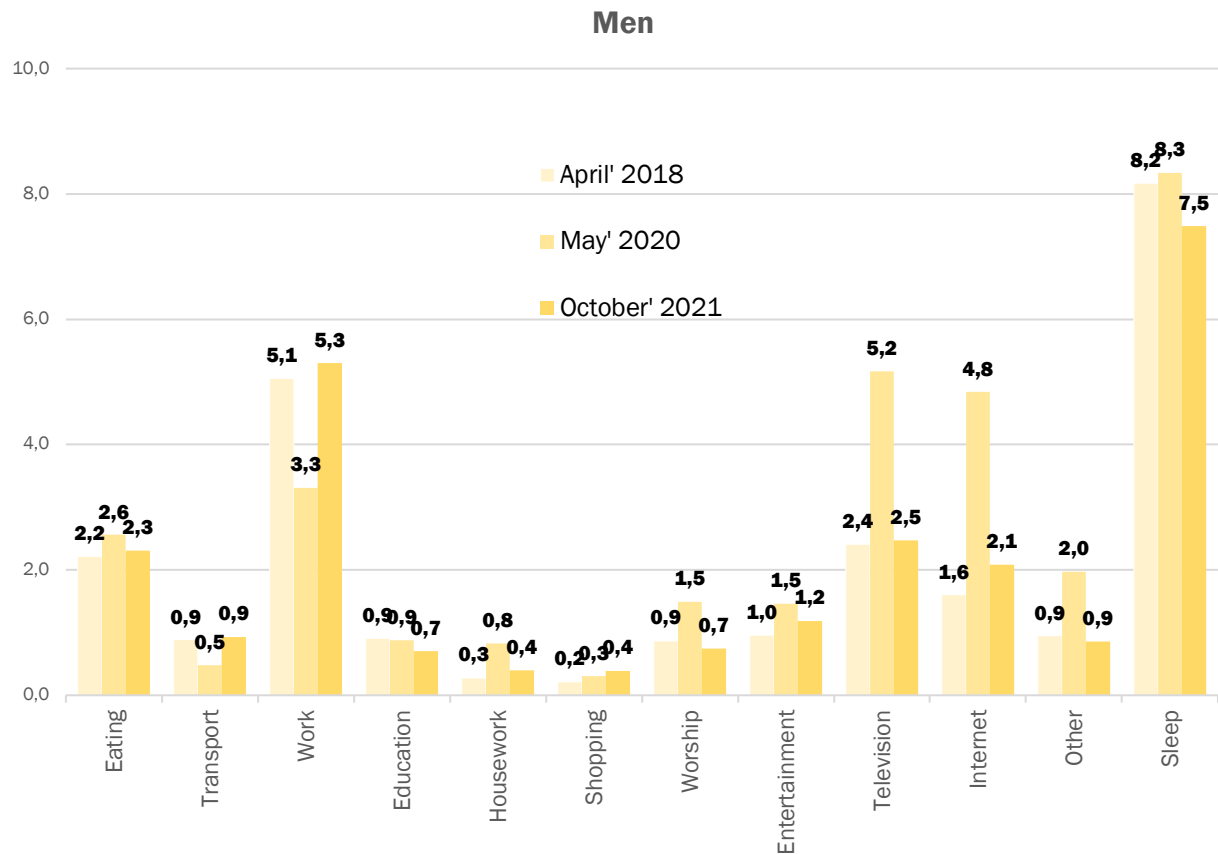


From May 2020 to October 2021, we see that the total time spent on television and the internet in a day has halved. In May 2020, a very substantial part of the day, at 9.3 hours on average, was spent on these two, while by October 2021 this time decreased to 4.6 hours. The most important factor in this change is that education and business life began returning to physical environments, namely school, workplace, office, etc. We see that the time spent on work and education, along with the time spent on transport to go to school or work, has replaced the time spent on television and the internet during the pandemic period.

In addition to the changes in time spent on work, school and transport, the change in time spent on housework from May 2020 to October 2021 draws attention. During the pandemic period, we see that while an average of 2.6 hours a day was spent on housework, this fell to 1.9 hours by October 2021.

Comparing the data in October 2021 with April 2018 will give an important idea to see how far we have returned to our old practices with the normalization process following the pandemic. The most striking difference between April 2018 and October 2021 is the change in sleep time and time spent on the internet. While people slept an average of 8.4 hours a day in April 2018, by October 2021, the average sleep time was 7.6 hours a day. Internet habits seem to have changed over the past three years as well. While people spent an average of 1.4 hours a day on the internet in April 2018, this time increased by 30 percent to 1.8 hours by October 2021.



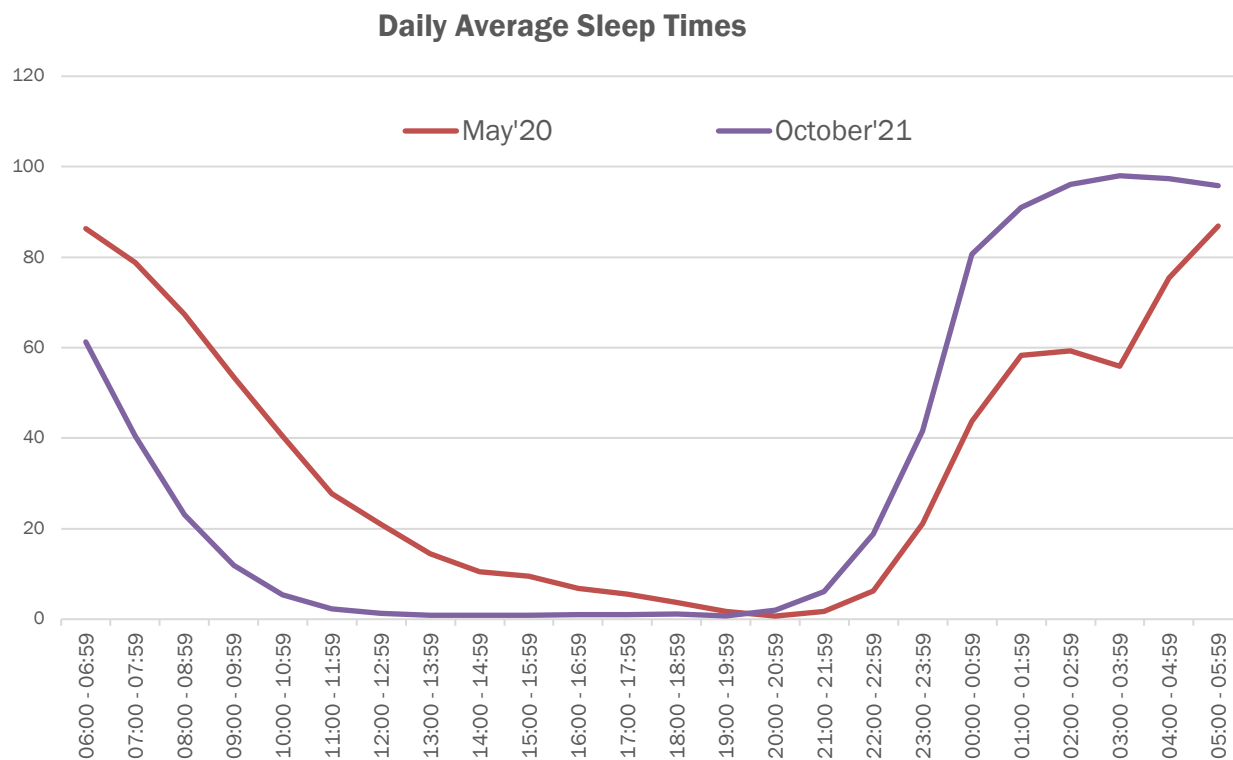


In the two graphs above, we see the changes in the time women and men allocate to certain activities and tasks during the day in April 2018, May 2020 and October 2021. The highlights in these two charts are:

- Change in the time women allocated to housework between April 2018 and October 2021.
- While the average sleep duration of women decreases from April 2018 to May 2020, the average sleep duration of men increases in this period.
- Change in time spent on work by both men and women from April 2018 to October 2021.

