



NIUE

COVID-19 SOCIO-ECONOMIC RAPID ASSESSMENT SURVEY (RAS)

Round 2: April 2022

SURVEY REPORT & ANALYSIS: IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON NIUE HOUSEHOLDS

July 2022



Statistics for
Development
Division

NIUE

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Niue Statistics Office

Statistics New Zealand: Pacific Statistics Support Programme

Pacific Community Statistics for Development Division



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No one will ever deny that the impacts of the Covid19 pandemic have affected everyone in the world in more ways than one. Niue (even small as it is) is not immune to these impacts and it has changed a lot of things as a result in different ways and magnitude. Some have mild or little effects to those who are greatly affected. However, no matter how little or severe the impacts are to the socio economics of individuals and households of Niue, her people will persevere and do what is best to sustain life in the home and community.

In order to measure the level of impacts, socially and economically of the people of Niue, Statistics Niue in conjunction with Statistics New Zealand agreed to conduct a Socio-economic Rapid Assessment Survey (RAS) and this was conducted in two rounds, Round 1 and Round 2.

The findings from the two rounds of surveys can enable Government and other data users a good indication and understanding of how the people of Niue have responded not only to messages and interventions of Government towards the impacts of Covid19, but also including, how much or at what level the impacts affected their individual and household aspects of living.

In knowing this information, informed decisions of the decision makers are made, effective policies and interventions are directed to the people of Niue accordingly.

The success and achievements of this exercise is full credited to the hard and committed work of Mrs Fanuma Sioneholo and her team of interviewers. Fakaauae lahi mahaki.

May I also take this opportunity to acknowledge the assistance from Dr Ofa Ketu'u and her team from Statistics New Zealand, Mr Matthew Flanagan and Ms Tracey Savage. Without their help this success would not have been possible.

Last but not the least my sincere gratitude to Professor Wadan Narsey from JCU and Mr David Abbott from SPC for your contribution to this success story.

Monuina e totouaga mo e tau amaamanakiaga oti.

Niue ke monuina, numela ke taki aki.

Kimray Vaha

Government Statistician.

Executive Summary

Government control of COVID. The Niue Government has so far succeeded in setting up adequate safeguards and keeping COVID from entering the Niue Community.

- a) The few cases arriving with COVID detected at the border (but not at the departing airport), have been well quarantined in the MIQ and prevented from entering the community.
- b) Upon detection of the COVID cases, Alert Level YELLOW was declared by the Government and the population put on higher alert. The Alert Level was reverted to Alert Level Blue upon elimination of the virus. This is an important mechanism to keep in place.
- c) Government had also managed to vaccinate 97% of the 16+ population by 9 July 2021, the 12–15 population by November 2021
- d) For aged 5–11 years, roll-out of the vaccine began on 4 Feb 2022.
- e) For the 18+ booster roll out began on 18 Feb. 2022 and 96% had received it by early Feb 2022.
- f) Quarantine free travel to New Zealand has begun on 24 March 2022.
- g) In March 2020 Government introduced Phase 1 of the evolving Government Wage Supplementation (GWS) program for businesses on the island, phase 2 in October 2020, Phase 3 in June 2021. Some business owners very responsibly removed themselves after Phase 1 when they did not need it. The GWS ended in December 2021 an excellent indication of the success of Government intervention to save businesses.

The implementation of RAS 2. RAS 2 was implemented in April 2022 with the same number of total Respondents (204 representing 579 households), almost the same as that for RAS 1, with a similar Gender and Location distribution. The estimated population was only slightly higher for Niue (by 1.8%), Alofi (by 3.4%) and Rest of Niue (by 1.1%). Some 75% of the Respondents had also been Respondents to RAS 1. There was continued mobility of household (HH) members, between Niue and New Zealand and between Alofi and the Rest.

The demographic profile. The demographic profile was similar to that for RAS 1 by ages and Gender of occupants. As with RAS 1, the Age Bracket of the Respondents was associated with a higher proportion of the ages of the occupants, especially the 65+ group of respondents closely related to some 48% of their occupants who were also 65+. The converse was true for the younger age brackets of Respondents.

Awareness of COVID developments. While a high 85% always kept up to date with COVID developments, 15% of all Respondents did not. A higher 24% of Alofi Respondents did not keep up to date.- equivalent to nearly one in five people. .

Sources of Information. As with RAS 1, the main sources of information were Radio, Internet, Social Media and Family and Friends.

Preparedness of HH if COVID spreads. 38% of the Respondents stated that they did not have an emergency disaster/preparation kit in case of emergency lock-down.

Use of ROCKSAFE and QR Card. a large 53% of the Respondents said they used the QR card only sometimes or never. This limited usage may be largely attributed to the Government's success at keeping COVID out, reducing the perceived need for frequent use.

Remittances Received. Some 30% of all Households received remittances, an increase from the 24% for RAS 1. Small percentages of Respondents stated that over the previous 30 days they received higher remittances (6%) than less (18%), indicating the possibility of overseas senders facing difficulties themselves. Other patterns were the same as for RAS 1.

Remittances sent. A high number of Respondents (35%) reported sending remittances abroad, slightly lower than the 38% in RAS 1. Virtually similar percentages of Respondents stated that they sent either higher or lower remittances than before. Other patterns were the same as for RAS 1.

Employment. Some 72% of the Respondents were working before April 2021. While there were small decreases (absolute numbers) in some ISIC sectors, they were more than matched by increases in others, so that there was an overall net increase in employment of 11 persons or 3% of the Employed.

Unemployment. RAS 2 had new questions on unemployment not asked in RAS 1. This enables the estimation of two quite different Rates of Unemployment:

- a) 8.0%: if defined as “Not working” but “Available for work”.
- b) 1.9%: if defined as “Not working” and “Looking for work”.

Using the first definition of Rate of Unemployment, while the gender difference was slight, that in the Rest of Niue was an extremely high 11.8% compared to 1.6% in Alofi. Nearly all the Unemployed were in the Rest of Niue. They were also more in the higher age brackets.

Incomes previous week. Of those working, 85% reported that their incomes were the same while 5% reported it to be increased. Only 7% had their incomes reduced.

Non-farming business. Of those 133 persons who ran a Non-farming Business, 23% reported lower incomes, while 11% reported No Incomes, altogether around a third. None indicated a higher income. The most important cause of reduced incomes was felt to be reduced demand, in general or through COVID.

Working for HH Farm. Of the 426 Respondents who worked on a family farm, some 16% reported that they did so Mainly for Sales and another 47% “Mainly for Family Use (i.e., partly for sale). Of these 426, some 10% had less income than in the previous agricultural season, while 36% had no income at all. While there were no questions on the possible reasons for reduced income, the responses to one question of the lack of normal activity did attribute it to a number of factors, including care of children, increased material costs and bad weather.

Coping Strategies. 35% of Respondents said they and their Households were Not Aware of Government assistance through the ERP. There was little difference between Alofi and the Rest. While there were higher proportions of “Unaware” persons with only Primary Education as their highest qualification, there were equal “unaware” proportions (and 35 in number) of those with tertiary education.

The most popular coping strategy (of 31% of Respondents) listed was to “Spend Savings” with slightly lower Females (26%) than Males (36%). Significant proportions also recorded Reducing Food Expenditure (18%) and Taking Out Loans (15%). It is difficult to assess the significance of these coping mechanisms, given that there were no dollar values attached to these coping strategies, which could, of course, have small financial amounts associated with them. Only 12% of the Respondents reported Assistance from Government. In the mix also were help from friends and Church, and Selling of Assets, again of unknown financial significance.

Expectations on Basic Needs. More than four fifths (81%) of Respondents were confident that their basic needs would be met, somewhat higher proportions than for RAS 1 (75%). Only 17% were Not Confident in RAS 2.

Expected state of economy 12 months hence. 75% of the Respondents felt that the economy 12 months hence would be the Same (42%) or Better (23%). There are generally better than for RAS 1. Even higher proportions (79%) of Females were optimistic about the state of the economy in the future: 47% the Same and a high 32% Better. These percentages reflect well on the confidence that the Niue Respondents feel about the Government's management of the economy since COVID.

Expected income 12 months hence. The expectations on income 12 months hence reflect the same patterns as of the economy. Some 88% of the Respondents felt that their incomes would be the Same (74%) or Higher (14%). Again, higher proportions (91%) of Females were optimistic that their income would be the Same (76%) or Higher (15%) compared to lower proportions for Males (85%, 72% and 13% respectively). These are strong endorsements by Respondents of their confidence in the future.

Expected Savings. 69% of Respondents expected their savings to remain the same, while 12% expected better outcomes. Only 16% thought their savings might decrease. The patterns were similar when disaggregated by Gender and Location. Of the 18–34 Age Bracket, none expected their savings to decrease.

Expectations on Spending Over the next 12 months. Given their expectations on the economy, income, and savings, Niue respondents appear somewhat over-optimistic about their expectations on spending over the next 12 months. While 52% expect the same as before, a large 37% are expecting higher spending, and only 9% are expecting less. This pattern is replicated across age groups, location, and gender.

Health. Slightly lower (45%) of the Respondents reported the need for medical attention, compared to 55% for RAS 1, while there was rough Gender and Location parity, a slightly higher proportion (55%) of the 65+ brackets needed attention than the 35–64 bracket (43%) and the (18–34) bracket (38%).

Reaction to COVID symptoms. 88% of the Respondents stated that they would definitely get tested if they developed some of the symptoms of COVID. Among the age groups, 83% of those aged 18–34 were definite about testing compared to 87% of the 35–64 age bracket and 92% of the 65+ age bracket.

COVID-19 Precautions taken by HH. The precautions taken by Households such as Wearing Facemasks (60%) and Physical Distancing (56%) were quite low on the list of precautions taken. Some 94% of the Respondents put Washing Hands and 78% put disinfecting surfaces higher on their list. These results suggest that health authorities may need to strengthen campaigns explaining how the COVID virus gets transmitted socially, and what the most effective strategies to counter transmission. Particular attention should be given to younger generations, whose response rates on all the precautions are much lower than those of the elderly.

Mental health. While there is no comparable data for pre-COVID and from RAS 1, around 1 in 10 of the Respondents felt depressed, with somewhat higher proportions (11%) of the 65+ bracket compared with the 35–64 age bracket (9%) or the 18–34 age bracket (8%).

Quarantine Free Travel with New Zealand. 30% of the Respondents were Negative to QFT with New Zealand, with those in the 18–34 age group being even more negative (38%) than the 65+group (28%). Slightly higher percentages did not feel safe about QFT preparations, again with the youngest age group feeling the most unsafe.

Anti-Social Events. There appeared to be quite high proportions of anti-social events being observed, in order of frequency: theft (20%), alcohol and drug use (17%), verbal abuse (16%), domestic abuse (11%), damage to property (11%), and physical assault (9%). The difficulty is that it is not clear whether these were separate incidences or with some or many observed by different Respondents.

What was clear, however, is that Female Respondents reported higher proportions (18%) of alcohol and drug use than Males (15%), relatively more of verbal abuse (21% and 12%), Domestic abuse (12% and 10%) and physical assault (10% and 8%). Males on the other hand reported higher proportions than Females in theft (21% and 18%) and damage to property (13% and 8%). These differences may reflect gender biases in perceived importance of anti-social events.

For all the anti-social events, the oldest age group perceived lower proportions than the younger age group respondents.

The RAS 2 results also indicate that for all the anti-social events, there are far higher proportions of respondents who think that these events have become better. However, a complicating factor is that, and perhaps related to the gender bias mentioned above, significantly higher proportions of Males thought the events were better than Females.

There were also significant gender differences in the proportions who thought that the anti-social events had gotten worse.

The overall impression seems to be of improving social conditions and reduced anti-social behavior during the COVID period.

COVID-19 in New Zealand. Annex 1 in this Report gives a brief outline of COVID developments and regulations in New Zealand and a snapshot of how people of Pacific Island origin (a proxy for Niue people in New Zealand) have fared. This may provide some context for potential Niue travellers to New Zealand, as well as some idea of how Niue regulations are matching the standards set by New Zealand.

Niue COVID-19 Socio-Economic Rapid Assessment

Second Round Report

Introduction

The Niue context

Niue is a small raised-atoll island of 261 sq km (101 sq miles) in the South Pacific Ocean, lying between Tonga, Samoa and Cook Islands. It is a self-governing state in Free Association with New Zealand with all Niueans also being citizens of New Zealand which therefore provides a good safety net for all Niueans. Some 30% of the total population of around 1951 (estimated from the RAS) reside in Alofi while the others are scattered around the island in 14 villages or municipalities. There are twenty times as many Niueans living in New Zealand as are in Niue.¹

Niue has a very limited economy based on government employment, tourism, fisheries, vanilla farming, noni farming and production, subsistence farming, and Dark Sky policies to encourage astronomy tourism.

In 2019, Niue signed a Statement of Partnership² with New Zealand ensuring that the public sector is underpinned by New Zealand aid. This results in Niue being one of the highest GDP per capita countries in the Pacific. Niue also has a Trust Fund of some US\$20 million (in 2007) invested abroad.

The findings of the recent Report “*NIUE - The State of Poverty and Vulnerability in Households*”. (Development Pathways) provides the broad socio-economic context for many of the income and employment questions in the RAS.³ Specifically, the Report noted that:

There are low levels of poverty incidence, depth and severity in Niue; the majority enjoy high quality housing and have access to basic services such as safe cooking and drinking water, clean fuels, managed sanitation services, access to internet and a mobile phone. There are no persons living below the Food Poverty Line. Only 10% of the Households are living below the BNPL and 9% of Households are at high risk of falling below the poverty threshold.

The Poverty Report however, noted that “*there are clear differences between men and women, with women disproportionately living below the BNPL*” and Government needed to promote “*more precise, targeted poverty interventions designed at supporting the low-income and vulnerable families*”.

With the threat of arrival of COVID-19 to its shores, the Niue Government commissioned a Rapid Assessment Survey (RAS 1) in April 2021 to obtain a picture of the potential impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the people and Households of Niue: Households' knowledge of the pandemic, impact on their employment, incomes, health and welfare; coping strategies; changing social conditions including sense of personal and physical security; and government responses.

¹ Given the origins of the remittances to Niue (see below) reasonable numbers of residents in Niue have probably also moved on to Australia for employment purposes.

² NIUE - The State of Poverty and vulnerability in households. Development Pathways.

³ NIUE - The State of Poverty and vulnerability in households. . Development Pathways.

Results of RAS 1

The Report on RAS 1 found that:

- a) Niue authorities and Households coped reasonably well with the impact of COVID-19 in terms of awareness of COVID-19, safeguarding their employment and incomes, and broader social welfare.
- b) Respondents were fully aware of Government steps restricting travel (international and domestic) and to a lesser extent on policies to support employment and incomes. They were not well aware of the many other steps which had been taken such as curfews and availability of testing clinics.
- c) 7% of those who were working pre-COVID stopped working after COVID. Those working for Government had reasonable job security, but those in the private sector were more adversely affected by the COVID effects
- d) Roughly 19% of Respondents had earnings lower than usual, with the private sector more adversely affected than working for Government. Of those doing farming largely or mainly for sale, some 44% (45 Households) reported less or no income after COVID.
- e) While some 24% of all Households received remittances, 18% received less than usual, while only 8% received more than usual. Some 38% of Households sent remittances abroad, with 42% sending less than usual, while 10% sent more than usual.
- f) Some 66% of Households received external benefits, mostly pensions and super (going largely to the Respondents 65+) and child allowances (going mostly to the Households of the younger Respondents).
- g) The most popular coping strategies were the use of savings (38%); trying to earn extra (28%); reducing non-food consumption (25%); and reducing food consumption (22%).
- h) There were few problems of access to food or health or public trust.
- i) The most serious social problem was alcohol use, with a minor analytical issue being that Female and elderly perceptions of the prevalence of anti-social events were usually significantly higher than those of Males.
- j) A moderately high 24% indicated hesitancy or opposition to vaccines.
- k) There appeared to be a need for Government to pay extra attention to the needs of Females and the elderly. It was in this context that Statistics Niue and Statistics New Zealand conducted RAS 2 in April 2022 to be also analysed by this Consultant.

It as in this context that the Statistics Niue and Statistics New Zealand conducted RAS 2 in April 2022 to be also analysed by this Consultant.

COVID-19 Developments on Niue between RAS 1 and RAS 2

Niue was COVID-19-free at the start of the pandemic.

The Government of Niue led by Premier Tagelagi has taken a cautious and generally successful evolving approach in trying to ensure the safety of the inhabitants of Niue during the COVID-19 pandemic. All along, the Government's priority has been to keep residents of Niue safe, not to restore tourism.

The Niue Government allowed the resumption of flights to Niue on 31 October 2021, with a number of safeguards in place: the passengers had to be fully vaccinated and provide negative results for 72 hours prior to departing Auckland, as well as on Days 0 and 5. They would then be released from Managed Isolation Quarantines (MIQ) only if their Day 12 test was negative following COVID protocols. Passengers were also advised to self-isolate for additional days at home, if they chose to do so.

Over the next few months, Government developed three MIQ facilities at Homofiti, Matavai and Fusilie.

On the 10 November 2021, Government reduced the quarantine period from 14 days to 10 days based on risk assessment information about the Delta variant, roughly following the New Zealand practice of 7 days in quarantine and 3 days home isolation.

On 9th March 2022, Niue's first border case was detected in quarantine, amongst passengers on a repatriation flight from New Zealand. That person was required to complete a 14-day quarantine period. A close contact of that case, frontline airport workers and other passengers were also required to quarantine until testing negative after 10 days.