6.1. Changing Sleep Patterns from Full Lockdown to Today

One of the habits that the pandemic changed the most was undoubtedly sleeping patterns. Most people began to sleep later than usual and likely because they were not becoming as tired during the day.



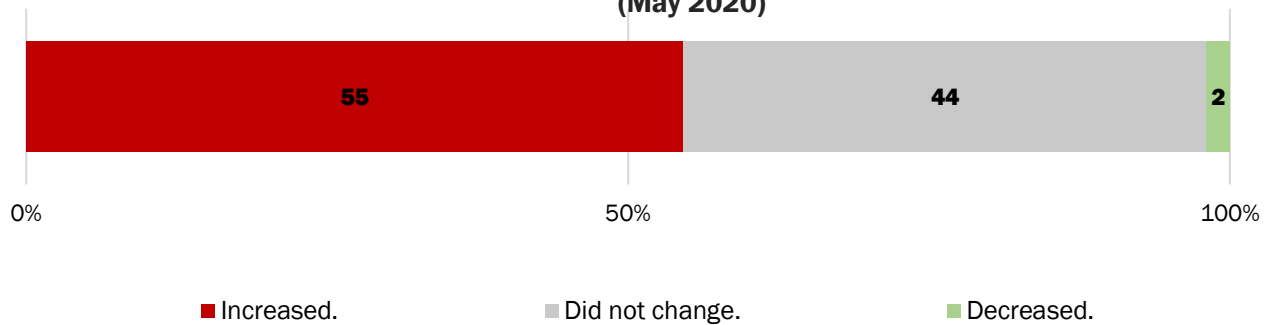
This graph confirms these statements. The change in sleep patterns since May 2020 has been enormous. It should be said that one of the most important reasons for this change is that the month of Ramadan coincided with a significant part of May in 2020. In the chart, the break between 03:00-03:59 and 04:00-04:59 in May 2020 also shows the hours of *sahur* (the meal eaten before fasting begins). Of course, it would be wrong to say that fasting is the only reason.

In the graph we used at the beginning of this section, we see that since May 2020, hours of sleep have decreased by an average of 0.8 hours per day, to 7.6 hours. Returning to work and school is one of the important factors in this change. In addition, when we look at sleeping hours, we can say that most people start the day about 3 hours earlier than they did in the pandemic period. While most people woke up before 07:00-07:59 in October 2021, a large part of society woke up between 10:00-10:59 in May 2020.

6.2. How Has Time Allocated to Housework Changed?

With the pandemic, the time spent at home has increased, and housework has increased accordingly. In the survey in May 2020 and in October 2021's survey, we asked whether housework increased during the pandemic period.

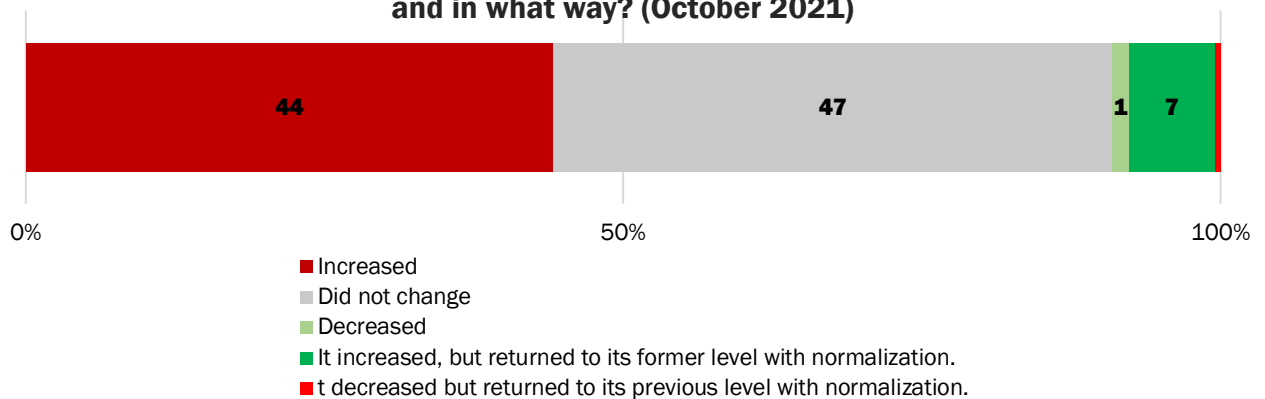
With the pandemic, did the time you devote to housework (such as cleaning, taking care of the household, cooking, gardening) change, and in what way? (May 2020)



In May 2020, 55 percent of people said that housework had increased, 44 percent said that it had not changed, and 2 percent said that it had decreased.

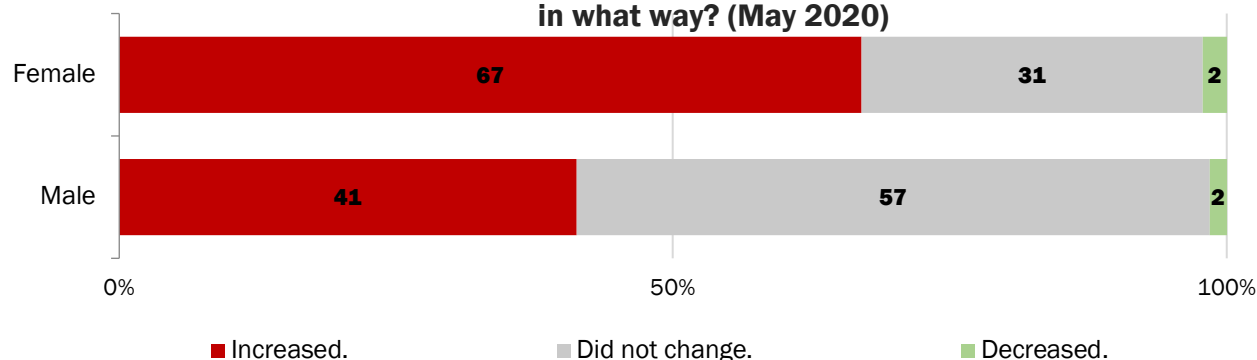
In the study in October 2021, we asked the same question and added two more options to understand whether the increased or decreased time spent on housework during the peak periods of the pandemic returned to their pre-pandemic state after the normalization process.

With the pandemic, did the time you devote housework (such as cleaning, taking care of the household, cooking, gardening) change, and in what way? (October 2021)

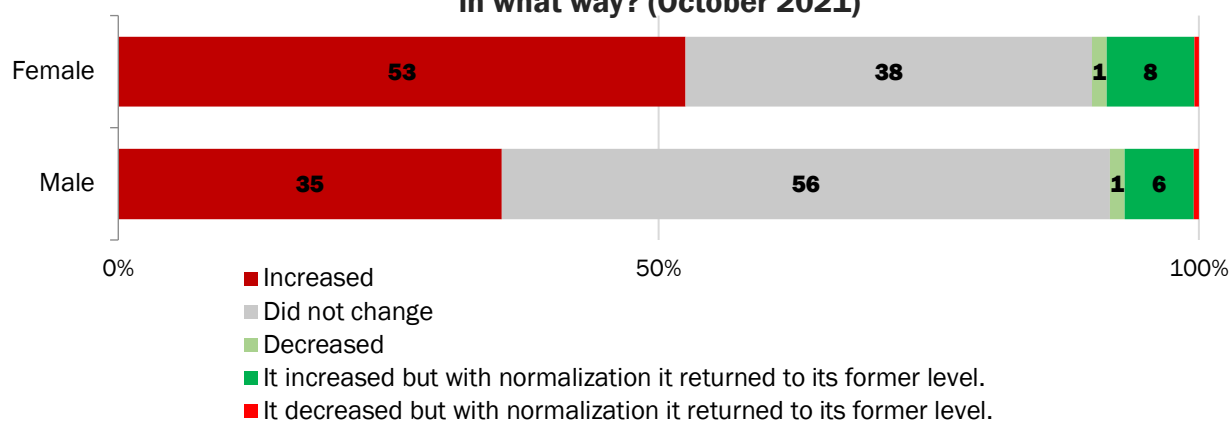


We see that 7 percent of people increased the time they spent on housework during the pandemic, but it subsequently returned to its former level with the normalization process.

With the pandemic, did the time you devote housework (such as cleaning, taking care of the household, cooking, gardening) change, and in what way? (May 2020)



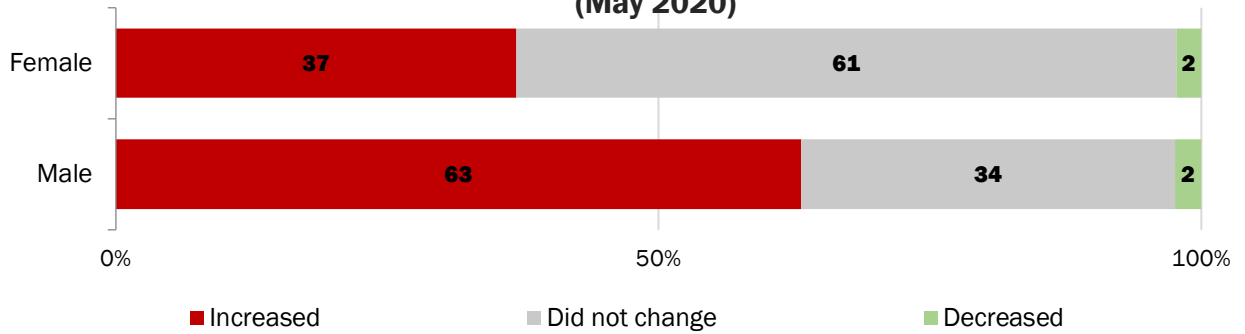
With the pandemic, did the time you devote housework (such as cleaning, taking care of the household, cooking, gardening) change, and in what way? (October 2021)



In the two charts above, we see the answers given by women and men about the time they spent on housework in May 2020 and October 2021. In May 2020, 67 percent of women and 41 percent of men said that the time they devoted to housework increased. In October 2021, 53 percent of women and 35 percent of men gave the answer “Increased” to this question. Although the proportion of those who spent more time on housework decreased in both clusters between May 2020 and October 2021, we see that time spent on housework increased more for women than men in both surveys.

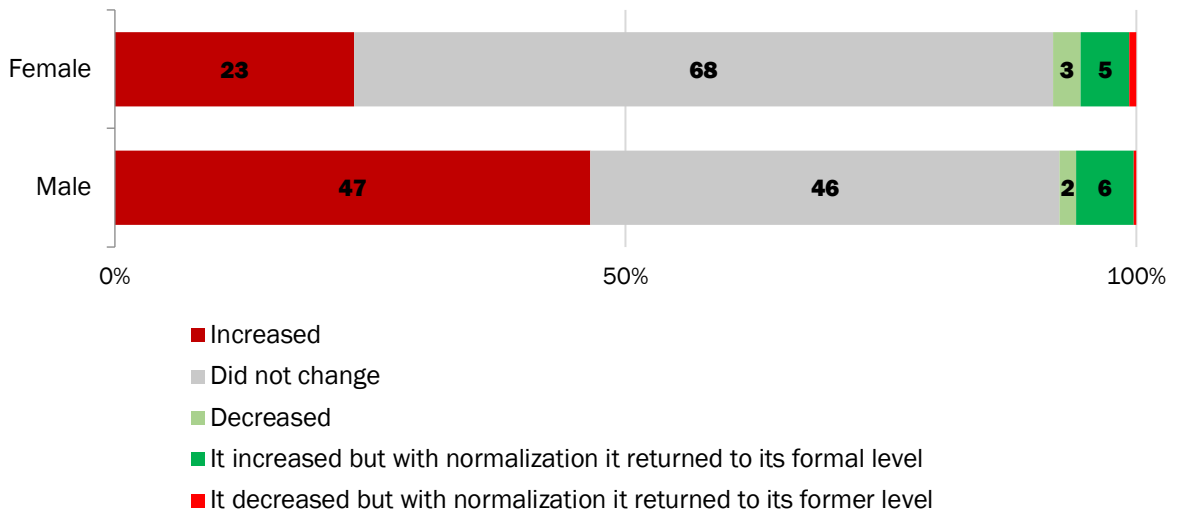
However, another question we focused on in the previous chapters was the question, for married people, “With the start of the pandemic, did the time your spouse devoted to housework change?”. When we look at the answers given to this question, we see that in May 2020 and October 2021, men gave the answer “Increased” more than women, in other words, the time that women spent on housework increased more in this period.

**(For those who are married) With the start of the pandemic, did the time your spouse devoted to housework change?
(May 2020)**



In May 2020, 37 percent of married women and 63 percent of married men said that the time their spouses spent on housework had increased. We see that the answers given in October 2021 are similar.

(For those who are married) With the start of the pandemic, did the time your spouse devoted to housework change? (October 2021)



In October 2021, even though the a smaller proportion of people reported that housework increased for their spouse, women still spend more time on housework than men.

7. EVALUATION OF THE REPORT

A Gender Perspective on the Transformation of Paid and Unpaid Working Hours and Practices with the Pandemic

*Prof. Dr. İpek İlkkaracan**

Beyond creating a health crisis, one of the most important social consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic was the economic crisis and its effects on working life. When we say “working life”, the first thing that comes to mind is *paid work in the labor market*. However, time use surveys, which are increasingly being applied in the world (approximately 130 countries including Turkey), show that *unpaid work for household production* is as important as paid work in terms of both constituting a significant part of the total working hours¹ and its contribution to welfare. While paid work has come to a standstill in many segments and the supply of goods and services procured through the market has been restricted under the Covid-19 pandemic, the fact that household consumption is largely supported by the production of free domestic services has increased awareness of the care economy and care labor.

One of the important economic consequences of the pandemic was the increase in demand for domestic production within the framework of stay-at-home measures. In other words, unpaid working hours increased while, on the other hand, employment and therefore paid working hours both decreased and were to a large extent moved to the home environment. Undoubtedly, examining these transformations in terms of gender will give clues about the differing economic effects of the pandemic on women and men. As a matter of fact, researchers in a group of countries², including Turkey, conducted field surveys on employment, weekly working hours and changes in income, the transition to remote work, the increase in unpaid household work, and their segregated effects between men and women, under the stay-at-home measures implemented with the pandemic. The field survey we conducted with KONDA in Turkey in May 2020 is one of the few examples in the world of such a study.

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¹ According to Turkey’s time use statistics (TUIK 2014-15 ZKA), 49.9 percent of the total daily working hours consist of unpaid labor within the household and 50.1 percent is paid labor for the labor market. While the majority of unpaid labor (83.4 percent) is performed by women, the majority of paid labor (77.5 percent) is performed by men, and 53 percent of total (paid and unpaid) work is performed by women.