Four further border cases were reported on 24th March 2022 amongst passengers on a repatriation flight from New Zealand. Two children were not tested beforehand as they were below the age of 3 and asymptomatic. The Government believed that the four positive cases had been double vaccinated and boosted and had returned negative PCRs and RATs 72 hours prior to boarding their flight. The Government moved to Alert Level YELLOW and Niue people were reminded to take all the usual precautions. By 31st March 2022, all cases had been successfully contained in quarantine, with no spread of COVID-19 into the community.

On the 28 April 2022, a new case and close contact of the first case tested positive and was put into isolation. With only 2 active cases, Homofiti MIQ remained closed to all visitors.

Travel/Border restrictions

Niueans, as New Zealand citizens, have been able to travel to New Zealand throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. For the first year (March 2020 – March 2021), they had to follow self-isolation/quarantine rules for all arriving passengers put in place by the New Zealand Government.

Quarantine-free travel from Niue to New Zealand (a one-way travel bubble) then commenced on 24 March 2021. Since March 2020, only residents and essential workers have been allowed to enter Niue, on bi-weekly Government-vetted repatriation flights from New Zealand. These flights were suspended in August 2021, at the start of the Delta outbreak in New Zealand, stranding many Niuean citizens in New Zealand. They recommenced fortnightly in mid-October 2021.

Imposition of Alert levels

In response to its first positive COVID-19 cases detected at the border, the Government moved Niue to Alert Code Yellow (Imminent Threat) on 21 March 2022 with the aim of containing and eliminating the virus in quarantine.

On the 12th of May, Niue was placed on Alert Level Blue.

As of 23 May, there had been zero active cases and Niue remained in Alert Level Blue

Covid-19 vaccination programme

For those aged 16+ years – vaccine roll-out commenced on 1st June 2021 and was completed on 9th July 2021, with 97% of the eligible population fully vaccinated (2 doses).

For those aged 12–15 years – vaccine roll-out commenced in October 2021 and was completed by late November 2021, with 98% of the eligible population fully vaccinated (2 doses).

Booster dose roll-out for those aged 18+ years began on 18th January 2022 and, as at early February 2022, over 96% of those eligible had received their booster shots.

For those aged 5–11 years – roll-out of the vaccine began on 14th February 2022.

Government Covid-19 assistance programme

In March/April 2020, the Government of Niue introduced the Government Wage Supplementation (GWS) program for businesses on the island. There were 3 subsequent phases to the GWS programme – phase 2 in October 2020, phase 3 in March 2021 and phase 4 in June 2021 – with the eligibility criteria refined and revised in each phase. In addition, some business owners found they could manage without the GWS and so removed themselves from the program after phase 1. The GWS program ended in December 2021.

Rapid Assessment Survey 2 (RAS 2)

Statistics Niue, with the assistance of Statistics New Zealand, conducted a RAS in April 2021, from which the first report was derived. Statistics Niue conducted the follow-up RAS 2 in April 2022 with largely similar methodology and coverage, whose data is the basis of this Report.

Table 1 indicates that there was almost no change in the number of Households canvassed in RAS 1 and RAS 2 and their relative numbers in Alofi and the Rest of Niue.

There were slight increases in population between RAS 1 and RAS 2 for Alofi (3.4%), the rest of Niue (1.1%) and for Niue altogether (1.8%). These changes resulted in similar percentage changes in average HH sizes of 3.0%, 1.3% and 1.8%, respectively.

Table 1: RAS 1 and RAS 2 (households and population)

| Households | | | | |
|------------------------|-------|------|------|-----------|
| | Alofi | Rest | Niue | |
| RAS 1 | 198 | 381 | 579 | |
| RAS 2 | 199 | 380 | 579 | |
| % Change | 0.3 | -0.2 | 0.0 | |
| Estimated Population | | | | |
| | Alofi | Rest | Niue | Alofi (%) |
| RAS 1 | 593 | 1358 | 1951 | 30.4 |
| RAS 2 | 613 | 1374 | 1987 | 30.9 |
| % Change | 3.4 | 1.1 | 1.8 | |
| Average Household Size | | | | |
| | Alofi | Rest | Niue | |
| RAS 1 | 2.99 | 3.57 | 3.37 | |
| RAS 2 | 3.09 | 3.61 | 3.43 | |
| % Change | 3.0 | 1.3 | 1.8 | |

The Respondents to RAS 2

The demographic profile of the Respondents is as follows:

- 66% were reported as being HH heads (86% of Males Respondents and 45% of Female Respondents, reflecting the usual gender bias for designating HH heads).
- 42% of the Respondents had tertiary qualifications (38% if Males and 47% of Females).
- While 26% of the Respondents were aged 64+ years, only 14% of those on Alofi were in this category, while 32% of those in the Rest of Niue were aged 64+ years.

High Retention of previous respondents

An interesting facet of this RAS 2 is that some 75% (434 out of 579) of the respondents in RAS 2 had also been respondents in RAS 1 hence there is some possibility of a “longitudinal” analysis of responses (to be investigated).

Of the new Respondents, 26 replaced original Respondents who were not available, 14 moved overseas, 3 had moved to a new location, and 6 were new families who moved into the address. Altogether, there were some 48 replacement Households in RAS 2.

There were few differences in retention rates between Female and Male headed Households, or between Alofi and the Rest.

While the high continuity of 75% is a positive aspect of RAS 2, nevertheless, the data indicates that there is a moderate degree of mobility of the Niue population over this one-year period.

This is also reinforced by the responses to Questions H8 and H9. Of the 579 Respondents, 98% had been living in the same village during at the date of RAS 1 and only 2% (or 11 Respondents had not).

Of these 11 who had not lived in the same village, 8 had lived elsewhere on Niue and 3 had been in New Zealand.

Continued mobility of members of Households

The Report on RAS 1 had noted that there was a similar degree of mobility of HH members between March 2020 and March 2021:

- a) 56 Households had received new members
- b) 67 Households had members who had left

Households had members who were not living in the same village.

The data from RAS 2 suggest the following responses to Question H10 need to distinguish between “Households/Respondents” and “Occupants of Households”: 77 out of 579 Respondents reported that 133 members had left their Households:

- a) 88 gone overseas, and
- b) 45 elsewhere in Niue.

The Responses to Question H11 indicate that 51 out of the 579 Respondents reported members joining their Households:

- a) 34 occupants from overseas, and
- b) 65 from elsewhere in Niue.

Overall, these Respondents reported a net “leakage” overseas of (88–34) or 54 persons. It might be useful to understand the characteristics of those who left Niue and those who have arrived, unfortunately, not canvassed by RAS 2.



The Occupants of the Households

The demographic profile of the occupants was similar to that of RAS 1 (Figure 1).

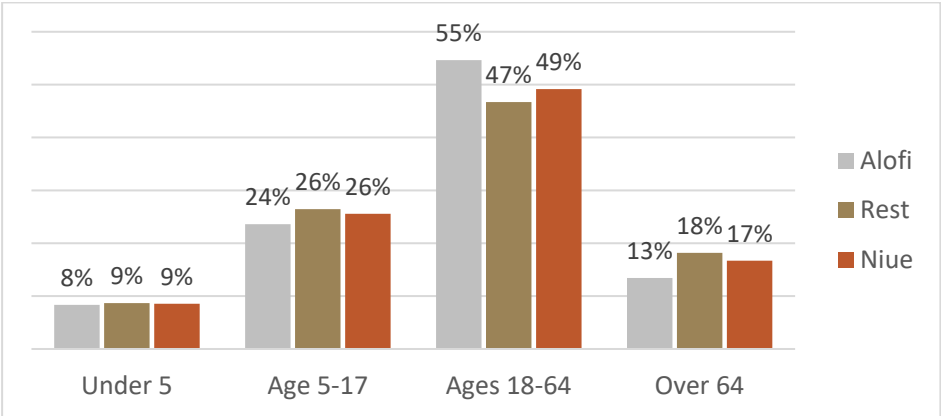


Figure 1: Age distribution of Occupants (Alofi, Rest, Niue)

The percentages of children (both Under 5 and Ages 5–17) were about the same in Alofi and the Rest.

However, the 18–64 group (roughly working age) was slightly higher in Alofi (55%) than in the Rest (47%).

Conversely, the 64+ group (roughly the retirees’ age) was slightly higher in the Rest (18%) compared to 13% in Alofi.

Ages of Respondents and ages of occupants

There are many tables suggested by NSO that have the Age Bracket of the Respondent as an axis variable. For meaningful analysis with adequate responses in each cell, the age brackets for the Respondents have been simplified into three: (18–34), (35–64) and (65+).

Of course, these age brackets of Respondents are not exactly identical with the ages of the occupants. But Figure 2 suggests that the 65+ age group of the Respondents represent a much higher percentage of the older age group occupants than the other two.

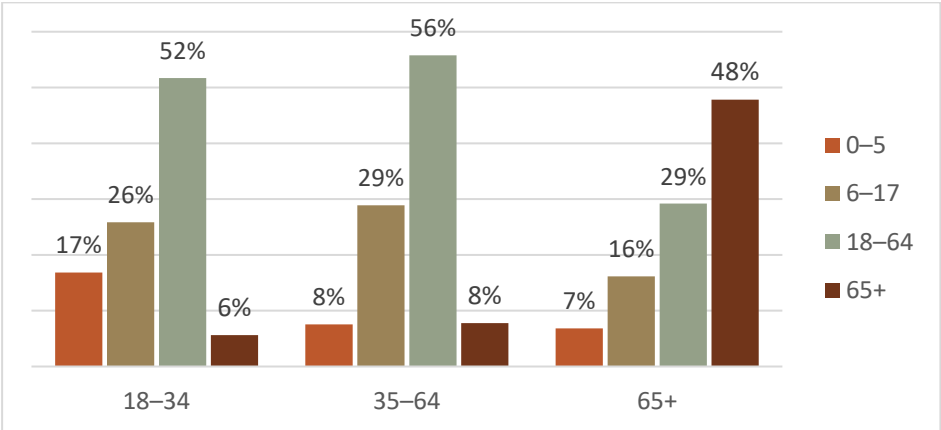


Figure 2: Share of Occupants by age of Respondent

Thus, 48% of the occupants of Households headed by a 65+ person are themselves 65+ as opposed to only 6% of the Households headed by an (18–34) aged Respondent, and 8% of the (35–64) aged Respondent. This group can be used as a rough proxy for the elderly occupants.

Conversely, the younger respondents (18–34) and (35–64) had much higher proportions of the (18 to 64) occupants (52% and 56%), and (6–17) occupants (29% and 26% respectively).

Awareness of COVID developments

Question K10 asked whether the Respondent was keeping up with the latest news on the COVID and 3 responses allowed were: 1=Always, 2=Sometimes and 3=Never.

In the weighted tables given to the consultant, there were no “3” responses and “2” was interpreted as “No”.

So conservatively, a quite high 85% of the Respondents reported “Yes” and that they “Always” kept up to date with COVID developments (Figure 3).

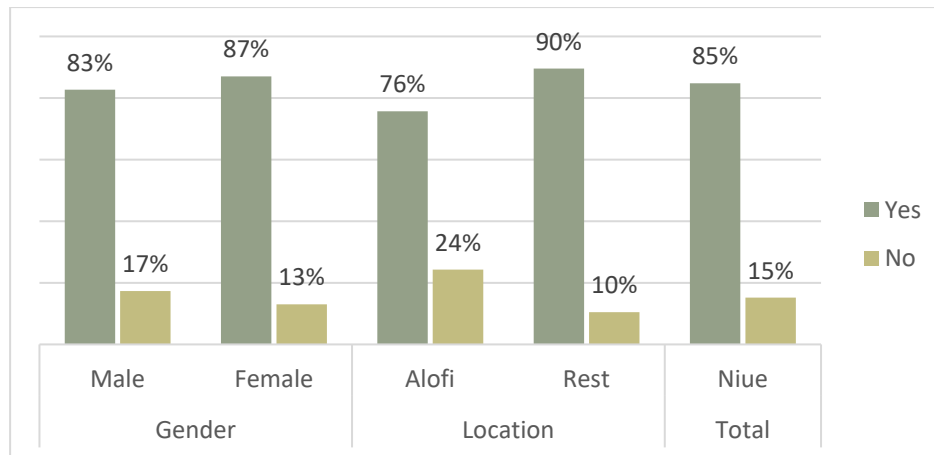


Figure 3: Keeping aware of COVID developments (%)

- a) with 83% for Males and 87% for Females.
- b) with 76% in Alofi and 90% in the Rest of Niue.

Niue society is awake to the serious implications of the pandemic for their own well-being and possibilities of restrictions on mobility. But a significant 15% (88 Respondents) did not always keep up with the news.

Of the 88 (or 15% of all Respondents) who did not “Always” keep up with the news:

- a) 3% stated they were too busy,
- b) 3% stated they were not interested,
- c) 6% stated that they did not have up-to-date information, and
- d) 87% gave no reason.

However, it may be noted that of those 88 Respondents who did not keep up to date, 32% were 64+ years.

68% had post-secondary or tertiary qualifications and would be expected to be comfortable with the Internet and social media. They probably also occasionally kept in touch.

As with the RAS 1, the top four sources of information were as given in Figure 4, with the most important being:

- a) 80% from Radio (85% in Rest and 70% in Alofi)
- b) 80% through the Internet,
- c) 76% on Social Media, and
- d) 72% from Family and Friends.

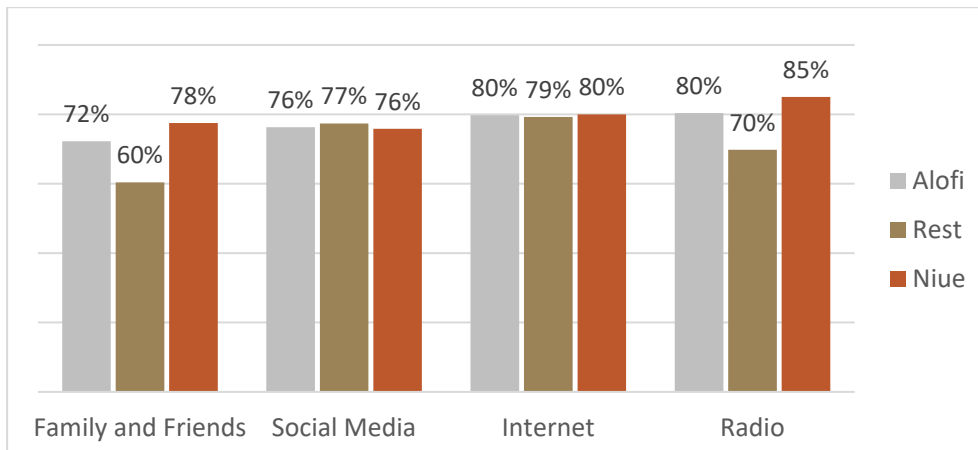


Figure 4: Source of information on COVID

While hospitals had about the same percentage (68%) as for RAS 1 (68% from Health Clinics), the percentage from TV had dropped to 52% compared to 75% in RAS 1 (Figure 5).

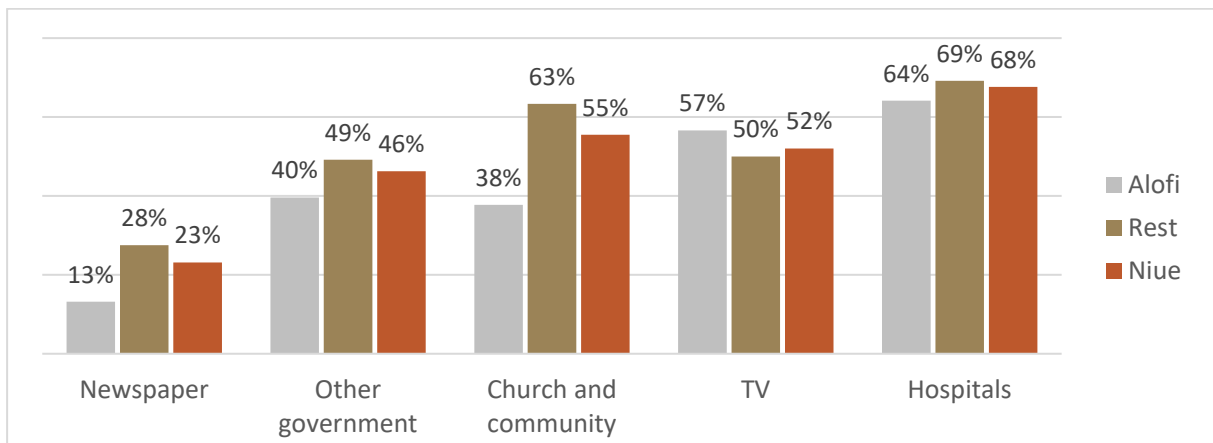


Figure 5: Other sources of information on COVID

Newspapers had dropped to 23% from 36% for RAS 1.

Levels of preparedness of Households and Community

Some 87% of the Respondents felt “Positive” or “Somewhat positive” that their Households were prepared if a COVID case were to spread into Niue. With 8% being “Neutral” and 5% being “Somewhat negative” or “Very negative” (Figure 6).

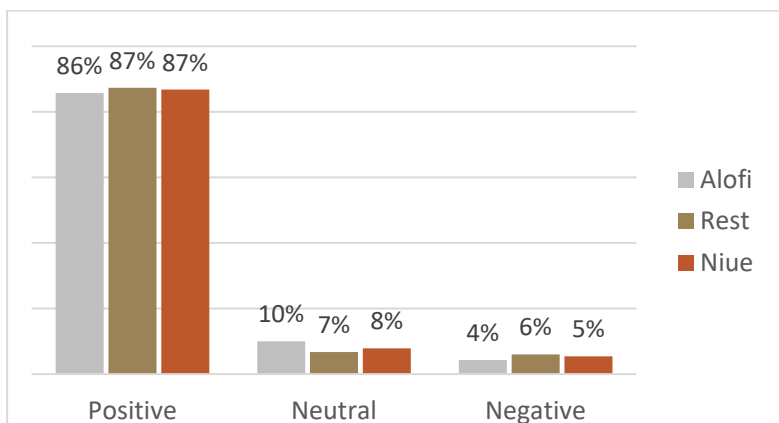


Figure 6: Preparedness of Community and Household

This degree of confidence did not extend to the perceptions about the preparedness of their community. The “positive” assessment dropped from 87% for the HH to 72% for the Community. The neutral perception increased from 8% to 19%, quite understandable given the lack of knowledge about other Households.

More importantly, only 61% of all the Households stated that they had an emergency kit in the HH. A fairly large 38% of all Respondents (roughly the same distribution by Gender and Location) stated that they did not have an emergency disaster/preparation kit in case of an emergency lockdown or disaster.

An unusual result was that of all the Households who felt Positive about their preparedness, only 63% had an emergency kit.

On the other hand, only 45% of those who had negative perceptions about their preparedness had an emergency kit. One might have expected a higher percentage.

Use of ROCKSAFE/QR Card

The statistics show that the use of the ROCKSAFE/QR card was low. While only 8% did not have a card and 7% do not visit a ROCKSAFE location, an extremely large 53% said that they only used the card sometimes or never. A large 22% said they forgot to use their card. Only 47% said they always used their card.

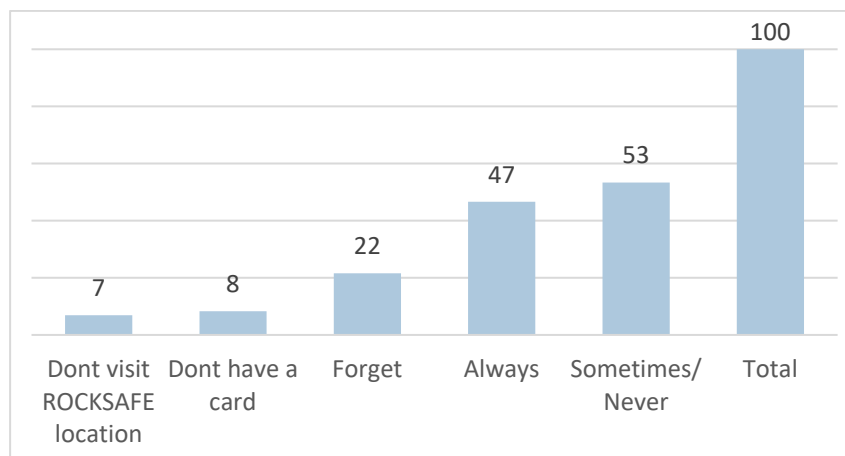


Figure 7: Use of ROCKSAFE/QR Card (%)

Small percentages stated they mostly stayed at home or that they did not know how to use them. While these numbers may not be ideal given that COVID has not been allowed to run freely into the community, accidents and human errors can occur at the places of quarantine.

Sources of incomes

The sources of incomes of Households are given in Figure 8, although the relative importance is not known given that there were no dollar values given to these sources.

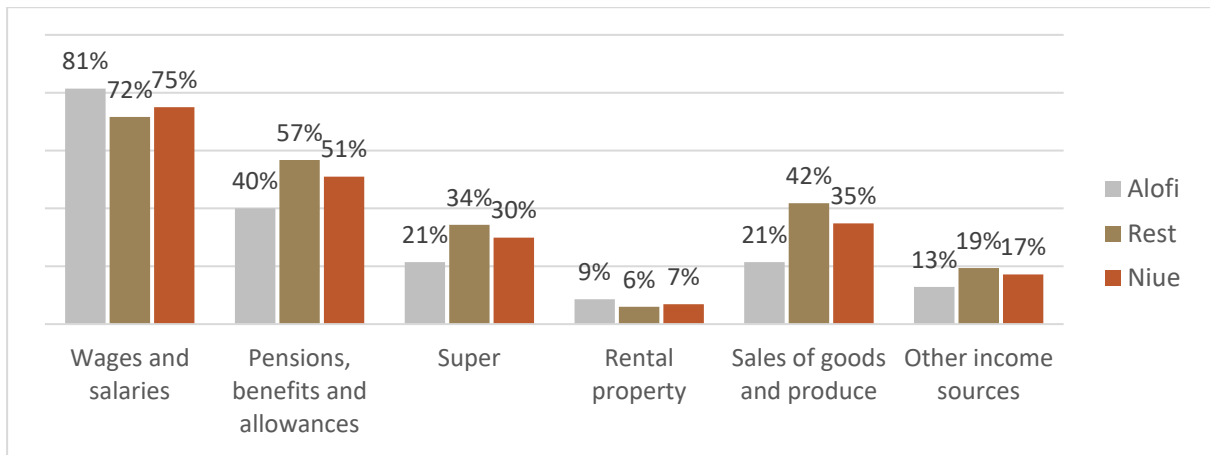


Figure 8: Source of incomes (% of Households)

The relative frequencies give some idea of the importance of the different sources.

What is visible is that, except for Wages and Salaries, all the other income sources are relatively more important in the Rest of Niue than in Alofi. Given that Alofi also has a larger percentage of those aged of 65+ years who would be eligible for pensions and super benefits.

The Rest of Niue would also have a much higher dependence on Sales of Goods and Produce (42%) compared to 21% of Households in Alofi.

Remittances received and sent

Remittances received

Between April 2021 and RAS 2, some 30% of all Households in Niue received Remittances from family and friends abroad, a somewhat higher percentage than the 24% in RAS 1. It is clear that family and friends abroad may have increased their contributions to Households in Niue, although the dollar values are not known.

Some 39% of Households in the Rest (with relatively older population) and 14% of Households in Alofi received some remittances.

The countries of origin are given in Figure 9, with New Zealand being the most dominant source at 87% of all Households receiving remittances, somewhat increased from the 64% in RAS 1.

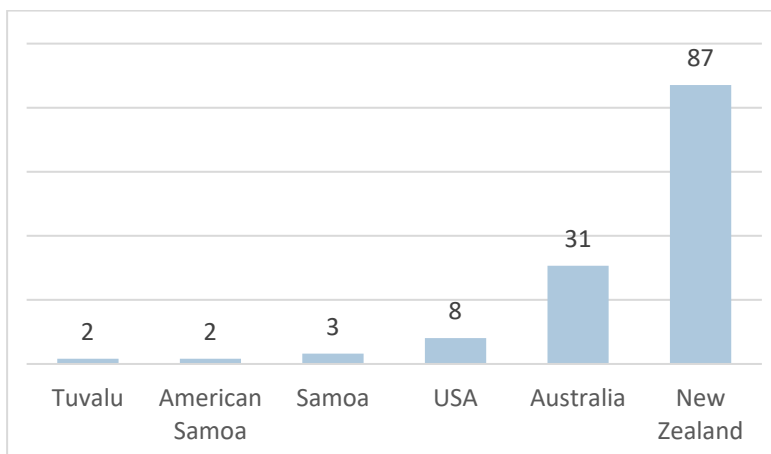


Figure 9: Source of remittances received (%)

Australia was the source of 31% (compared to 33% in RAS 1), with USA a new source for 8% of Households receiving. The other sources have remained about the same.

One indication of the dollar values may be derived from the response to Q14 with 71% of the Households reporting that the remittances were the same for the Last 30 days, compared to the month before April 2021 (Figure 10). Nevertheless, 21% of the Households reported that the remittances were less than before, while only 6% reported they were more. A very small 2% reported that remittances had stopped.

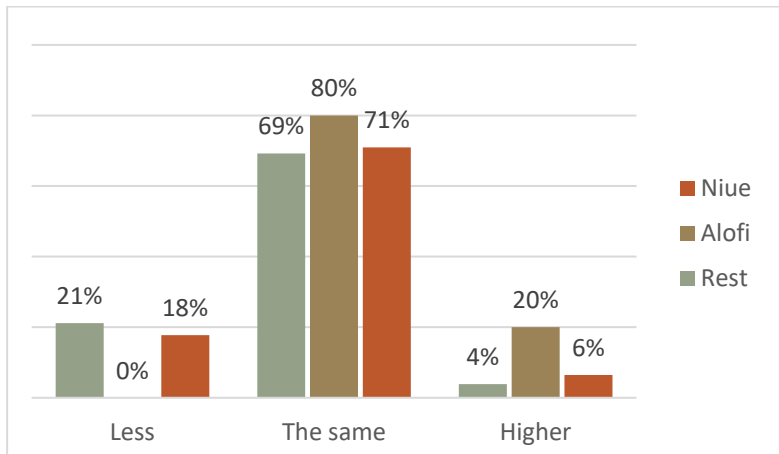


Figure 10: Remittances received last 30 days compared to Pre-March 2021

Remittances sent

As with RAS 1 (38%), quite a high 35% of Households in Niue sent remittances abroad over the previous 30 days, 33% from Alofi and 38% from of Rest of Niue Households.

The pattern of destination countries was very similar to RAS 1 with, New Zealand receiving 67% of the transactions, Tonga 14%, and Australia 10%. Fiji (8%) and Philippines (6%) were also minor destinations (Figure 11). England, Solomon Islands, and Kiribati received even less.

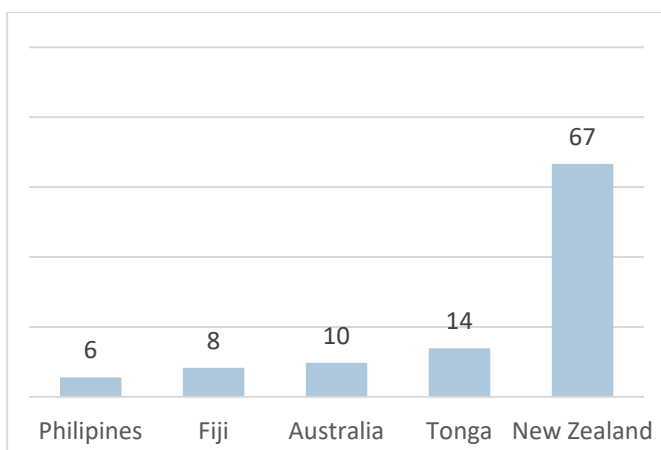


Figure 11: Destination countries of remittances (%)

Some 65% of the 204 Households sending remittances abroad recorded that they sent around the same amount for the Last 30 days compared to the period pre-March 2021 (Figure 12).

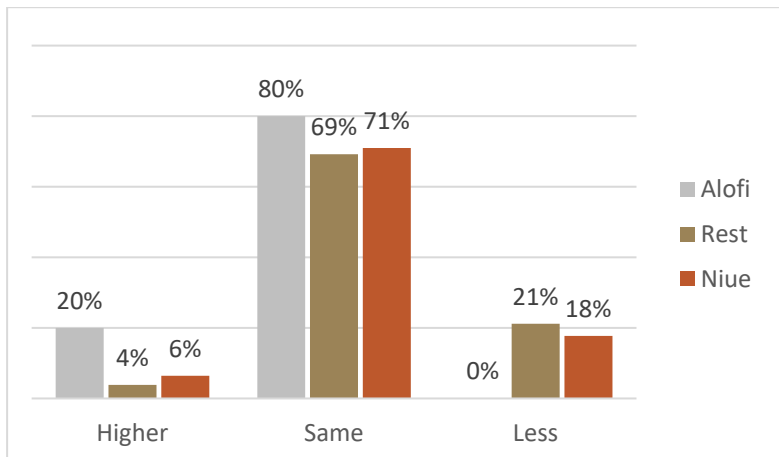


Figure 12: Remittances sent last 30 days compared to Pre-March 2021

Some 14% sent less and 13% sent more.

There were slight differences between Alofi and the rest, for Higher-than-normal remittances sent.

Remittances and Respondent age

While 30% of Households received remittances, 35% also sent remittances abroad (Figure 13).

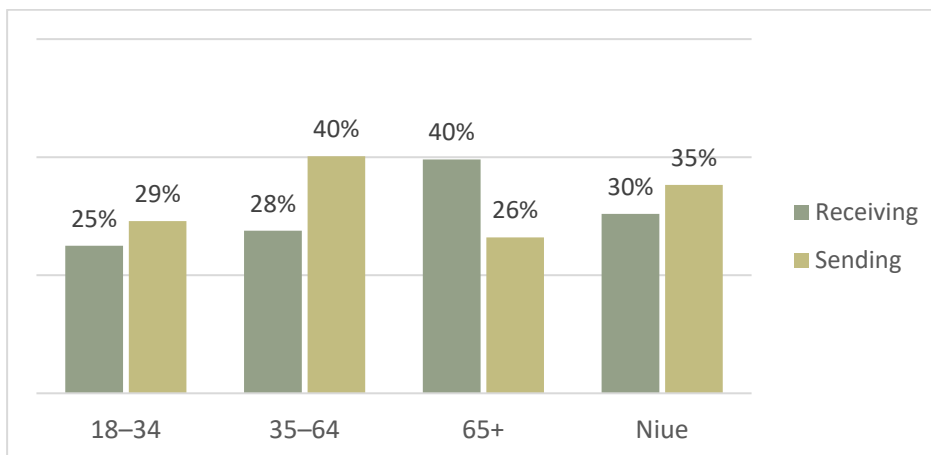


Figure 13: Household receiving and sending remittances by age of respondent (%)

Although this pattern held for most Households (higher percentages sent than received), it is worth pointing out that Households of the Respondents who were 65+, 40% received remittances, while a lower 26% sent them abroad.

Employment

Some 72% of all the Respondents were working before April 2021.

There were few differences between Male Respondents (74%) and Female Respondents (69%).

There was a bigger gap between Alofi (83%) and those from the Rest (69%).

The next table gives the distribution of the Respondents who were working, by the sectors they were working in, with numbers of persons easier to see than percentages, especially when comparisons are made with those working in the last week.

Fields of employment pre-April 2021

The largest number (77) were in public administration followed by 65 in “Agriculture, forestry and fishing”, with rough gender parity between Female Respondents (196) and Male Respondents (219).

Table 2: Economic activity of job in April 2021

| | Niue | Gender of Respondent | | Location | |
|--|------------|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | Niue | Male | Female | Alofi | Rest |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 65 | 43 | 23 | 17 | 48 |
| Mining and quarrying | 6 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Manufacturing | 6 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply | 17 | 11 | 6 | 11 | 6 |
| Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation | 14 | 14 | 0 | 3 | 11 |
| Construction | 17 | 14 | 3 | 3 | 14 |
| Wholesale and retail trade; repair of vehicles | 26 | 14 | 11 | 14 | 11 |
| Transportation and storage | 26 | 9 | 17 | 9 | 17 |
| Accommodation and food service activities | 20 | 9 | 11 | 6 | 14 |
| Information and communication | 11 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 6 |
| Financial and insurance activities | 11 | 3 | 9 | 9 | 3 |
| Real estate activities | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Professional, scientific and technical activities | 20 | 11 | 9 | 3 | 17 |
| Public administration and defence; social security | 77 | 34 | 43 | 28 | 48 |
| Education | 31 | 3 | 28 | 17 | 14 |
| Human health and social work activities | 17 | 6 | 11 | 11 | 6 |
| Arts, entertainment and recreation | 23 | 11 | 11 | 9 | 14 |
| Other service activities | 26 | 23 | 3 | 11 | 14 |
| ISIC Code unknown | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Total | 414 | 219 | 196 | 165 | 250 |

Changes in employment sector from pre-April 2021 to last week

Table 3 gives the quite positive news for employment in the economy of Niue that there was an overall increase in employment of 11 persons, equally by Gender and Location. While the absolute changes ranged from 0 to +/- 6, percentage changes will naturally be much larger.⁴

Agriculture etc. lost 6 persons employed while Water etc., gained 6. These were the largest changes in numbers indicated.

⁴ There were some mistakes in coding for the weighted table on sectors worked in for the Last 30 days, with entries duplicated for two sectors (Water etc. and Construction) probably because of slight errors in data entry.

Table 3: Change of working numbers between pre-April 2021 and last week (numbers of Respondents)

| | Niue | Gender of Respondent | | Location | |
|--|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | | Male | Female | Alofi | Rest |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | -6 | -3 | -3 | -3 | -3 |
| Mining and quarrying | -3 | -3 | | | -3 |
| Manufacturing | -3 | | -3 | | -3 |
| Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply | | | | | |
| Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation | 6 | 6 | | | 6 |
| Construction | | -3 | 3 | 3 | -3 |
| Wholesale and retail trade; repair of vehicles | 3 | 3 | | 3 | |
| Transportation and storage | | | | | |
| Accommodation and food service activities | | | | | |
| Information and communication | | -3 | 3 | | |
| Financial and insurance activities | | | | | |
| Real estate activities | | | | | |
| Professional, scientific and technical activities | | -3 | 3 | | |
| Public administration and defence; social security | -3 | -3 | | | -3 |
| Education | | | | | |
| Human health and social work activities | -3 | | -3 | | -3 |
| Arts, entertainment and recreation | | | | | |
| Other service activities | | | | | |
| ISIC Code unknown | 20 | 14 | 6 | 3 | 17 |
| Total | 11 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |

Employment last week

Table 4 gives some positive news regarding the work status of respondents over the last week. Throughout Niue, 74% of the Respondents were working. There was a slightly higher percentage of Male Respondents working (76%) than Females (71%).