² For England see: Andrew, A., Cattan, S. Costa Dias, M., Farquharson, C., Kraftman, L., Krutikova, S., Phimister, A., Sevilla, A. 2020. “How Are Mothers and Fathers Balancing Work and Family Under Lockdown?” Research Report. Institute for Fiscal Studies, London, UK.; For Spain, see: Farré, L., Fawaz, Y., González, L., Graves, J. 2020, How the COVID-19 Lockdown Affected Gender Inequality in Paid and Unpaid Work in Spain, DISCUSSION PAPER SERIES, IZA DP No. 13434, July version, IZA - Institute of Labor Economics, Bonn, Germany; and Seville, A. and S. Smith. 2020. Baby Steps: The Gender Division of Childcare during the COVID-19 Pandemic. IZA DP No. 13302. IZA Institute of Labor Economics; for India see Deshpande, A. 2020. “The Covid-19 Pandemic and Lockdown: First Order Effects on Gender Gaps in Employment and Domestic Time Use in India.” Discussion Paper, No. 607. Global Labor Organization, Essen, Germ for Turkey see: İlkkaracan, İ. ve Memiş, E. 2020. “Transformations In The Gender Gaps In Paid and Unpaid Work During The Covid-19 Pandemic: Findings From Turkey”, *Feminist Economics*.

This survey, which was conducted in October 2021, aims to determine to what extent the pandemic effects observed in May 2020 have changed or are permanent, in an environment where the conditions are somewhat relieved and the stay-at-home measures have been lifted. Also within the framework of new questions included in the survey, as well as sub-activities in household production, it aims to focus on issues such as social approaches to remote work or policy interventions on work-life balance.

Before evaluating the results of the October 2021 survey, it would be useful to briefly repeat the main findings of the May 2020 survey³. In the conditions of the economic crisis that came with the pandemic and the stay-at-home measures:

1. There was a significant increase in **domestic unpaid working hours** for both women and men (an average increase of 1.6 hours per day for women versus 0.8 hours per day for men);
 - however, the gender gap in unpaid care work is getting deeper as the increase for women was greater; the difference of 2.6 hours per day before the pandemic increased to 3.4 hours during the pandemic;
 - the three most important sources of the increase in unpaid hours of work in the household, both for men and women, were increased hygiene requirements and cleaning, child care and cooking with the closure of schools.
2. In the labor market, **paid working hours** were decreasing on average for both women and men (in terms of all employed and non-employed populations), but the decrease was lower for women than for men (-1.9 hours per day versus -0.6 hours);
 - because the employment rate and paid working hours for women were lower than men's, even before the pandemic;
 - despite this, 31 percent of women and 18 percent of men who were in employment before the pandemic stated that they were exposed to job and income loss due to dismissal or unpaid leave;
 - wage work increased by 0.3 hours per day for women who remained employed under pandemic conditions, and decreased by 0.8 hours per day for men; this finding can be explained by the fact that women are predominantly concentrated in sectors such as health, education, food retail, which are so-called "essential workers";
 - remote work became more common in the labor market, especially for women; while 49 percent of women in employment were working from home fully or partially, this rate was 39 percent for men in employment.
3. In terms of **total (paid + unpaid) working hours**, women spent one hour more working on average compared to before the pandemic, while men worked 1.1 hours less;
 - the total workload of women who remained in employment during the pandemic increased by 1.4 hours per day (1.1 increase in unpaid work, 0.3 increase in paid work); this result,

³ For the gender analysis of the May 2020 KONDA Lifestyles Survey results, see: İlkaracan and Memiş 2021 (footnote 2) and UNDP 2020, Care Economy and Gender-Based Inequalities in Turkey during the Covid-19 Global Outbreak, Research Note, Ankara: UNDP Turkey Country office. We used KONDA's April 2018 survey to compare the findings on time use in May 2020 with the pre-pandemic; because here, too, there was a question of time use.

which points to an increase in working hours of more than 10 hours per week, raises questions about the sustainability of staying in employment for women;

- the total workload of men who remained in employment under the pandemic conditions decreased by 0.1 hours (an increase of 0.7 hours of unpaid work versus a decrease of 0.8 hours of paid work);
- in this context, we find that headlines such as “the economy has come to a standstill,” which were widely seen in the media at the beginning of the pandemic, are mostly valid for the market economy and for men. By contrast, the domestic economy and the working tempo of women accelerated with the pandemic.

4. On the other hand, the increase in unpaid working hours for men (1 hour per day) who switched to working from home and reduce their weekly paid working hours was significantly higher than that of men who continue to work from the workplace (half an hour a day);

- Based on this, it makes us think that increasing the participation of men in household production can be possible with the implementation of interventions such as flexible work-life balance, working from home and the regulation of paid working hours for men.

5. Differences in unpaid labor hours observed among women according to socioeconomic status, education or employment status were decreasing. There was also a significant increase in the domestic working hours of women with higher education, employed and living in high-income households;

- We determine that the increased participation in household production of groups such as men with a low pre-pandemic share of unpaid labor, those with high incomes and those in employment may bring about increased social support for policy interventions in the care economy, by strengthening awareness about the value and conditions of care work.

The field survey conducted in October 2021, when the health effects of the pandemic were relatively alleviated and the stay-at-home measures were lifted, raises questions about the extent to which the above findings are permanent and transformative. For example, with partial normalization, has the household unpaid labor load decreased and returned to its former level? Has the contribution of men to household production entered a decreasing trend again? For how many women and men in employment has working remotely become permanent, and in what way have their preferences changed? What are people’s views of care economy and work-life balance policies? While new findings on these issues are detailed throughout the report, in this section we summarize and interpret from a gender and care perspective.

7.1. Employment and paid work

With stay-at-home measures and the health effects of the pandemic mostly in the past, by October 2021 a general recovery is observed in employment compared to May 2020. The increase in the proportion of men who say they work for an income (of 16 percentage points, from 49 percent to 65 percent) is greater than that for women (8 percentage points, from 17 percent to 25 percent). In March 2020, before the pandemic, 25 percent of women and 61 percent of men stated that they work in a job for income. The gender gap in employment, which was 36 percentage points just before the pandemic, decreased to 32 percentage points by May 2020. In October 2021, with partial normalization, the gap increased to 40 percentage points, which is higher than before the pandemic.⁴

Remote working has decreased compared to May 2020. The return to workplaces is much higher for men than for women. Thirteen percent of employed men are fully (5 percent) or partially (8 percent) working remotely (down from 39 percent in May 2020), compared to 23 percent for women (15 percent fully remote, 8 percent partially remote), double that of men. Remote work among women has decreased significantly compared to May 2020 (49 percent), but still one out of every four women and 1.3 out of every 10 men continue to work remotely.

The positive side of working remotely is that it supports work-life balance, especially for workers with care responsibilities. However, as studies have shown, the negative side is the risk of disadvantages in terms of promotion, decision-making positions, and income-earning, especially for permanent employees. While women with caring obligations may be given the option to work remotely, not offering or encouraging this option for men in similar situations supports the traditional gender-based division of labor. As a result, for remote work, the gender gap supports women to stay in the labor market, while contributing to deepening of inequalities such as gender-based horizontal and vertical job segregation and wage/earnings gaps.

When we look at preferences for remote working, the results indicate that the widespread use of flexible working practices is supported not only by women but also by men. Forty-two percent of women state that they prefer to work from home, and 30 percent prefer hybrid work, partly at home and partly at work. For men, these rates are 21 percent and 29 percent, respectively; in other words, one out of every two men prefers to work remotely, at least part-time. The presence of babies, children, elderly, sick and disabled individuals in need of care in the household are important factors that increase support for remote and hybrid work.