There was a moderately higher percentage in Alofi (86%) compared to 67% in the Rest. This would reflect the changes by sector given in the previous table.

Table 4: Status in work last week (%)

| | Respondent Gender | | Location | | Total |
|--|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Male | Female | Alofi | Rest | Niue |
| Working | 76% | 71% | 86% | 67% | 74% |
| In SAME main job as at April 2021 | 74% | 68% | 83% | 65% | 71% |
| In DIFFERENT main job as at April 2021 | 2% | 3% | 3% | 2% | 2% |
| Not working | 23% | 29% | 14% | 32% | 26% |
| Working in April 2021, but not last week | 8% | 2% | 1% | 7% | 5% |
| Not working in April 2021, AND not last week | 15% | 27% | 13% | 25% | 21% |
| Not stated | 1% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 0% |
| Total | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

Of those not working the previous week, only 5% had been working in April 2021 while 21% were not working the last week or on 21 April 2021.

Unemployment

RAS 2 had some questions that not only brings out some idea of the rate of unemployment in Niue but muddies the water a bit about the real unemployment status of the Respondents depending on whether those “Not Working” and “Available for Work”, were actually “Looking for Work”.

With some 111 Respondents “Not Working” and “Not Available for Work” there was a much smaller 37 persons who were “Not Working” and “Available for Work” – who one might normally consider to be “Unemployed” in the Labour Force. By this measure, Table 5 indicates that there was quite a moderate 8.0% Rate of Unemployment throughout Niue, defined as those “Not Working” but “Available for Work” (Row D).

Table 5: Employment and Unemployment status last week

| | Respondent Gender | | Location | | Total |
|---|-------------------|--------|----------|------|------------|
| | Male | Female | Alofi | Rest | Niue |
| A Working | 224 | 202 | 170 | 255 | 426 |
| B Not working but available for work | 20 | 17 | 3 | 34 | 37 |
| C Labour Force | 244 | 219 | 173 | 289 | 463 |
| D Unemployment rate (B/C) % | 8.1 | 7.8 | 1.6 | 11.8 | 8.0 |
| E Looking for work | 3 | 6 | 0 | 9 | 9 |
| F Alternative Unemployment Rate (E/C) % | 1.2 | 2.7 | 0.0 | 3.1 | 1.9 |

There was no great difference between Males (8.1%) and Females (7.8%), but a significant difference between Alofi (1.6%) and Rest (11.8%). Some 34 out of the 37 Available for work were in the Rest of Niue.

While these percentages are quite high, a complexity is introduced by the question on whether those “Not working” were “Looking for work” (Row E in Table 5). By this “Looking for work” criterion, the Unemployment Rates are extremely low- just 1.9% nationally, 3.1% in Rest and 0% in Alofi. (Row F).

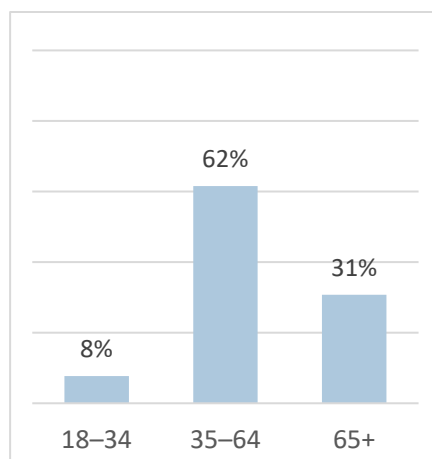


Figure 14: Unemployed by age bracket (%)

It is also worth noting that there is no gender disparity in the distribution of the Unemployed. However, most of the Unemployed are in the Rest of Niue, and not in Alofi. It is also useful to note that the unemployed are in the higher age brackets.

Income last week

Of those 426 Respondents working last week, some 85% reported their income was the same as, 5% reported it to be increased and 7% reduced.

Table 6: Income last week compared to April 2021

| | Respondent Gender | | Location | | Total |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Male | Female | Alofi | Rest | Niue |
| Increased | 5% | 4% | 3% | 6% | 5% |
| The same | 82% | 89% | 90% | 82% | 85% |
| Reduced | 9% | 3% | 5% | 7% | 6% |
| Total | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

By Gender of the Respondents, 9% of Males indicated a reduction, as opposed to 3% of Females. The Rest of Niue reported both higher percentage increases as well as reductions than those in Alofi.

This is noteworthy given the earlier table, which indicated that the Unemployment rate was much higher in the Rest (11.8%) than in Alofi (1.6%).

Overall, however, the statistics on employment and incomes do not indicate a pressing issue, with the exception of the higher Unemployment Rate in the Rest of Alofi.

Non-Farming Business

Of the 133 Respondents who ran a non-farming business (23% of all) some 23% indicated a lower income and 11% “No income” at all or 34% “Less income” than before (Figure 15).

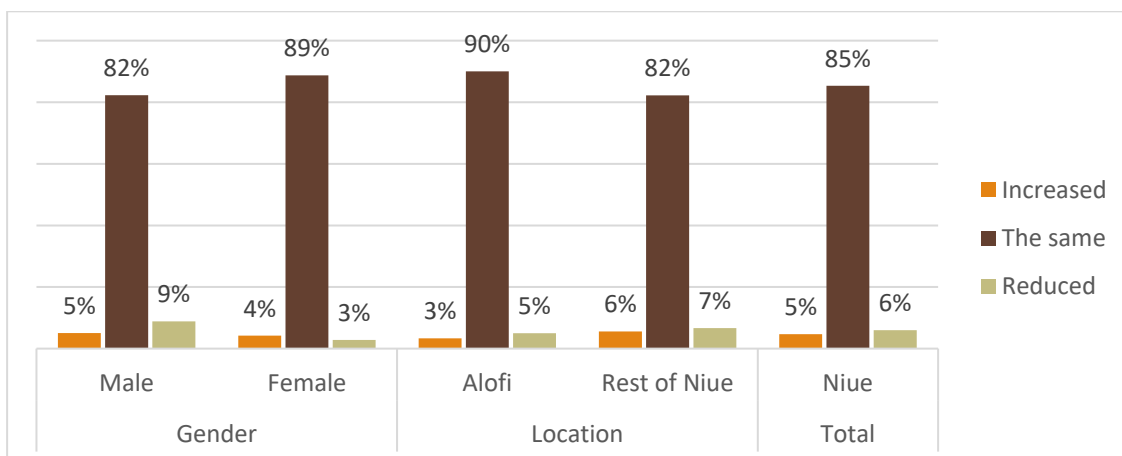


Figure 15: Income last week compared to April 2021

None of the Respondents indicated a higher income. This is the sector that seems to have really suffered between RAS 1 and RAS 2.

This is a very different pattern from Figure 16.

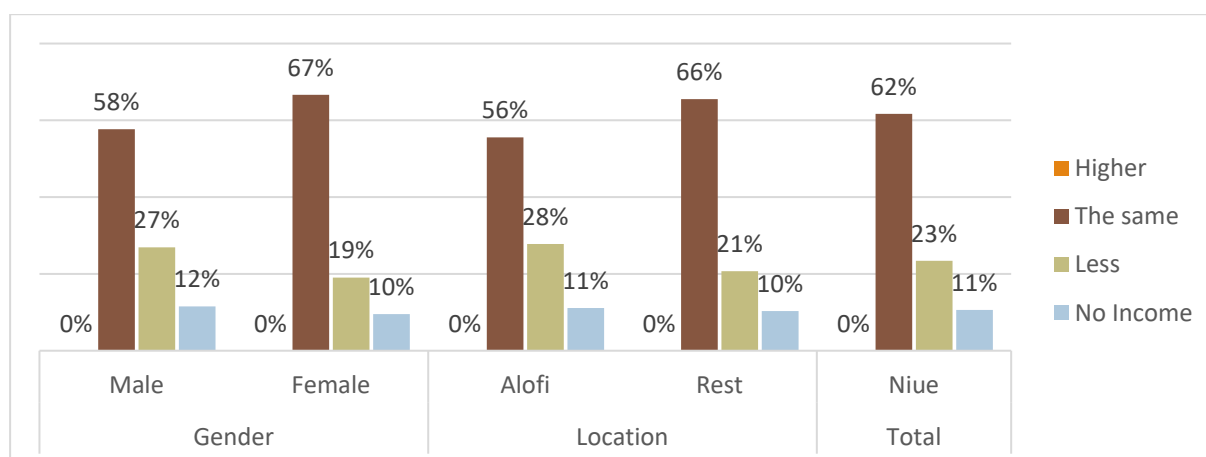


Figure 16: Incomes from Non-Farming business compared to before

Table 7: Incomes from Non-Farming business last month compared to month before April 2021

| | Respondent Gender | | Location | | Total |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------|----------|------|-------|
| | Male | Female | Alofi | Rest | Niue |
| Higher than usual | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| The same as usual | 58% | 67% | 56% | 66% | 62% |
| Less than usual | 27% | 19% | 28% | 21% | 23% |
| No Income | 12% | 10% | 11% | 10% | 11% |
| Numbers | 74 | 60 | 51 | 82 | 133 |
| % of all Respondents | 25% | 21% | 26% | 22% | 23% |

Table 8 gives the 45 Respondents' explanations for their reduced incomes, with 38% indicating a lack of demand and 13% attributing it to COVID specifically.

Table 8: Reason for reduced Income (% of Sub-Group)

| | Respondent Gender | | Location | | Total |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------|----------|------|-------|
| | Male | Female | Alofi | Rest | Niue |
| Lack of demand (general) | 30% | 50% | 50% | 17% | 38% |
| Lack of demand (covid) | 20% | 0% | 0% | 33% | 13% |
| Not financially viable | 10% | 0% | 0% | 17% | 6% |
| Lack of staff | 0% | 17% | 0% | 17% | 6% |
| Lack of time | 0% | 17% | 0% | 17% | 6% |
| Other | 10% | 17% | 10% | 17% | 13% |

Coping strategies of Businesses by change in income

Given that most businesses saw reduced or no income, it was thought useful to see what correlation there was with their coping strategies given their reduced incomes (Figure 17).

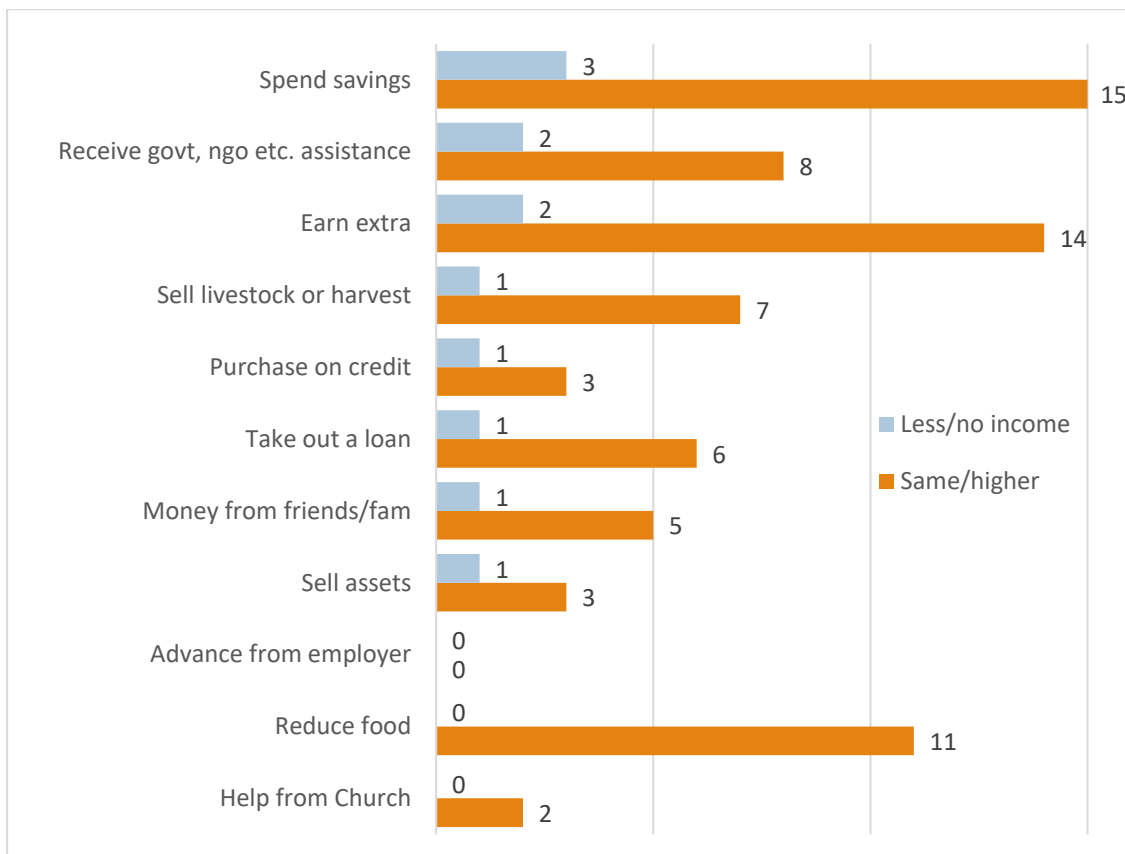


Figure 17: Coping strategies of businesses by change of income (numbers)

There was no particular correlation between the frequency of the extreme coping strategies and the direction of change of income.

The opposite might be the case, for instance, businesses whose incomes were higher receiving relatively more assistance from Government and NGOs than those whose incomes were lower.

It is difficult to make strong statements in the absence of cash values associated with transactions.

Working on Household Farm

An extremely high 74% of all Respondents worked on their HH farms, 71% on Alofi and 75% in Rest of Niue.

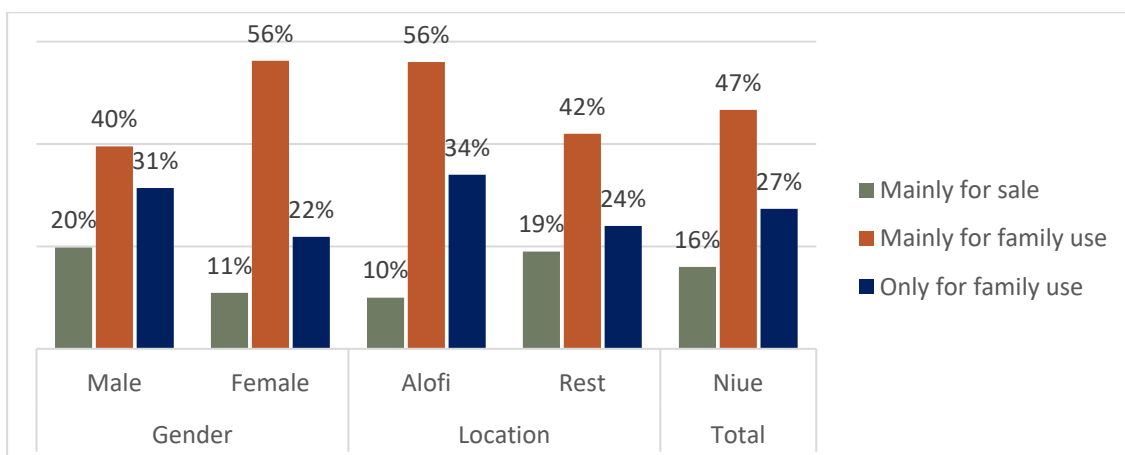


Figure 18: Purpose of Household Farming

A somewhat higher 83% of Males worked on their farms compared to 64% of Females. Some 16% of all Respondents farmed Mainly for Sale, while 47% did so mainly for family use. 27% did so Only for Family Use.

Table 9: Purpose of household farming

| | Respondent Gender | | Location | | Total |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------|----------|------|-------|
| | Male | Female | Alofi | Rest | Niue |
| Only for sale | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| Mainly for sale | 20% | 11% | 10% | 19% | 16% |
| Mainly for family use | 40% | 56% | 56% | 42% | 47% |
| Only for family use | 31% | 22% | 34% | 24% | 27% |
| Other | 9% | 11% | 0% | 15% | 10% |
| Number of Respondents | 244 | 182 | 142 | 284 | 426 |
| % of all Respondents | 83% | 64% | 71% | 75% | 74% |

Some 93% of those who did farming reported that they were able to operate normally since April 2021. Of the small number (28) of Respondents who said they were not able to operate normally, the reasons given were:

- a) Care for children: 11
- b) Increased material costs: 9
- c) Bad weather: 9
- d) Restricted travel: 6
- e) Lack of inputs: 6
- f) Lack of sales/transport: 6
- g) Illness: 6
- h) Lack of casual labour: 6

With such small numbers, there was little purpose to have disaggregation by gender or location, noting that a weighted number of 3 is equivalent to only 1 Respondent observation.

Of much greater significance is that large proportions of these Respondents reported No Income or Lower Income compared to pre-April 2021.

Table 10 (and Figure 19) comparing incomes from the family farm compared with those during the previous agricultural season.

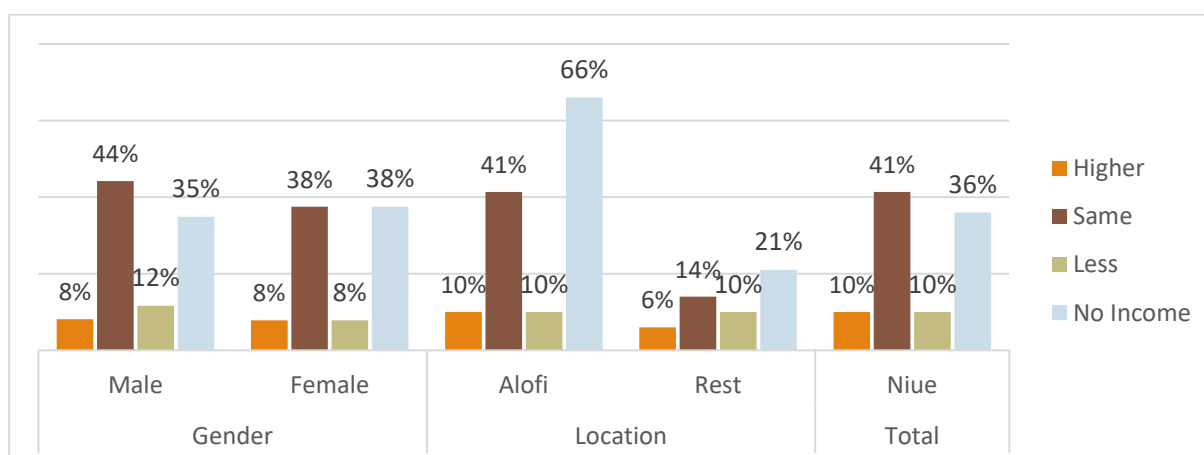


Figure 19: Farm income compared to last season (%)

While 41% had “The same as usual”, and 10% had “Higher than usual”, and 10% “Lower than usual”, a very large 36% reported “No income” at all.

66% of the Respondents on Alofi reported “No income”, while another 10% had “Less” than usual.

Table 10: Incomes from Farm compared to Last agricultural season

| | Respondent Gender | | Location | | Total |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------|----------|------|-------|
| | Male | Female | Alofi | Rest | Niue |
| Higher than usual | 8% | 8% | 10% | 6% | 10% |
| The same as usual | 44% | 38% | 41% | 14% | 41% |
| Less than usual | 12% | 8% | 10% | 10% | 10% |
| No Income | 35% | 38% | 66% | 21% | 36% |
| Numbers | 244 | 182 | 142 | 284 | 426 |

Coping strategies of those whose farming income was “Lower” or “None”

Given the high numbers of farmers indicating that they had “Less” than usual or “No income” compared to the previous season, it was thought useful to examine their responses on the coping strategies, given the change in their income.⁵ The ranking and numbers of the coping strategies might give some idea of the seriousness of their financial pressures.

Figure 20 gives the ranking by numbers for those whose farming incomes were Lower or None. The most frequent was the use of savings, but the numbers were equally divided between those who had the Same of Higher incomes, and those who had Lower or No incomes compared to the previous season.

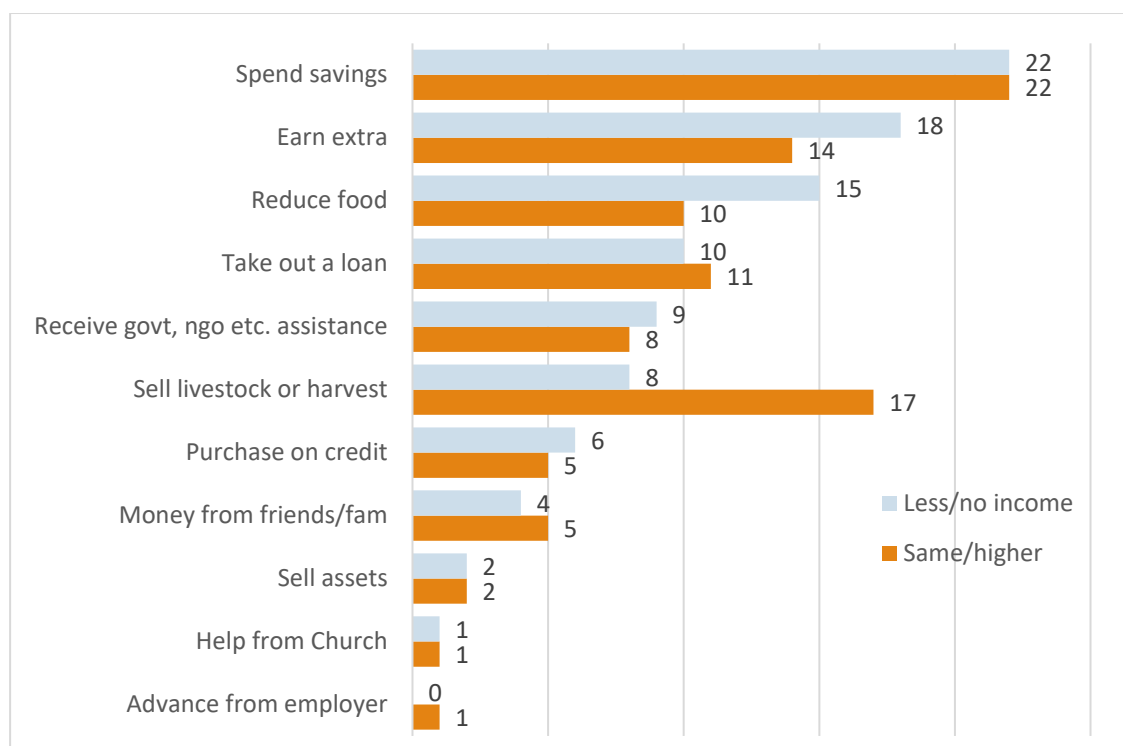


Figure 20: Coping strategies of farmers by change of income (numbers)

⁵ Although this was not specifically asked in the Questionnaire as a response to their change in income, it may be useful.

Those whose incomes had declined, resorted to trying to earn extra and reduce food consumption. Assistance from Government and other entities was lower down the list. There was no great difference in coping strategies between those whose incomes were “Lower/None” and those whose incomes were the “Same/Higher”.

Awareness of Government strategies

Right across Niue, a very large proportion (35%) of the Respondents said that they and members of their Households were “Not Aware” of the latest rollout of Government assistance through the COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan (ERP) (Figure 21).

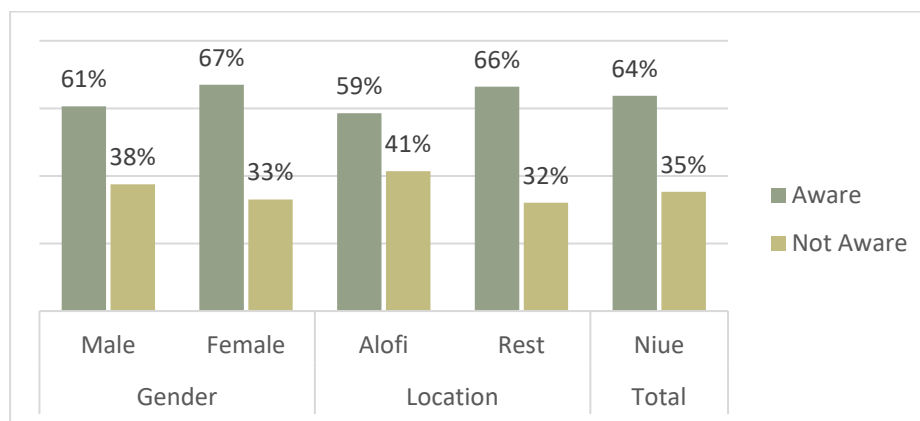


Figure 21: Awareness of Government assistance (%)

There were similar proportions in Alofi and the Rest.

Apart from the expected high percentage of Only Primary educated Respondents who might not be aware of the ERP (and 100% of the Females (1 Respondent!) with Only Primary Education), the highest percentage among the higher qualified respondents were the Tertiary educated Respondents (also the largest group with 35 Respondents), Figure 22. These are persons one would expect to be on top of Internet awareness of most current developments in COVID responses of Government and globally.

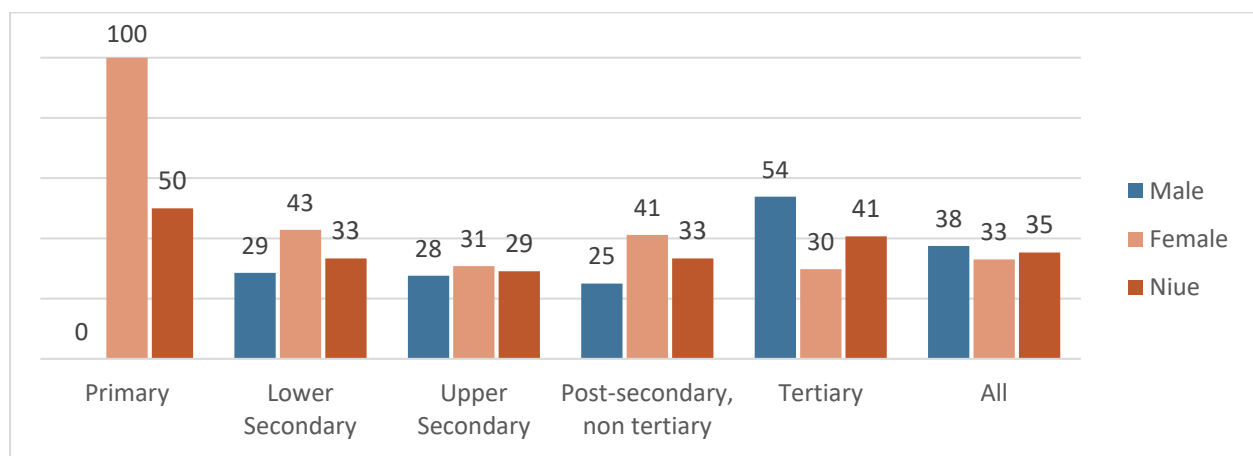


Figure 22: “Not aware” by highest qualification (%)

Coping strategies since April 2021⁶

Figure 23 gives some idea of the coping strategies, ranked by most popular, used by Households in Niue during the COVID pandemic. There are some significant gender differences.

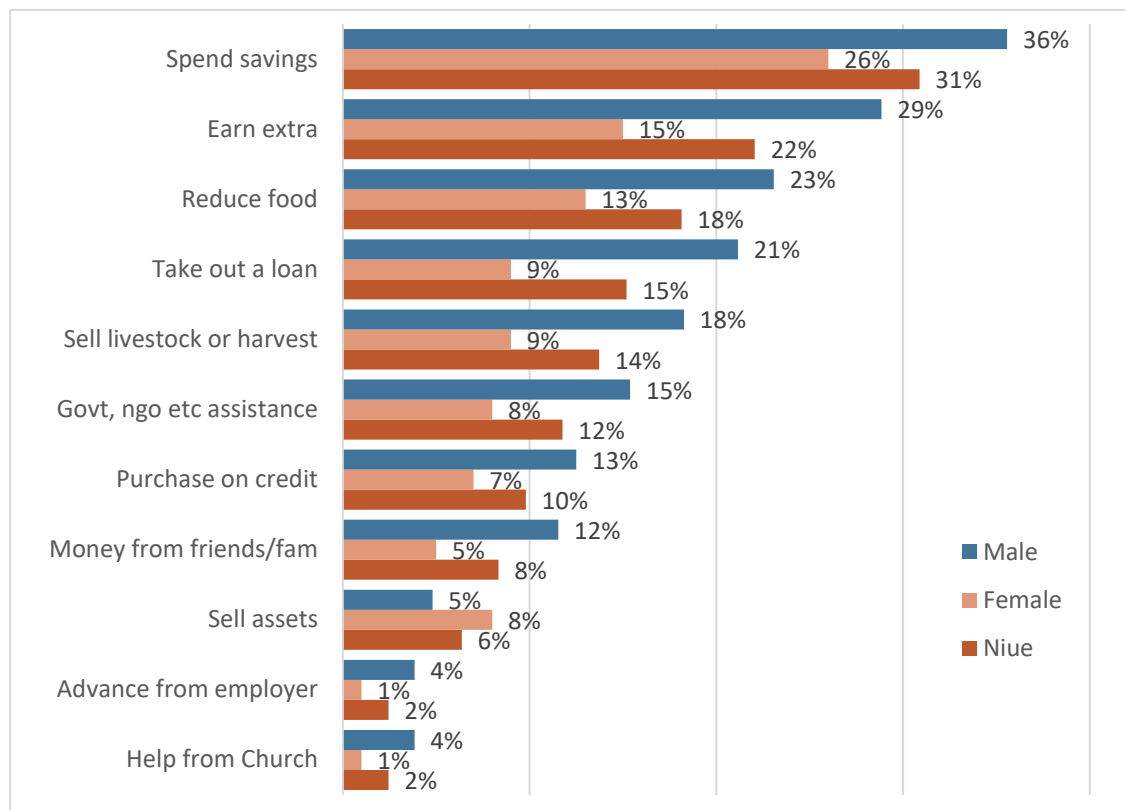


Figure 23: Coping strategies by gender (% of group)

The most popular (31% of Respondents) was to resort to the use of savings, although Females (26%) were less likely than Males (36%).

Then the next popular method was to try and earn extra (22%), with Males (29%) more likely to attempt that than Females (15%).

The next in popularity was to reduce food expenditure (18%), again with Females less likely to do this (13%) than Males (23%).

Males were more likely to take out loans (21%) compared to Females (9%); and purchase on credit (13%) compared to Females (7%).

Relying on Government assistance came way down the list, with only 12% of Respondents (8% of Females and 15% of Males) depending on handouts. This would seem to be a good measure of the self-reliance of Households in Niue.

All these coping strategies were more important than help from employers or Church.

Expectations of the future

As in RAS 1, RAS 2 also asked questions about the Respondents' expectations of the future.

⁶ The percentages given to the consultant were incorrect, with 579 as the denominator for all groups.

Basic needs being met

Niue residents' expectations about the future is given by Figure 24 which shows a uniform expectation that the basic needs of the Households in the next 12 months can be met.

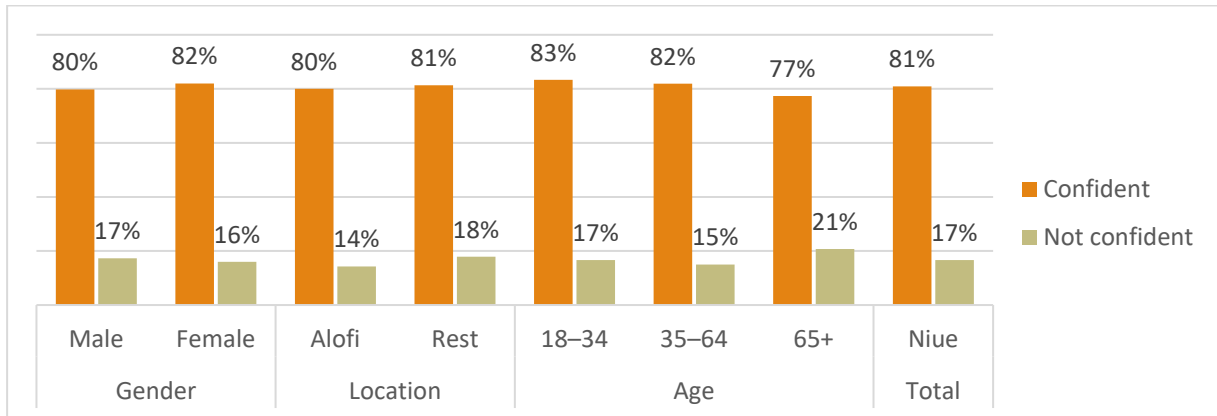


Figure 24: Confidence in basic needs being met, 12 months from now (%)

This is slightly higher than the 75% recorded from the RAS 1.

As in RAS 1, the older Respondents (65+) had the lowest degree of confidence (77%), but even this was higher than that in RAS 1.

There were insignificant differences between Alofi and the Rest, and between Males and Females.

Expected state of economy 12 months hence

Niue residents' expectation of the economy 12 months from now seems to have improved slightly for the better (Figure 25).

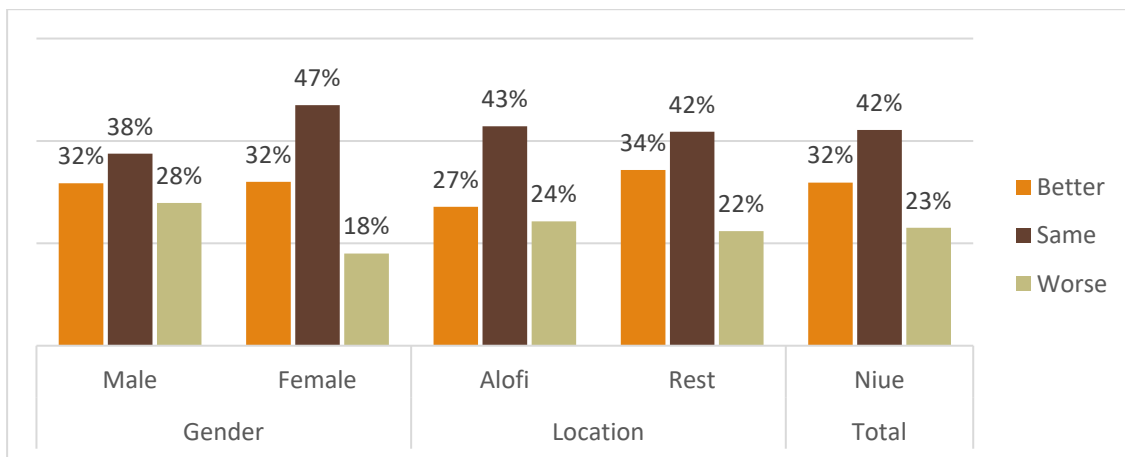


Figure 25: Expected state of economy, 12 months from now (%)

32% thought it would be Better while 23% thought it would be Worse. This can be compared with the results for RAS 1, where 28% expected it to be Better while 24% expected it to be Worse.