⁴ Official data from the Household Labor Force Survey (HLFS) of TÜİK confirm similar trends for the difference in employment rates between men and women, but the levels are different. According to TÜİK Household Labor Force Statistics, the difference of 33 points in March 2020 (men and women employment rate 58.6 percent and 25.8 percent, respectively) is similar with 32 points in May 2020 (men and women employment rate 57.4 percent and 25 percent, respectively). By the third quarter of 2021 (data most recently available at the time of this report), it had risen above 35 points (64.3 percent and 28.9 percent respectively for men and women). The difference observed between the employment rates determined by TÜİK HLFS and KONDA YTA can be explained by methodological differences. In the HLFS, labor force participation questions are questioned in more detail, partially compatible with international labor force statistics, and unpaid family workers, mostly women and rural workers, are also included in the employment. In addition, those who are on paid and unpaid leave during the pandemic period are also considered as employment. The KONDA survey findings we gave above are the percentage of respondents who answered the question, “Did you have a paid job last week?”.

Weekly working hours in the labor market are on average 43 hours for women, 15 percent less than men (who work an average of 50 hours per week). One out of every five people in employment states that they work 60 hours or more. It can be said that these long working hours (including commuting times) negatively affect the work-life balance. Arranging working hours at the workplace within the framework of decent work is especially important for workers with care responsibilities. On the other hand, the effect of remote working on reducing working hours is clearly observed; 35 percent of women and 28 percent of men who switched to remote work state that their working hours decreased. Remote working not only supports the work-life balance spatially but also contributes to reducing long working hours.

Twenty percent of women and 17 percent of men work without social security. The rate of working without social security is much higher for women with less than high school education (44 percent) compared to men in the same education group (28 percent). In the context of this epidemic of employment without social security, one-third of the men and women who stopped working during the pandemic stated that they were either dismissed (18 and 16 percent for women and men, respectively) or were on unpaid leave (18 and 20 percent for women and men, respectively).

7.2. Domestic care work and unpaid work

Two-thirds of households have children under the age of 18, 12 percent have babies under the age of two, 10 percent have elderly individuals who require care support, and 6 percent have disabled or sick individuals. While the overwhelming majority of women (two-thirds) state that they do housework alone, this rate is 14 percent for men. This proportion increases for married women (75 percent), but decreases significantly among married men (8 percent). Women with less than high school education (74 percent) are much more likely to undertake household chores alone than women with high school (59 percent) and university education (53 percent). However, it is noteworthy that even among the most highly educated, one out of every two women stated that they took on the housework alone.

More than half of the women (53 percent) and more than one-third of the men (35 percent) state that the time they spent on housework increased due to the pandemic. These rates are lower than in the May 2020 survey (when 67 percent of women and 41 percent of men stated that their time spent on housework increased under stay-at-home measures).⁵ The presence of people in need of special care, such as infants, the elderly, the disabled, and the sick, also increases the time allocated to household chores. In households with infants, the proportion of men who say they spent more time on housework rises to 41 percent. When asked about the change in time that a spouse spent doing housework, only 24 percent of women and 48

⁵ The rate of women who say that the time they spent on housework increased with the pandemic, but that it has returned to its former level with normalization, is 8 percent and 6 percent for men. When this is added to those who say that housework increased (without returning to its former level), 41% of men experienced an increase of housework during the pandemic, consistent with the findings of May 2020. For women, on the other hand, data from October 2021 show that 61 percent of women experienced an increase in housework (53 percent said it increased while 8 percent it increased then returned to its previous level). This is slightly less the rate of women who said their housework increased in May 2020 (67 percent).

percent of men state that their spouses started doing more housework. These rates are again lower than in May 2020; 37 percent of married women and 63 percent of married men stated that their spouses' working time at home increased.

At least one out of every two women (53 percent) and at least one out of every three men (37 percent) state that they had difficulties with unpaid and/or out-of-home paid workloads. The rate of those who stated that they had difficulties with workload was lower for both women and men compared to May 2020 (50 percent and 24 percent respectively). This can be explained by the increase in working hours with partial normalization, the decrease in remote working, and the easing of more intense care work during the pandemic. In parallel, 39 percent of women and 26 percent of men state that they could not spare time for themselves during the pandemic. The rate of those with workload difficulties or unable to take time for themselves increases significantly for those who are employed, or those who have babies, children, sick/disabled/elderly people in need of care. Married women were also less able to take time for themselves (47 percent), as well as women living in households with babies (58%). The corresponding figures for men are 30 percent for married men and 37 percent for men living in households with babies. These findings point to the importance of care-oriented policies in order to increase the welfare level of households, support the work commitment of those in employment and increase their productivity at work.

Survey findings point to the need to make care services and labor market regulations for work-life balance more effective, beyond only making them more widely available. Sixty-six percent of households with school-age children state that they experienced serious problems with the transition to online education. In one out of every 10 households, children could not participate in online education. Twenty-two percent of participants stated that they had problems in adapting to online education, 22 percent had internet problems, and 25 percent had a lack of technical equipment. Additionally, 77 percent of those who switched to working remotely stated that they experienced problems such as not receiving adequate support from the workplace, technical equipment shortages, and the stress of doing care work and paid work simultaneously.

7.3. Changes in Paid and Unpaid Working Hours According to Gender

When responses to the time use questions are compared with the May 2020 survey, there is a decrease in unpaid household working hours for both women and men (an average decrease of 1.2 hours per day for women versus 0.7 hours for men). However, unpaid working hours are slightly above the level observed before the pandemic (in April 2018) for both women and men. Average unpaid working hours for women were 2.9 hours per day in 2018 and 3.3 hours in 2021; for men these were 0.4 hours in 2018 and 0.3 hours in 2021. The difference in unpaid working hours between men and women increased from 2.6 hours a day before the pandemic (2018) to 3.4 hours during the pandemic and stay-at-home measures (2020), before decreasing to 2.9 hours by October 2021. In this sense, the gender gap in unpaid house and care work is higher than it was in 2018. While before the pandemic, women were doing 18 hours more housework per week than men on average, they did 24 hours more housework during the pandemic; and they were doing 20 more hours of housework in the fall of 2021 when the pandemic has partially subsided.

In the labor market, paid working hours increased on average from May 2020 to October 2021 for both women and men, but the increase is lower for women than for men (2 hours versus 0.8 hours per day). While total (paid + unpaid) working hours decreased by 0.4 hours for women, it increased by 1.3 hours for men. Total working hours are higher for both women and men than before the pandemic; 5.1 hours a day in 2021 compared to 4.5 hours a day for women in 2018; 5.7 hours compared to 5.3 hours, respectively, for men.

However, for total working hours, there is a note to be made regarding the methodology here. The time use question asks about a typical working day in the week preceding the survey. While paid work is generally limited to five days a week for the majority, unpaid household work covers all seven days of the week⁶. Considering weekly working hours, it is necessary to multiply unpaid work by 7 and the paid work by 5. Therefore, when the difference in total paid and unpaid working hours are evaluated on a weekly basis, it actually points to an even larger gap to the disadvantage of women. Weekly paid and unpaid total working hours increased from an average 28 hours before the pandemic for women to 36 hours under stay-at-home measures, before falling to 32 hours in October 2021. As such, the workload of women as of October 2021 is above the pre-pandemic level. For men, weekly paid and unpaid working hours decreased from 27 hours before the pandemic to 25 hours under stay-at-home measures, and increased to 29 hours in October 2021, again above the pre-pandemic level. While women were working one hour more per week than men before the pandemic, they were working 11 hours more under stay-at-home measures, and 3 hours more as of October 2021.

⁶ According to TUIK ZKA 2014-2015, unpaid working hours for household and family care are similar for women on weekdays and weekends, but slightly higher for men on weekends.