Similar improvements in the gap between Better and Worse also existed by Gender and Location, except for Alofi and Males in general.

Expectations of income 12 months from now

The high proportions of all Respondents who thought their incomes would be the Same (74%) or Better (14%). Only 10% thought it might be worse (Figure 26).

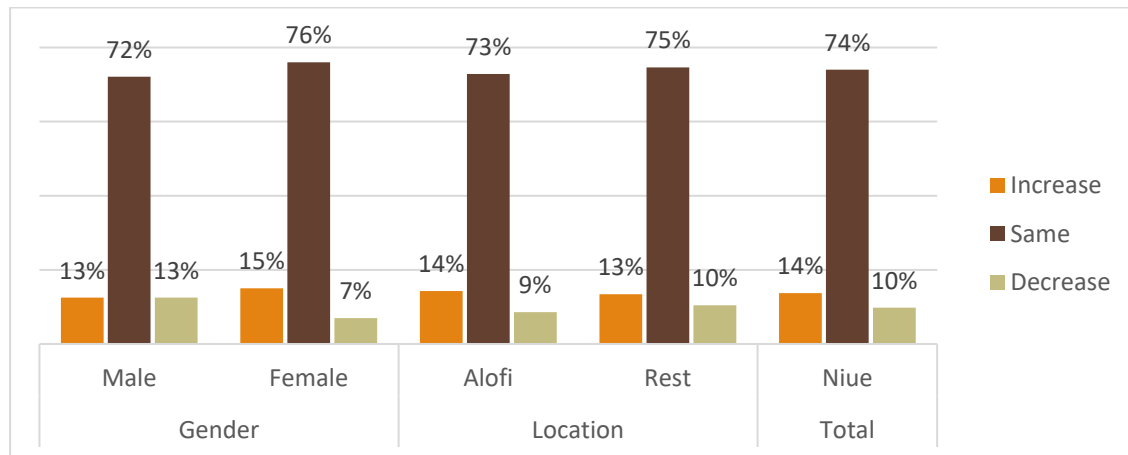


Figure 26: Expected income, 12 months from now (%)

This would indicate that Niue Respondents are far more settled about the future than they were when RAS 1 was conducted.

The patterns were similar for disaggregation by Gender or by Location.

The only deviation from the above pattern was with age group disaggregation, 96% of the 18–34 age group expecting their incomes to remain the same, while 4% thought it would get better. 0% of this young age group expected their incomes to be worse.

Expectations of savings 12 months hence

The expectations of Savings over the next 12 months mirrored those of the expectations on incomes.

69% of Respondents expected their savings to remain the same, while 12% expected better outcomes. Only 16% thought their savings might decrease (Figure 27).

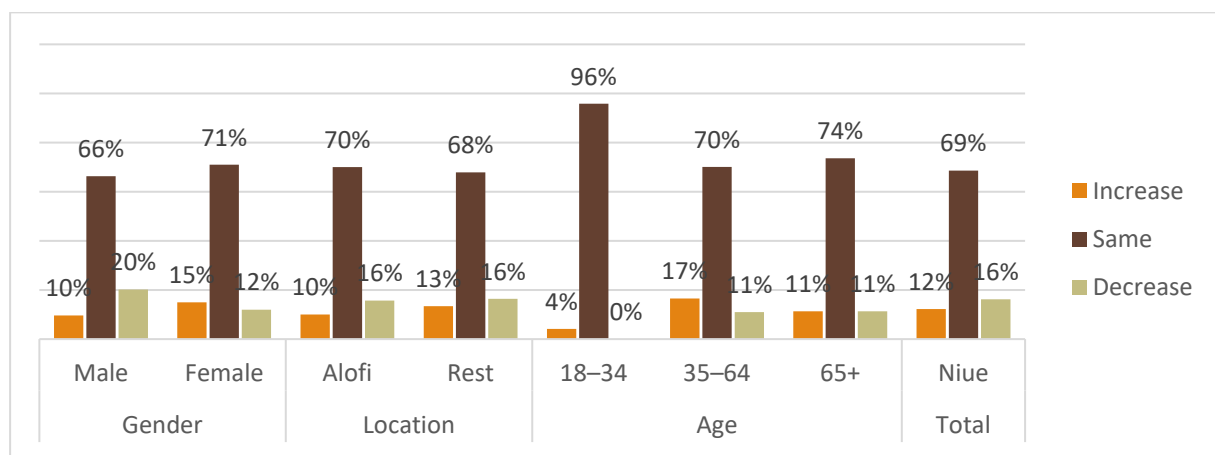


Figure 27: Expectation of saving over the next 12 months

These patterns were repeated on disaggregation by gender (Male/Female) and Location (Alofi/Rest).

96% of the age group (18–34) thought their savings would be the same and 4% expected an increase. None expected a decrease.

Expectations of spending over next 12 Months

Figure 28 suggests that Niue Respondents have quite high hopes for their spending over the next 12 months. While 52% expect the same as before, a large 37% are expecting higher spending, and only 9% are expecting less.

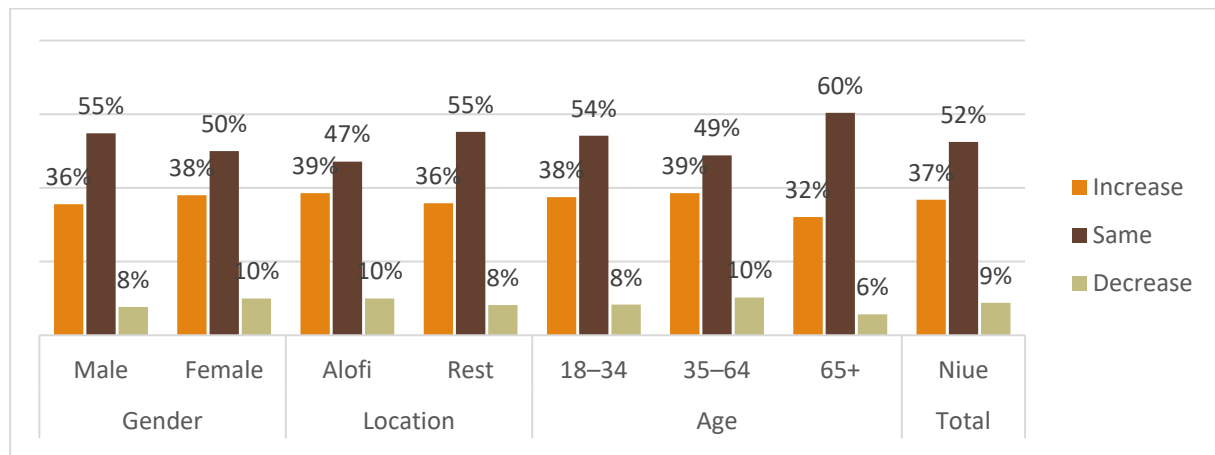


Figure 28: Expectation of spending over the next 12 months

This pattern is replicated across age groups, location and Gender.

Savings are the leftover of incomes after spending. One would expect that given the particular expectations of income over the next 12 months outlined above, the expectations on spending would need to be compatible with the expectations on saving (or vice versa).

Comparing these expectations on spending with those on income and savings suggests that Niue Respondents may be expecting a bit too much of their savings and/or spending (Figure 28).

Nevertheless, this Figure is a positive one in that Niue Respondents are by and large quite optimistic about their living standards in the future, even if all their expectations are not going to be met.

Health

Need for medical treatment

Figure 29 gives the percentages of Households whose members needed medical treatment, with 45% in aggregate for Niue. This is down from the 55% in RAS 1.

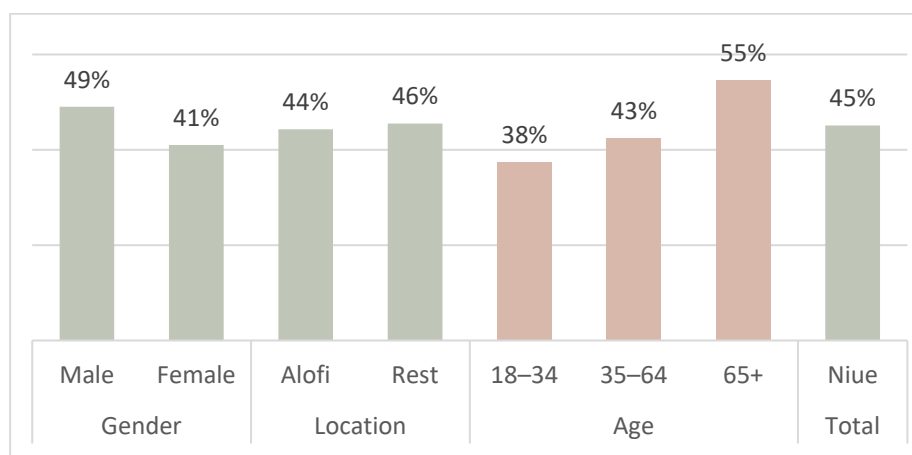


Figure 29: Needing medical treatment (%)

The Location were not particularly significant, although a slightly higher percentage of Males seemed to need treatment than Females.

However, as in RAS 1, the Households with older Respondents (65+) reported much higher percentages needing medical treatment (55%) compared with those in the (35–64) group (43%) and the (18–34) group (38%).

Some 98% of all those seeking medical treatment were able to receive it. Medical services in Niue would seem to be up to scratch.

Reaction to COVID-19 symptoms

Only 88% of all Respondents said they would definitely get tested, while 11% said “probably”, or “possibly” (Figure 30).

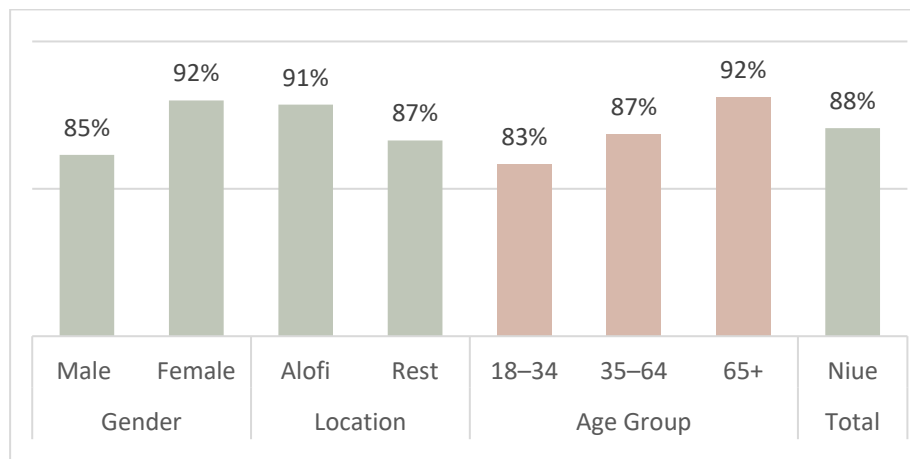


Figure 30: Definitely likely to be tested if symptomatic (%)

Those on Alofi and Female Respondents were more definite about being tested.

Disaggregation by age reveals the worrying trend that the younger Respondents were less likely to be definite about testing, with only 83% of those between the ages of 18–34 definite about being tested. On the other hand, 92% of those 65+ stated that they would definitely get tested, emphasizing the greater responsibility of the elderly again.

While one could generously interpret the “Possibles” and “Probables” as also in the “Definitely Testing” group, this cannot be taken for granted. All it needs is for one infected person who gets through Quarantine to circulate undetected, and cases could explode as they have in other Pacific countries.

COVID-19 precautions taken by Household since COVID-19 arrived

The WHO has very strong guidelines on how to discourage transmission of COVID: physical distancing, wearing a mask, keeping rooms well ventilated, avoiding crowds, cleaning your hands, and coughing into a bent elbow or tissue, roughly in that order. These are, of course, also advised by the New Zealand Ministry of Health (Annex 1).

The Niue Respondents to RAS 2 had a very different “order” of precautions as given by Figure 25. Physical Distancing was prioritized by only 56% of Respondents and Wearing a Mask by only 60%. Staying home, Disinfecting Surfaces, and Washing hands all had higher percentages (Figure 31).

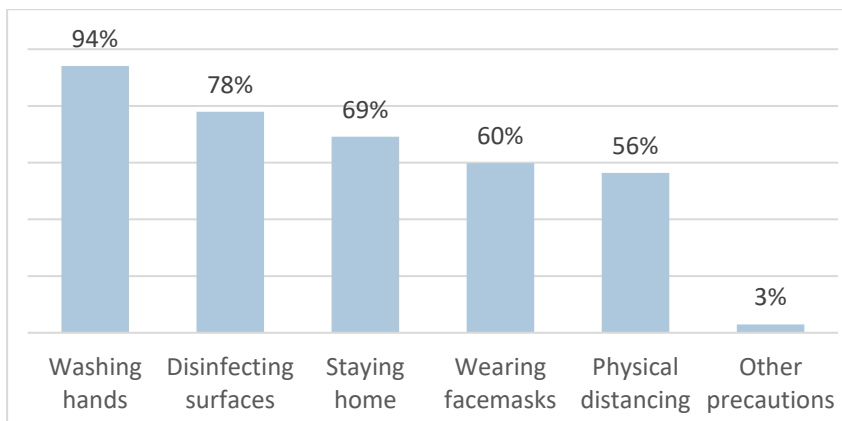


Figure 31: Precautions taken by Household, Niue

Figure 32 gives the percentages of Respondents and the Precautions taken by gender. There is clearly the same order of importance as the national order, with Male Respondents having a slightly higher percentage than Female Respondents, for each Precaution. This is unusual given that Females may be expected to be more safety conscious than Males.

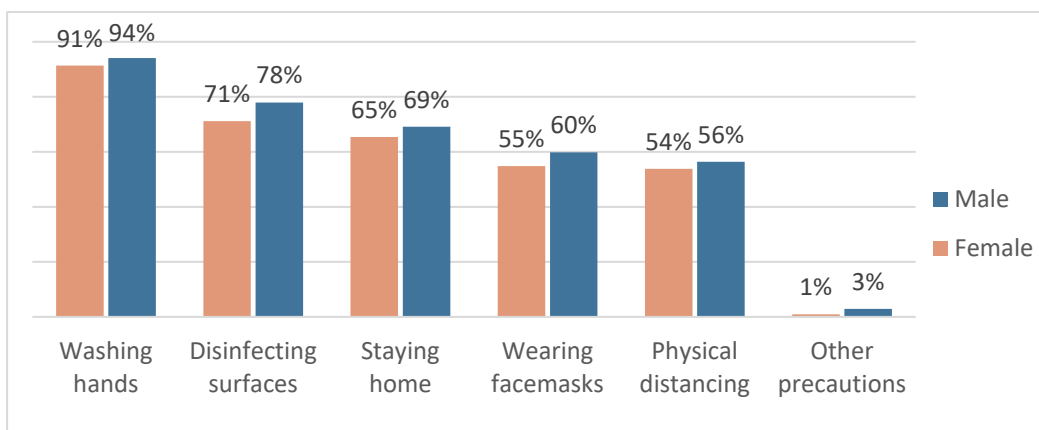


Figure 32: Precautions taken by Respondents, by gender (%)

Figure 33 gives the disaggregation by Location. The same ranking exists between all the Precautions. Alofi has a higher percentage of all the Precautions than the Respondents in the Rest of Alofi.

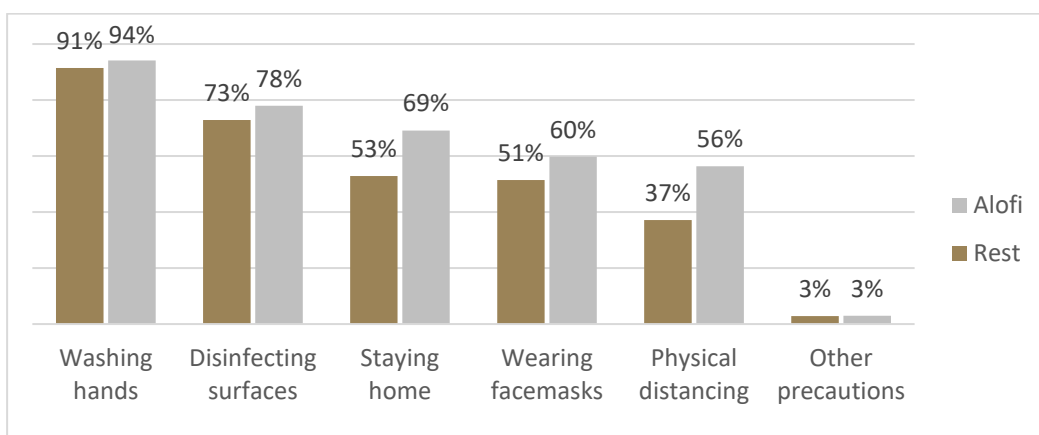


Figure 33: Precautions taken by Household, by location

Figure 34 gives the disaggregation by age brackets. Clearly, the elderly have a much higher percentage in most precautions than the other age groups.

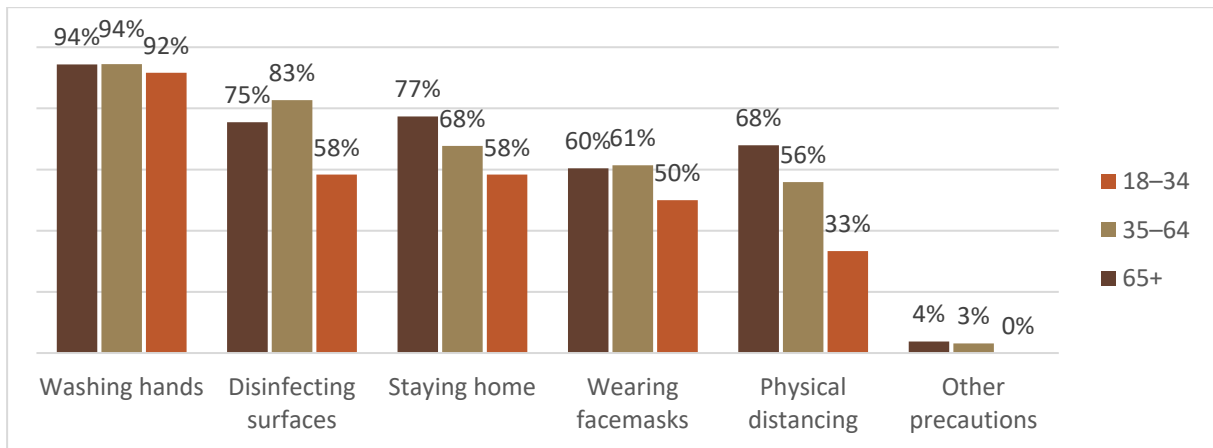


Figure 34: Precautions taken by Household, by age bracket

Mental health

It has been globally recognized that COVID-19 has given rise to many mental health issues in society, especially where the population or specific groups have felt unduly restricted by the COVID precautions. This is a difficult section to analyse for changes since EAS 1, because no such questions were asked in RAS 1. Nevertheless, these responses can set some benchmarks against which future responses may be judged.

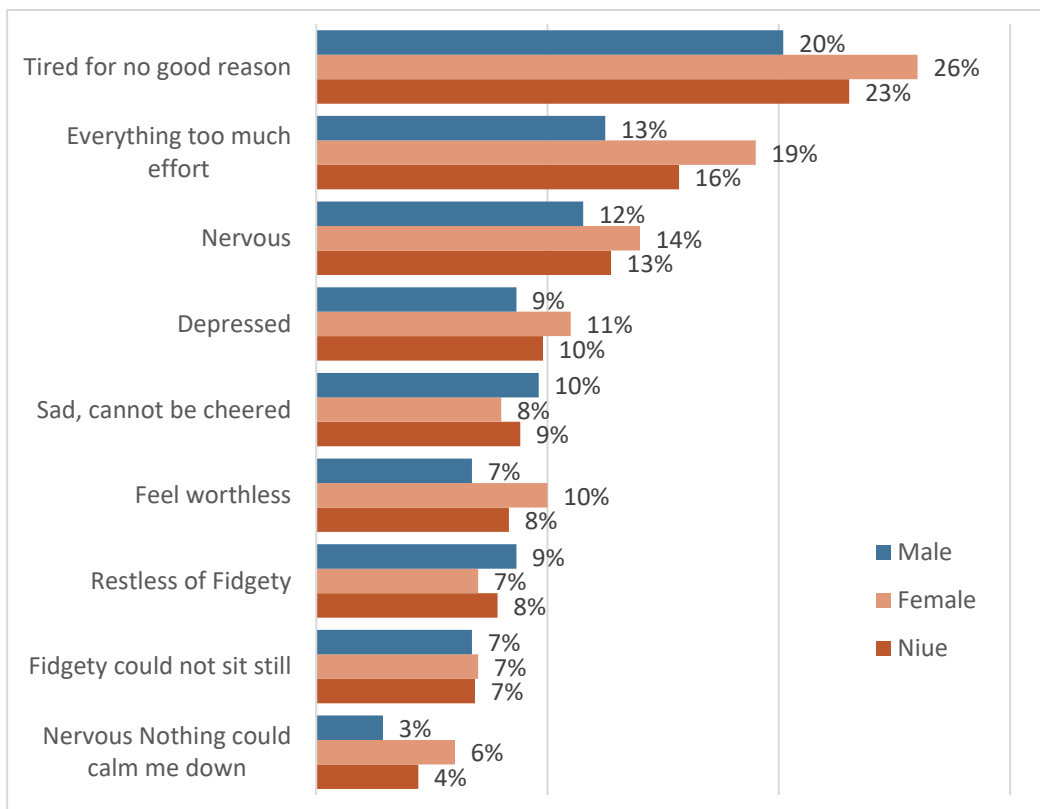


Figure 35: Mental state by gender, Niue

An arbitrary judgement was made that, feeling the negative sentiments “A little of the time” could well be considered a “normal” response for most people.

The responses rate to “All of the time” were uniformly low (3% or less) and probably not statistically significant given that 3% is the equivalent of 1 response in the sample.

However, combining “Some of the time”, “Most of the time” and “All of the time” into an aggregate figure may produce some useful results. Figure 35 gives the ranking of the responses to all the mental question concerns. The proportions indicating feeling Depressed (10%), Sad and unable to be cheered (9%) and Feeling Worthless (8%) may warrant attention from Niue health authorities.

There are gender differences (not all with the same relativity) to all of these mental health issues which the experts may wish to comment on.

Analysing those who feel “Depressed”, “Some”, “Most” or “All of the time” has the somewhat expected age profile that the elderly Respondents are slightly more Depressed and Sad than the young.

| | Depressed | Sad |
|------------|-----------|-----|
| Ages 65+ | 11% | 11% |
| Ages 35–64 | 9% | 9% |
| Ages 18–34 | 8% | 4% |

Quarantine free travel with New Zealand

The Responses to Question P1 which asked “how do you feel about the likelihood of two-way quarantine free travel between New Zealand and Niue” is important for the future travels in and out of Niue.

While one would have thought that there would be universal approval, some 30% of the Respondents were “Somewhat negative” or “Very Negative” (Figure 36).

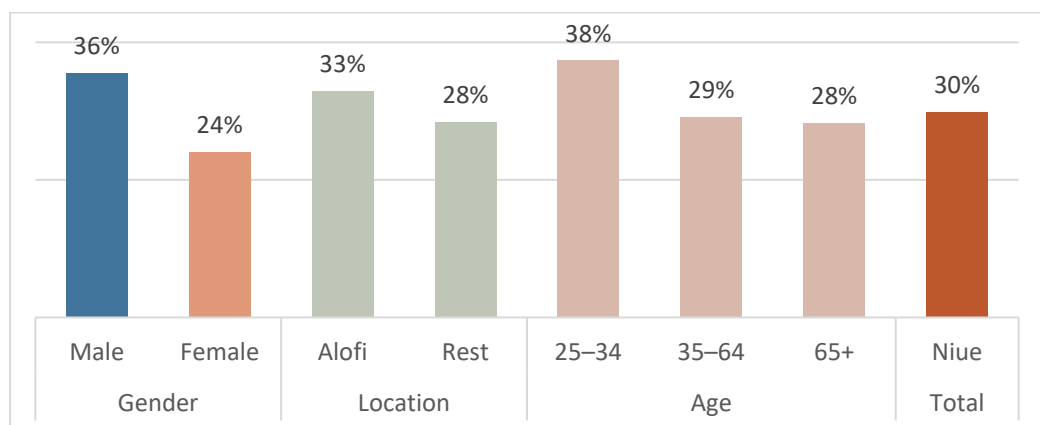


Figure 36: Negative to QFT with New Zealand (%)

Alofi residents (33%) were more negative than the Rest (28%) and Males (36%) were more negative than Females (24%). The latter might be surprising to some given that Females can be expected to be more cautious.

The patterns were also reversed when disaggregating by age, with the youngest Respondents being more negative (38%) than the older ones (28% and 29%).

These patterns were even more exacerbated in the responses to Question P2: How SAFE do you feel about the preparations to opening the border for QFT with New Zealand, with the latest

COVID-19 development?⁷ An even higher 37% feel unsafe or are opposed to the QFT altogether (Figure 37).

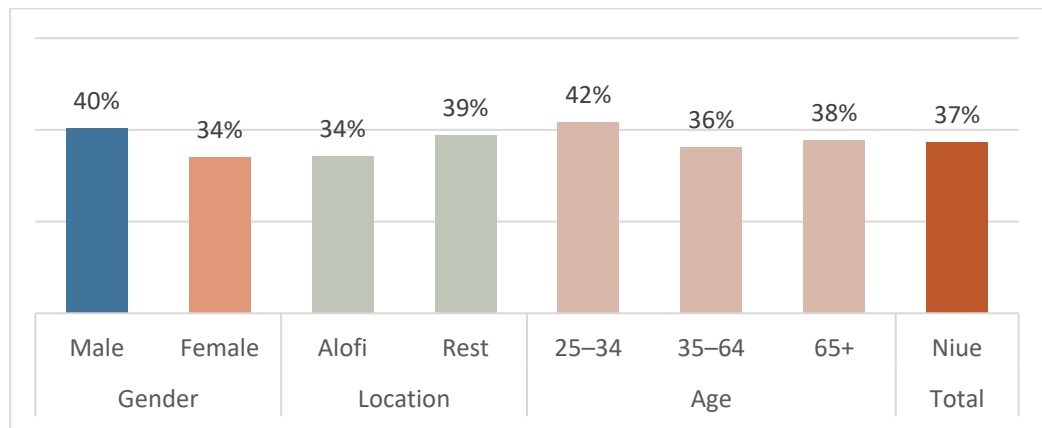


Figure 37: “Don’t feel safe about the preparation for QFT” as opposed to QFT with New Zealand

There was a slightly higher percentage of the younger Respondents in this category (42%) than the older generations (38% and 36%).

There were slightly higher proportions of the Males (40%) than Females (34%). Again, slightly higher proportions from the Rest of Niue (39%) than Alofi (34%).

While one might have thought that the disaggregated differences are not statistically significant, it may be observed that the overall pattern of responses to Question P2 are almost similar to the pattern of responses to P1, so may be relied upon.

Anti-social events

Prevalence of Anti-Social Events

RAS 2 asked (Question P3) whether any of the listed anti-social events had occurred before in the community.⁸ The highest recorded was “Theft” experienced by 20%, followed by alcohol and drug use (17%), verbal abuse (16%) etc., as in Figure 38.

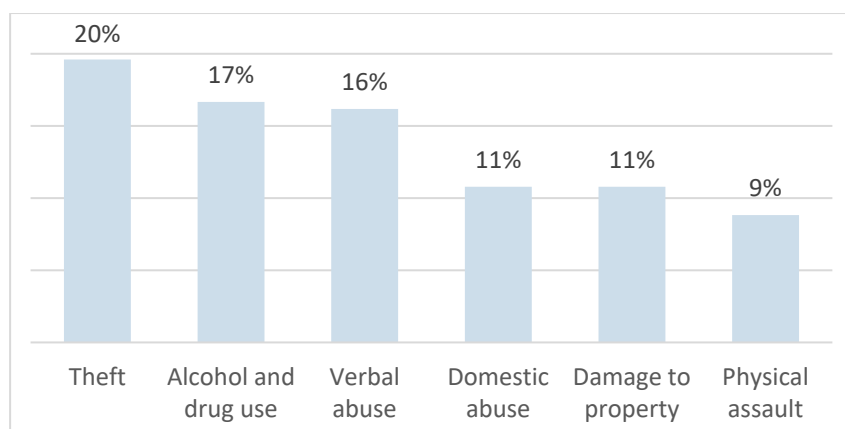


Figure 38: Prevalence of anti-social events (%), Niue

⁷ I give the full question from the questionnaire in case there are some subtleties which are not conveyed by the English translation. For instance, are these the Respondent responses to the QFT or the “preparations” to the QFT?

⁸ There was no reference time frame.

It should be noted that the question did not ask whether these anti-social events had been experienced by the Respondent/Household or had been merely observed “in the community”. In the latter case, multiple Respondents may have observed the same one anti-social event, although the response might suggest multiple events.

The following disaggregated responses are given, assuming that the responses relate to the immediate vicinity of the HH.

Thus, Figure 39 indicates that compared to Males, Female Respondents reported somewhat higher percentages than Males of “Alcohol and drug use” (18% and 15%), “Verbal abuse” (21% and 12%), “Domestic abuse” (12% and 10%), and “Physical assault” (10% and 8%). Males only reported higher proportions than Females in Theft (21% and 18%) and “Damage to property” (13% and 8%).

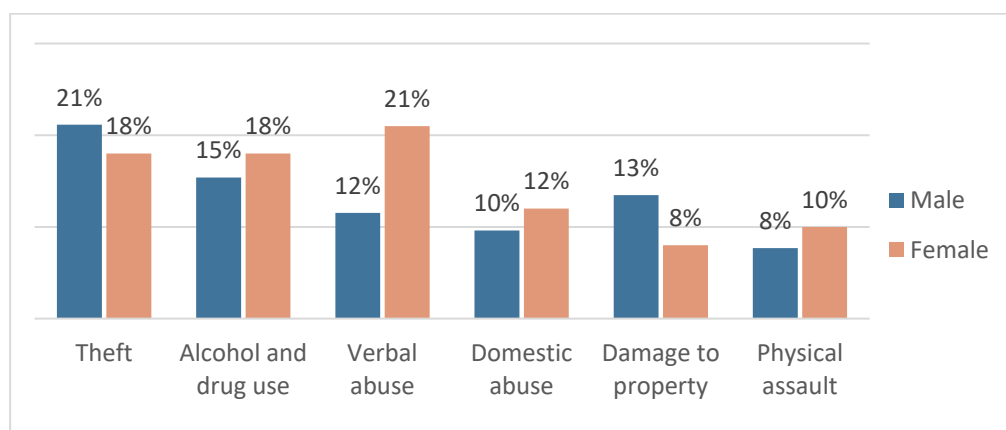


Figure 39: Prevalence of anti-social events (%), gender

One “positive” result is indicated by Figure 40 which suggests that for all these anti-social events, the oldest age group (65+) reported slightly or significantly lower prevalence rates than younger Respondents.

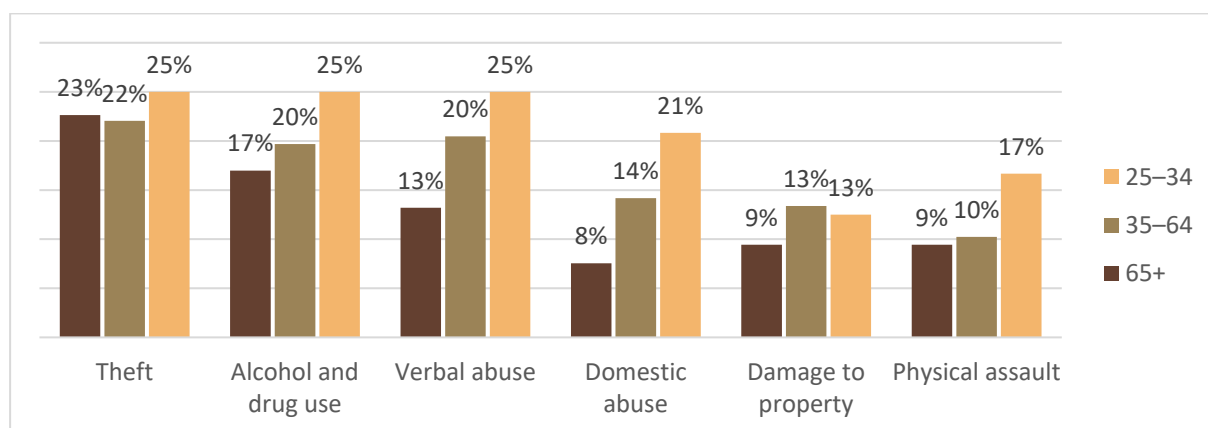


Figure 40: Prevalence of anti-social events (%), age group

It is not clear whether this is the reality of what prevails for their Households or influenced perhaps by their lower social interaction and mobility in society.

Changes in anti-social events since April 2021

Figure 41 should be extremely encouraging for the Niue Government and society showing that far higher proportions of the Respondents feel that the anti-social events (except for alcohol and drug abuse) have become better. Very small proportions feel that they have gone worse.

Large proportions see improvement to Theft (53%), Damage to Property (36%) Domestic Abuse (36%) and Physical assault (28%). Only in Alcohol and Drug Abuse do equal proportions (18%) feel that they have gotten better and worse.