Table 1: Table 1: Paid and Unpaid Hours of Work: Changes during the pandemic (hours/day; typical weekday)

	Unpaid work in the household		Paid work		Total work	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
1. Before the pandemic (April 2018)	2.85	0.27	1.6	5.06	4.45	5.53
Female-Male Difference	2.58		-3.46		-0.88	
2. Pandemic and stay at home measures (May 2020)	4.49	1.13	0.99	3.31	5.48	4.44
Female-Male Difference	3.36		-2.32		1.04	
Change 2018-2020	1.64	0.86	-0.61	-1.75	1.03	-0.89
3. Partial normalization (October 2021)	3.30	0.40	1.80	5.30	5.10	5.70
Female-Male difference	2.90		-3.50		-0.60	
Change 2020-2021	-1.2	-0.7	0.8	2.0	-0.38	1.26
Change 2018-2021	0.45	0.13	0.20	0.24	0.65	0.37

Source: Based on April 2018 and May 2020 KONDA Lifestyle Survey, İlkkaracan ve Memiş 2021; October 2021 KONDA Lifestyle survey page 89.

7.4. Approaches to care services and work-life balance policies

As mentioned above, one of the important findings of the May 2020 survey is that awareness of the importance of domestic production, and paid and unpaid care work increased during the pandemic. This occurred regardless of gender, education and household income (purchasing power) or employment status, for all segments of society. Based on this, we predicted that social support for care policies could be strengthened. The results of this survey show that there is support beyond our expectations regarding the expansion of care services and the implementation of labor market regulations for work-life balance. We do not have pre-pandemic data to determine the extent to which this support increased under pandemic conditions. However, it is possible to partially attribute 90 percent and above support for these policies, from all segments of men and women, to the awareness that began with the pandemic.

We have gathered our questions about care policies under six headings.

- The rate of those who say that “Public institutions and municipalities should provide home care services for the elderly, disabled and sick” is absolutely true or true is 94 percent, indicating strong social support.
- The idea that “Public institutions and municipalities should provide care services for the elderly and disabled through day centers (such as active living centers, community centers)” is considered absolutely true or true by 91 percent of people.
- The rate of those who think that “Quality nurseries and kindergartens should be provided to all families with children” is absolutely true or true is 83 percent. While 11 percent find the idea neither true nor false, those who say it is false or absolutely false make up only 6 percent of society.
- While 59 percent of people think that the idea of “Nurseries and kindergartens should remain open by taking necessary precautions in extraordinary situations such as the pandemic” is true or absolutely true, 26 percent of people say that this idea is false or absolutely false. The remaining 15 percent say the proposition is neither true nor false. It is possible to explain the relatively high rate of negative attitudes based on concerns that going to school for young children under pandemic conditions will increase the risk of disease. On the other hand, it should be noted that in most countries where nursery and kindergarten enrollment rates are nearly 100% universal (especially Scandinavian countries), it has been a social priority to keep nurseries and kindergartens open as much as possible by taking the necessary precautions, despite the pandemic.
- While 87 percent of people think that “It should be made legal for employed parents to take leave for childcare when necessary” is absolutely true or true, only 3 percent of people consider this idea as false or absolutely false.
- While 80 percent of people think that the egalitarian approach of “Facilitating childcare practices of employed parents should include not only mothers but also fathers” is absolutely true or true, only 8 percent of people evaluate it as false or absolutely false.

The views of different groups do not differ significantly for these policy proposals, which generally receive very high support. The scores on how correct these six propositions were analyzed on a scale from 1 to 5 (5 being very true, and 1 very false), and the average scores of men and women are largely similar to each other. Among these six propositions, the one that men and women differ on the most is, “Facilitating childcare practices of employed parents should include not only mothers but also fathers.” However, even on this issue, support is very high with 4.22 out of 5 for women and 4.12 for men, a negligible difference.

Similarly, when we compare the scores of those who have children under the age of two in their households with those who do not, support for the two propositions concerning nurseries and kindergartens remain quite consistent. For the statement that “Nurseries and kindergartens

should remain open by taking necessary precautions in extraordinary situations such as the pandemic” the average score among those with a baby under the age of two in their household is 3.70, while the average score for those who do not have a baby is 3.49. For the statement “Quality nurseries and kindergartens should be provided to all families with children” the average of those who have babies under the age of two in their household is 4.33, while the average of those who do not have a baby under the age of two in their household is only slightly lower at 4.22.

7.5. Conclusion and Policy Implications

When survey data before the pandemic (March 2020) and during the initial period of the pandemic when stay-at-home measures were in place (May 2020) were compared, there was a serious loss of employment for both men and women, but a greater loss was observed for women. In October 2021, when the pandemic is somewhat alleviated and stay-at-home measures have been lifted, there is a significant recovery in employment for both men and women, but the recovery for women is weaker. As a result, the difference between men and women reporting doing paid work (40 percentage points) is now higher than it was before the pandemic (36 points).⁷ In addition to the pandemic, we observe that the already fragile position of women in the labor market has worsened with the deepening crisis and macroeconomic instability in Turkey. There is an urgent need for interventions in the labor market to prevent this setback for gender equality.

Remote work (full-time remote work, or hybrid work from home and the workplace) peaked amongst those in work in May 2020 with 39 percent for men and 49 percent for women. With partial normalization in October 2021, there has been a serious decrease in the rate of remote work; 13 percent for men and 25 percent for women. Still, one out of every four women and 1.3 out of every 10 men continue to work remotely to some extent. Although there is no comparable data for the period before the pandemic, an evaluation based on household labor force statistics from TUIK shows that home workers (mostly pieceworkers and freelancers) make up 2.6 percent of total employment.⁸ In other words, working remotely has become a more common practice in Turkey with the pandemic and it is more common for women.

Although this situation, in terms of its positive consequences for work-life balance, strengthens women’s ties to the labor market, the difference in ratios of men-women in remote working threatens to deepen other inequalities such as gender-based job segregation and wage gaps. The first policy inference to be made from this is to use legal regulations and workplace practices to shape egalitarian flexible and remote working practices, especially for men with care responsibilities, rather than reducing the rate of remote working among women. Such

⁷ According to TUIK HLFS statistics, the gender gap between employment rates measured methodologically differently (see footnote 5) is 32.8 points in March 2020. October 2021 monthly data were not yet published on the TUIK website at the time of writing this report. The difference in the most closely comparable 1st quarter of 2021 is 34.2 percentage points, and the difference in the 3rd quarter is 33.4 points.

⁸ See: Dedeoğlu, S. 2020. Evden içeri bir Dünya: Türkiye’de Evden Çalışanlar, Araştırma Raporu, Ankara: ILO Türkiye Ofisi, pg.6.

arrangements will not only provide equal conditions and opportunities for men and women in the workplace, but will also support men to take on care responsibilities in the household more effectively. This is supported by our analysis of findings in the May 2020 survey, which showed that men who switch to working from home increase their unpaid household hours, compared to men who continue to work from the workplace. At the same time, when we look at preferences for remote working, this type of flexible working practice is supported not only by women but also by men. While 42 percent of women state that they prefer to work from home, and 30 percent prefer hybrid work styles, these rates are 21 percent and 29 percent for men, respectively. In other words, one out of every two men prefers to work remotely to some extent.

Findings on domestic unpaid working hours show that with partial normalization, the demand for domestic production has decreased compared to the first period of the pandemic. Unpaid working hours for both men and women have decreased. Still, unpaid work remains higher, especially for women and partially for men, compared to the pre-pandemic period. The gender gap, which was already high in unpaid working hours, also seems to have increased even more than before the pandemic. Before the pandemic, women did 18 hours more housework per week than men on average, but this increased to 24 hours more during the pandemic. By the fall of 2021, when the pandemic had partially subsided, women did 20 more hours of housework than men. At the same time, with partial normalization, paid working hours have increased, reaching their previous levels, and even partially exceeding the working hours compared to the pre-pandemic period. One out of every five employed people declares that they work 60 hours or more.

The proportion of people who say they have difficulties with the total workload of domestic care work and paid work (53 percent of women and 37 percent of men in October 2021) has increased even more compared to the first period of the pandemic (50 percent of women and 24 percent of men in May 2020). This can be explained by the partial normalization and the increase in working hours, the decrease in remote working, and the relatively more intense care work due to the pandemic conditions. The rate of women who say that they cannot spare time for themselves is also quite high. Thirty-nine percent of women and 26 percent of men state that they could not spare time for themselves during the pandemic. This is particularly high for married women (47 percent) and women with children (58 percent). By contrast, the rate is 30 percent for married men and 37 percent for men with children.

These findings point to the importance of care-oriented policies in order to increase the welfare level of households, support the work commitment of those in employment and increase their productivity at work. The availability of nurseries and kindergartens for young children, in- and out-of-school support services for school-age children (study hours, out-of-school activities, support services for students with learning disabilities, etc.), daytime active living centers for the elderly and disabled, and professional care services for in-home patients/elderly/disabled care will all serve this purpose. At the same time, flexible working styles that provide work-life balance, reduction of working hours, and workplace practices that support the compatibility of workplace and household work responsibilities are important for workers with care responsibilities.

As a matter of fact, research findings show that there is great support for the care economy and work-life balance policy proposals from all segments of the society (over 90 percent for most proposals). Almost all of the policy proposals shared with the survey participants under the six headings listed below received scores above four in the evaluation made on a 5-point scale (absolutely true 5, absolutely false 1):

1. *“Public institutions and municipalities should provide home care services for the elderly, disabled and sick.”*
2. *“Public institutions and municipalities should provide care services for the elderly and disabled through day centers (such as active living centers, community centers).”*
3. *“Quality nurseries and kindergartens should be provided to all families with children.”*
4. *“Nurseries and kindergartens should remain open by taking necessary precautions in extraordinary situations such as the pandemic.”*
5. *“It should be made legal for employed parents to take leave for childcare when necessary.”*
6. *“Facilitating childcare practices of employed parents should include not only mothers but also fathers.”*

The lowest score of 3.51 belongs to the fourth proposition. Here, we can suggest that the health risks of young children’s attendance at school was a concern in the pandemic. On the other hand, the fact that the sixth proposition that mothers and fathers should have access to measures that support care work equally is supported not only by women (average score of 4.22 out of 5 points) but also by men (4.12), indicates that society’s attitudes are far beyond the current unequal legal framework and practices.

These results point to the urgency and potential multiplier effects of expanding quality care services and labor market regulations for work-life balance for increasing both the welfare of households and productivity in the workplace. This is especially relevant for supporting women’s participation in the labor market, and strengthening social resilience against shocks such as the Covid-19 pandemic. The great support expressed from all segments of society for these policy interventions shows that the society is ready for them to be implemented.

8. RESEARCH ID

8.1. General Description of the Study

The research, which is the basis of this report, was conducted by the KONDA Research and Consultancy for the Turkey Representative of the Heinrich Böll Stiftung Association.

The fieldwork of the research was carried out between 22 - 24 October 2021. This report reflects the perceptions, practices, preferences and profiles of the adult population over the age of 18 in Turkey at the time of the fieldwork.

The margin of error of the findings of the study is +/- 1.17 at the 95 percent confidence interval and +/- 1.54 percent at the 99 percent confidence interval.

8.2. The Sample

The sample was prepared by stratifying the population sizes and education levels of neighborhoods and villages based on ADNKS (Address Based Population Registration System) data, and the neighborhood and village results of the 24 June 2018 General Elections. Settlements were first separated as rural/urban/metropolitan and a sample was determined based on 12 regions.

In the scope of the research:

In Turkey, face-to-face interviews were conducted with 2,523 people in 145 neighborhoods and villages of 99 districts of 32 provinces, including the provincial capital. Age and gender quotas were applied across 18 interviews conducted in each neighborhood.

Visited provinces	32	Age group	Female	Male
Visited districts	99	Age 18-32	3 subjects	3 subjects
Visited neighborhood/villages	145	Age 33-48	3 subjects	3 subjects
Subjects interviewed	2,523	Age 49 and above	3 subjects	3 subjects

	Level 1 (12 regions)	Visited provinces
1	İstanbul	İstanbul
2	West Marmara	Balıkesir, Çanakkale, Edirne
3	Aegean	Aydın, Denizli, İzmir, Manisa, Uşak
4	East Marmara	Bolu, Bursa, Eskişehir, Kocaeli
5	West Anatolia	Ankara, Konya
6	Mediterranean	Adana, Antalya, Hatay, Mersin
7	Central Anatolia	Kayseri, Sivas
8	West Black Sea	Samsun, Tokat
9	East Black Sea	Ordu, Trabzon
10	Northeast Anatolia	Erzincan, Kars
11	Central East Anatolia	Malatya, Van
12	Southeast Anatolia	Diyarbakır, Gaziantep, Şanlıurfa

	Region	Rural	Urban	Metropolis	Total
1	İstanbul			18.0%	18.0%
2	West Marmara	1.4%	3.6%	.7%	5.7%
3	Aegean	1.4%	6.2%	7.6%	15.2%
4	East Marmara		4.3%	5.4%	9.7%
5	West Anatolia		2.9%	7.3%	10.1%
6	Mediterranean	.7%	4.5%	5.7%	10.9%
7	Central Anatolia	1.4%	2.9%	1.4%	5.7%
8	West Black Sea	1.4%	2.7%	1.2%	5.3%
9	East Black Sea	.4%	2.0%	1.3%	3.7%
10	Northeast Anatolia	.7%	1.4%		2.1%
11	Central East Anatolia	.7%	2.9%	1.4%	5.0%
12	Southeast Anatolia	.7%	4.3%	3.6%	8.6%
	Total	8.9%	37.5%	53.6%	100.0%

9. FREQUENCY TABLES

Gender	Percent
Female	50,5
Male	49,5
Total	100,0

Age	Percent
Age 15 - 17	1,7
Age 18 - 32	32,8
Age 33 - 48	33,9
Age 49+	31,6
Total	100,0

Education	Percent
Less than high school	50,4
High school	29,5
University	20,1
Total	100,0

Marital status	Percent
Single	25,8
Engaged	2,0
Married	64,6
Widow	5,8
Divorced	1,8
Total	100,0

Employment status	Percent
White collar employee	17,2
Worker, tradesperson, farmer	26,2
Retiree	12,1
Housewife	27,7
Student	9,3
Unemployed	7,5
Total	100,0

Which of the following best describes the way you work?	Percent
I go to the office / factory / workplace to work.	38,2
I work alternately / sometimes at work, sometimes from home.	4,6
I only work from home / remotely.	2,9
I'm not working at the moment.	54,3
Total	100,0

Does the house you live in belong to you or are you a tenant?	Percent
It belongs to us.	65,5
We are tenants.	34,5
Total	100,0

Monthly household income	Percent
2000 TL and below	11,7
2001 - 3000 TL	23,1
3001 - 5000 TL	32,4
5001 - 8000 TL	21,3
8001 - 10000 TL	6,0
10001 TL and above	5,5
Total	100,0

Type of housing	Percent
Shanty house / Apartment without external plastering	5,1
Detached, traditional house	32,6
Apartment	55,9
In the housing estate	6,2
Very luxurious building, villa	,2
Total	100,0

(IF EMPLOYED) Do you have social security because of your current job?	Percent
Yes	81,8
No	18,2
Total	100,0

What was your working condition before the pandemic, namely before March 2020?	Percent
I was working somewhere / in my own business.	43,4
I was unemployed, was not working.	5,8
Not in the labor force (student, retired, housewife, disabled, sick, not looking for a job.)	50,8
Total	100,0

With which means do you meet the livelihood needs of your household?	Percent
Salaries and wages of the employees in the household	76,5
Pension	20,9
Profit from companies, shops, taxis, etc. owned by those in the household	5,0
Rental income	4,0
Supply from the country etc.	3,1
Help from the relatives	2,3
Stock market, interest income	1,1
Other	6,5

Why/how did you stop working, if you did so during the pandemic after March 2020?	Percent
I was fired	16,5
I took unpaid leave	19,0
I took paid leave	14,0
I quit the job myself because I was afraid of the risk of illness.	8,0
I quit my job myself because I had to take care of children/elderly/sick at home.	2,3
I had my own business, I closed it because the business stopped/orders stopped.	17,7
I was a freelancer, I stopped working because my own businesses were stopped.	22,5
Total	100,0

With the start of the pandemic, has there been a change in your working style from March 2020 to July 2021, that is before things returned to normal?	Percent
I continued to work at my workplace as before.	69,9
I worked from home for a while.	15,4
I worked partly at my workplace, other times from home.	14,6
Total	100,0

Have your working hours changed during this period?	Percent
Increased	10,1
Did not change	59,8
Decreased	19,1
It increased but returned to its previous level with normalization	1,8
It decreased but returned to its former level with normalization	9,1
Total	100,0

Who does the housework?	Percent
Alone	40,9
Spouse	37,2
Mother	25,7
Sibling	5,8
Father	4,4
Other relative	2,9
Assistant, employee	1,4
Grandmother	0,7
Mother-in-law	0,5
Grandchild	0,5
Grandfather	0,2
Father-in-law	0,0

Who does the most housework?	Percent
Spouse	31,1
Mother	24,1
Father	0,7
Child	1,6
Sibling	1,1
Grandmother	0,1
Grandfather	0,1
Father-in-law	0,0
Mother-in-law	0,1
Grandchild	0,2
Other relative	2,0
Alone	38,0
Assistant, employee	0,8

Which of the following individuals in need of care live in your household?	Percent
Baby/babies	12,2
Elderly individual/s	10,1
Sick individual/s	3,0
Disabled individual/s	3,0
None of them	71,1

Who cares for the baby in this household?	Percent
There are no infants, disabled or elderly people in the household.	77,7
Spouse	7,0
Alone	6,4
Mother	3,8
Other relative	0,9
Child	0,8
Father	0,6
Sibling	0,4
Grandmother	0,2
Assistant, employee	0,2
Mother-in-law	0,2
Grandfather	0,1
Father-in-law	0,0
Grandchild	0,0

Who cares for the elderly, sick or disabled individuals in this household?	Percent
There are no infants, disabled or elderly people in the household.	76,6
Alone	8,3
Spouse	6,0
Mother	2,7
Child	1,7
Sibling	0,9
Father	0,7
Other relative	0,6
Grandmother	0,4
Mother-in-law	0,4
Grandchild	0,4
Assistant, employee	0,4
Father-in-law	0,1
Grandfather	0,0

With the pandemic, did the time you devote to housework (such as cleaning, taking care of the household, cooking, gardening) change, and in what way?	Percent
Increased	44,2
Did not change	46,8
Decreased	1,4
It increased, but returned to its former level with normalization.	7,2
It decreased but returned to its previous level with normalization.	0,4
Total	100,0

If the time spent on housework increased, which of the following caused this?	Percent
To comply with the hygiene conditions required by the pandemic (washing hands etc.)	48,9
Childcare with school closure	18,2
We cut/reduce eating out/take-out orders	14,6
Housework normally done by a cleaner/sitter/helper etc.	5,3
Support/care for the elderly, disabled people, inside or outside the family (including those who do not live in the household)	4,3
Stop of patient care and taking healthcare services (including those who do not live in the household)	1,4
Other	5,0

(For those who are married) With the start of the pandemic, did the time your spouse devoted to housework change?	Percent
Increased	34,7
Did not change	57,5
Decreased	2,2
It increased but returned to its previous level with normalization	5,2
It decreased, but returned to its former level with normalization	0,5
Total	100,0

What do you think about your total domestic and/or out-of-home workload?	Percent
I'm struggling.	45,3
There is no problem with my workload, I am satisfied with my situation.	54,7
Total	100,0

During the pandemic, did you have problems with the online education of the school-age children who live in the same household? What kind of problems?	Percent
We had no problems.	34,2
We had difficulties in adapting to the online education process.	22,1
We had internet problems.	21,8
We had phone, tablet, computer problems.	16,0
There was online education, but our child could not attend.	8,5
We had a shortage of space.	7,0
The school did not provide online education.	2,3

Which of the following applied to you about paid work from home during the pandemic?	Percent
I couldn't work from home, I had to go to work.	25,6
I have had no problems working from home.	6,1
I could not get enough support from my workplace / employer.	3,8
I worked from home, but I was short of technical equipment.	3,2
I had problems because I had to do housework, child/sick/elderly/disabled care at the same time.	3,1
Although I could work from home, I preferred to work from the workplace.	2,1
I had a shortage of space.	1,7
Other	22,2

Which best expresses your opinion about paid work from home?	Percent
I am happy to work from home, I prefer to continue like this.	30,2
I am not satisfied with working from home, I prefer to work from the workplace.	40,6
I prefer hybrid work, partly at work, other times from home.	29,2
Total	100,0

Did you receive assistance from municipalities during the pandemic? What kind of assistance?	Percent
I didn't get any help	72,6
Mask aid	14,4
Supply aid	11,2
Cash support	7,1
Shopping assistance during lockdowns	1,2
Rental help	1,0
Other	0,7

Did you receive assistance from the state during the pandemic?	Percent
I didn't get any help	69,2
Mask aid	15,1
Cash support	14,3
Supply aid	6,2
Rental help	1,4
Short term working allowance	1,0
Unemployment benefit	0,9
Other	0,5

Could you take time for yourself during the pandemic?	Percent
Yes	67,4
No	32,6
Total	100,0

Which activities did you do more during the pandemic?	Percent
Spending time with family	75,9
Watching TV	68,0
Watching TV series, movies	49,8
Cleaning	48,6
Eating	46,4
Laundry, washing dishes	40,8
Childcare	26,8
Reading books	24,2
Gardening	22,9
Music, painting etc.	20,2
Doing sports	18,9
Repairs/renovations	15,2
Participation in online trainings	12,3
Working for income, paid-work	11,3
Elderly, disabled, patient care	7,0

Public institutions and municipalities should provide home care services for the elderly, disabled and sick.	Percent
Absolutely false	1,3
False	1,4
Neither true nor false	3,5
True	34,8
Absolutely true	59,0
Total	100,0

Public institutions and municipalities should provide care services for the elderly and disabled through day centers (such as active living centers, community centers).	Percent
Absolutely false	0,8
False	2,7
Neither true nor false	5,5
True	37,2
Absolutely true	53,8
Total	100,0

Nurseries and kindergartens should remain open by taking necessary precautions in extraordinary situations such as the pandemic.	Percent
Absolutely false	13,4
False	13,5
Neither true nor false	13,9
True	27,2
Absolutely true	32,1
Total	100,0

Quality nurseries and kindergartens should be provided to all families with children.	Percent
Absolutely false	2,3
False	3,8
Neither true nor false	10,4
True	35,3
Absolutely true	48,1
Total	100,0

The right of employed parents to partially work from home or work flexible hours for childcare when necessary should be legalized.	Percent
Absolutely false	0,9
False	1,8
Neither true nor false	10,8
True	36,9
Absolutely true	49,6
Total	100,0

It should be made legal for employed parents to take leave for childcare when necessary.	Percent
Absolutely false	1,1
False	2,1
Neither true nor false	10,8
True	37,7
Absolutely true	48,4
Total	100,0

Facilitating childcare practices of employed parents should include not only mothers but also fathers.	Percent
Absolutely false	3,9
False	4,4
Neither true nor false	11,2
True	31,3
Absolutely true	49,2
Total	100,0