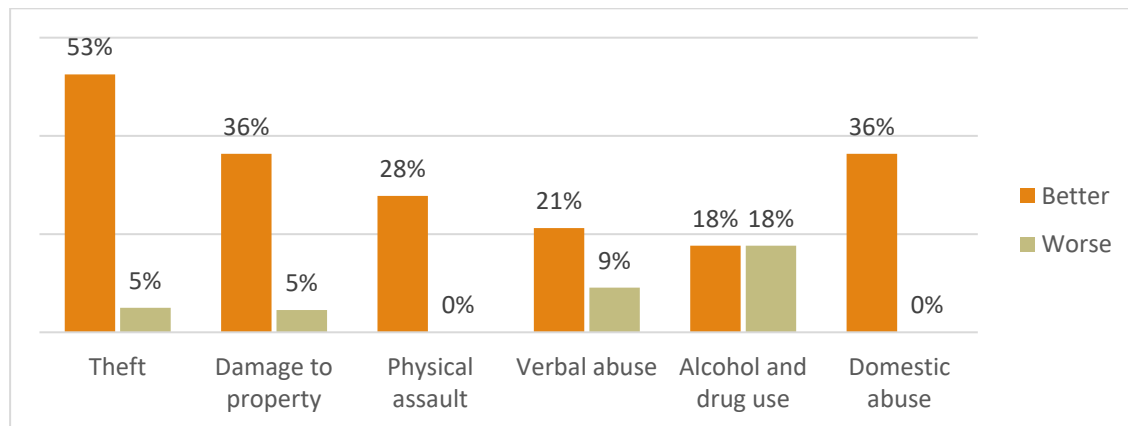


Figure 41: Events “Better” or “Worse” since April 2021 (%)

But disaggregation by Gender makes the situation far more complex than it appears. For each and every antisocial event, much higher proportions of Males feel that the situation has gotten better while much smaller percentages of Females feel the same (Figure 42):

- a) Domestic Abuse: (25% and 50%),
- b) Alcohol and Drug Use: (0% and 38%)
- c) Verbal Abuse: (10% and 42%)
- d) Physical assault: (20% and 38%)
- e) Damage to Property: (0% and 57%)
- f) Theft: (44% and 59%)

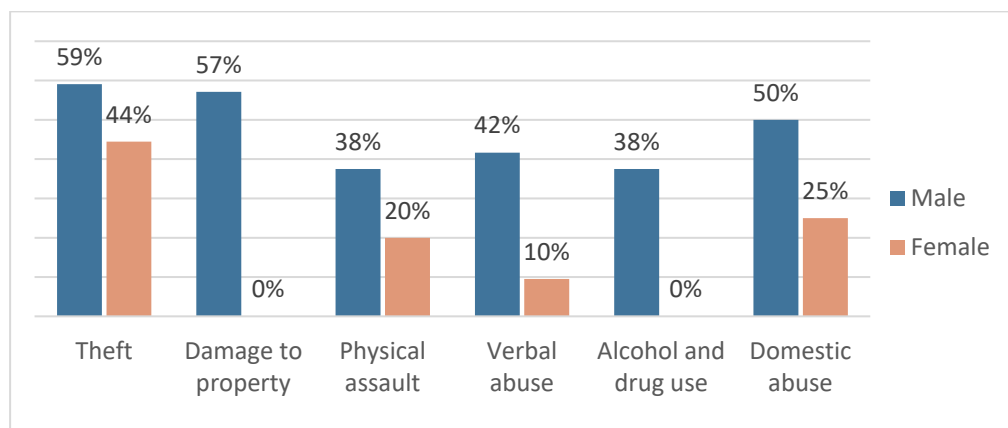


Figure 42: Respondents feeling events “Better” (%), by gender

There are unusual gender differences on events which appear to have gotten worse. 0% of Females thought that Theft had got worse, compared to 9% of Males (Figure 43). Similarly, 0% of Females thought Damage to property had got worse compared to 7% of Males. These relativities in gender responses were similar for Domestic Abuse, Alcohol and Drug Abuse and Verbal abuse.

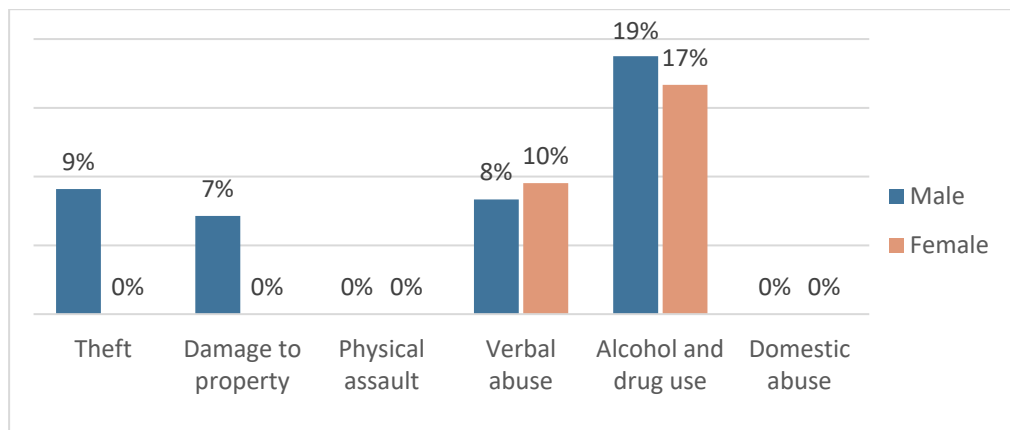


Figure 43: Respondents feeling events “Worse” (%), by gender

0% of both Males and Females though that domestic abuse and physical assault had got worse.

The general picture is one of overall improvement in all the anti-social events, suggesting that the Niue community has risen to the challenge very well, with the solitary exception of alcohol use, phenomenon observed as a global response to COVID.

Recommendations for Government and Stakeholders

Public Health and COVID Preparedness

- Strengthen public education campaigns on COVID transmission and effective precautions (e.g., mask use, distancing).
- Increase outreach to younger populations who show lower likelihood of testing when symptomatic.
- Ensure all households have access to emergency kits and preparedness resources.

Economic Support and Employment

- Target unemployment interventions, where rates are significantly higher.
- Support non-farming businesses facing reduced demand through tailored financial aid or market stimulation.
- Provide training and support for informal sector workers and farmers to diversify income sources.

Remittances and Financial Resilience

- Monitor remittance flows and provide support to households experiencing reduced inflows.
- Encourage financial literacy and savings programs, especially for younger age groups.

Government Communication and Awareness

- Improve dissemination of information about government assistance programs, particularly to tertiary-educated and rural populations.
- Use multiple channels (radio, social media, community networks) to ensure inclusive communication.

Mental Health and Social Well-being

- Expand mental health services and outreach, especially for elderly and female populations reporting higher distress.
- Address anti-social behaviours through community engagement and support services.

Travel and Border Management

- Address public concerns about Quarantine-Free Travel (QFT) with New Zealand through transparent communication and safety assurances.
- Align Niue's travel protocols with New Zealand's best practices to maintain public confidence.

Gender and Vulnerability

- Develop targeted poverty alleviation programs for women, who are disproportionately below the BNPL.
- Ensure gender-sensitive approaches in all COVID-19 response and recovery initiatives.

Annex 1: COVID-19 in New Zealand

Because of the importance of travel to and from New Zealand for Niue people, it is vital that Niue people be fully cognizant of COVID developments and government regulations in New Zealand and in the communities they are likely to be associating within New Zealand.

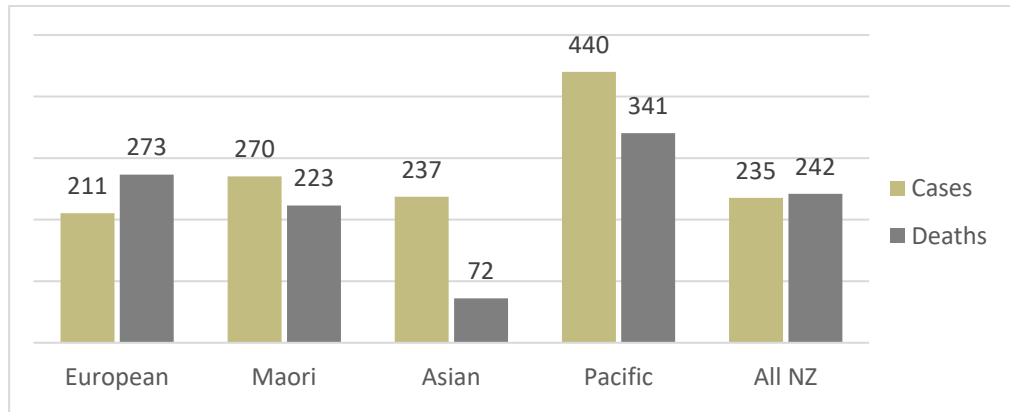


Figure 44: COVID cases and deaths

Communities of Pacific Island origin have been more adversely affected than other ethnic groups and New Zealand on average (Figure 44).⁹

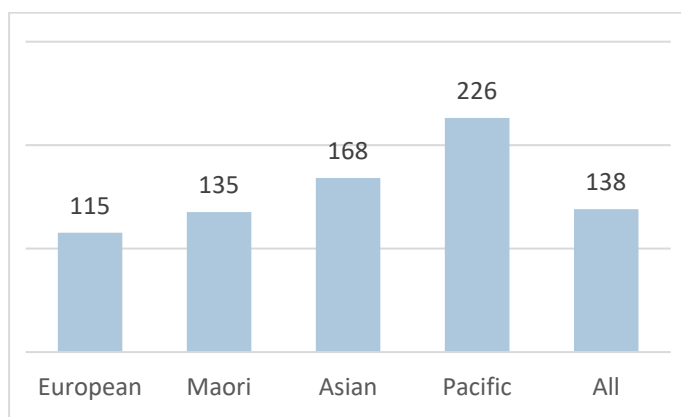


Figure 45: Tests per 100 people

The rates of Cases per Thousand population (440) and Deaths per million (141) are both higher than the New Zealand average (235 and 242, respectively) and for other ethnic groups Maori (270 and 223) and Asian (237 and 72), respectively.

There is some food for thought in the relatively lower rate of Asian deaths per million (72) compared to their cases per thousand (237).

One plus from the New Zealand Ministry of Health Statistics is that the people of Pacific Island origin have higher rates of testing per 100 people than other ethnic groups and New Zealand in general.

despite the much higher ratios of cases and deaths per population, the current (14th June 2022) situation is that people of ethnic Pacific Island origin have almost half (4.1%) of the New Zealand average of Active Cases per 100 people (8.0%), and lower than that of other ethnic groups.

⁹ These are based on statistics on the NEW ZEALAND Ministry of Health website (as at 14/06/2022).

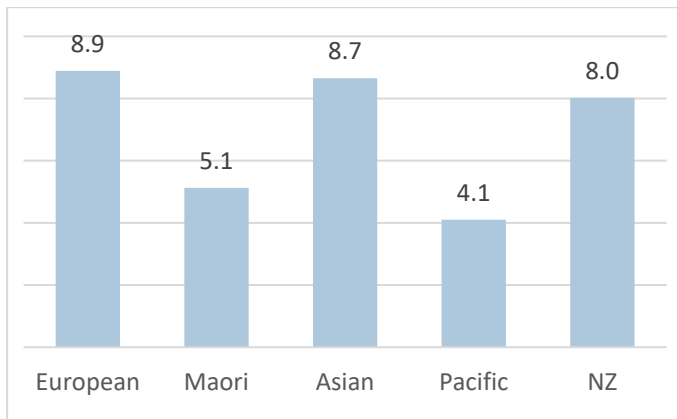


Figure 46: Active cases per 1000 people

New Zealand is in Phase 3 of its Omicron Response Plan and at Alert Level Orange in its COVID Protection Framework (of traffic lights).¹⁰ All residents are advised to wear face masks, especially in poorly ventilated spaces and where physical distancing was difficult.

New Zealand's vaccination rate has reached 96% for first doses, 95% for second doses and 71% for boosters.

New Zealanders have been given clear advice on the three main ways by which COVID-19 spreads:

- a) breathing in air that contains infectious particles which land on your mouth, nose or eyes (for example, through being coughed or sneezed on)
- b) touching your mouth, nose or eyes when your hands have been contaminated by the virus, either through direct contamination, or
- c) indirectly by touching surfaces contaminated with the virus.

New Zealanders are advised to get their COVID Booster shot, to Mask Scan and Pass wherever they go, and practice good hygiene and physical distancing. It is also pointed out that while it is still important to clean surfaces to reduce the risk, transmission from surfaces is the least common.

Anyone developing COVID-19 symptoms¹¹ are strongly advised to get themselves tested immediately.

All the above advice is appropriate for Niue's population also, especially when Quarantine Free Travel (QFT) with New Zealand comes into force and is practiced.

Vaccinated visitors from visa waiver countries can travel to New Zealand and from midnight 31 July 2022, the border will be open to all tourists and visa holders.

¹⁰ Retrieved from New Zealand Ministry of Health website (14/6/2022)

¹¹ New or worsening cough, sneezing and runny nose, fever, temporary loss of smell or altered sense of taste, sore throat, shortness of breath, and fatigue/feeling of tiredness. The RAS 2 Questionnaire asked a question on the prevalence of some these symptoms.

Annex 2: Survey methods summary, Niue COVID-19 Rapid Assessment Survey (RAS) – Round 2

Introduction and objectives

- Statistics Niue developed and implemented the 2020–22 COVID-19 Rapid Assessment Survey (RAS) to help evaluate and inform the Government's COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery initiatives. Statistics New Zealand and SPC's Statistics for Development Division (SDD) provided technical assistance to CISO. New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) funded the survey.
- Broadly, the survey aims to collect information on the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 on Niue's Households and people over time. The primary objective of the survey is to reliably estimate key COVID-19 indicators at the National level.

Survey methodology, scope and coverage

- Statistics Niue adopted the High Frequency Phone Monitoring (HFPM) COVID-19 survey methodology developed by the World Bank (WB) as the starting point for its COVID-19 RAS. Statistics Niue and Statistics New Zealand further adapted the survey methodology (frame, sample design, collection mode, questionnaire, etc.) to ensure it was relevant to the Niue context and COVID-19 situation.
- The scope of the 2020–22 COVID-19 RAS is all Households in Niue, living in occupied private dwellings. Within each selected sample HH, one HH member aged 18+ and available for interview will be identified and confirmed as the HH respondent.
- To better measure changes over time, Niue's COVID-19 RAS was developed as a repeated, panel survey. Whilst four quarterly survey rounds were planned originally, Statistics Niue's commitments to the 2021 Niue Agriculture Census meant two rounds were run in the end, with Statistics New Zealand agreement. In the 2nd and final round, the aim of data collection was to revisit and conduct interviews at the private dwellings whose Households participated in round 1. In many but not all cases, the same HH and respondent from round 1 were reinterviewed in round 2.

Survey content and questionnaire

- Information needs for the survey were determined through a combination of consultation with key Government stakeholders, consideration of Niue's COVID-19 situation and response, and – in round 2 – lessons learnt from the round 1 results. These in turn informed Statistics Niue's decisions on the survey content for each round.
- The following table summarises the key similarities and differences between the round 1 (R1) and round 2 (R2) questionnaire topic modules. In addition, the reference period for round 2 questions was updated where relevant, and some other minor changes were also made – e.g. to the order of questionnaire modules, wording, response options, etc.

| Questionnaire module | In R 1? | In R2? | Key similarities/differences between R1 and R2 |
|--|---------|--------|---|
| Household Identification/Basic Information | Y | Y | All R1 questions repeated in R2. Extra (enumerator only) question in R2 to confirm whether the same respondent as R1. Extra options added in R2 to record origin/destination (Within Niue or Overseas) of members that joined/left the HH since R1. |
| Knowledge Regarding (Spread of) COVID-19 | Y | Y | All new questions in R2, focusing on: whether/how people have been keeping updated on the latest COVID-19 information, HH and community preparedness for a positive COVID-19 case in Niue, and use of ROCKSAFE QR card for contact tracing. |
| Employment and Income Loss | Y | Y | Most R1 questions repeated in R2. R1 question regarding receipt of Govt benefit payments replaced in R2 by a wider question on sources of HH income (including Govt benefits). |
| Coping Strategies | Y | Y | All R1 questions repeated in R2, with the R1 question about selling livestock or harvest now a response option in the previous question, plus some changes to order, wording and response options (e.g., to combine receipt of assistance from Government, NGO, or a community-based organization into one response option in R2). Extra questions in R2 about: HH awareness of latest rollout of Govt Government assistance through COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan; expected HH income, saving and expenditure over next 12 months. |
| Access to Food and Food Insecurity | Y | N | Module removed for R2. |
| Health (Access and COVID-19 vaccination) | Y | Y | R1 Health Access questions repeated in R2, but COVID-19 vaccination questions removed. Extra questions in R2 on: awareness of COVID-19 symptoms; likelihood of getting tested if symptoms of COVID-19 present in HH; reasons for not getting tested; COVID-19 precautions taken; and mental health and well-being over past 30 days. |
| Public Trust and Security | Y | Y | Some R1 questions repeated in R2. R1 questions on trust and social relations (within/outside community) and feelings of safety (in relation to physical violence and goods owned) removed in R2. Extra R2 questions on: feelings about likelihood of two-way quarantine-free travel with New Zealand; and feelings about preparations for and safety of the border opening given latest COVID-19 developments. |
| Interview Result (enumerator only) | Y | Y | Most R1 enumerator/survey notes repeated in R2. R1 questions regarding preferred method, day and time of follow-up contact dropped in R2, given it is the last round of the survey. Extra question in R2 to record how the interview was carried out (Face to face, Phone, Self-completed, Other) |

- The questionnaire contained a mixture of question types – some seeking information about the HH as a whole and others seeking information about an individual HH member (the respondent).
- Statistics Niue developed the questionnaire for both round 1 and round 2 as a paper form, for interviewers to complete when with the respondent, i.e. Paper Assisted Personal Interviewing (PAPI). The average interview length target for both rounds was 15–20 minutes.

Sample design

- The Department of Justice, Lands and Survey provided Statistics Niue with an up-to-date list of occupied residential buildings in Niue in February 2021.

- Occupied non-private dwellings (e.g. tourist accommodation, church accommodation) were removed from this listing, to create the final sample frame for the COVID-19 RAS. This frame contains 579 Households and covers 100% of the in-scope population.
- The budget for the survey allowed for a maximum achieved sample size of 250 Households, and Statistics Niue requested a sample fraction cap of ~40%. Within these constraints, a simple random sample design was chosen, and 208 (or 36% of) Households living in private occupied dwellings were randomly selected for interview across Niue.
- An additional set of 83 replacement (or B sample) Households was also selected to pre-empt Households that could not be contacted or were unable to participate in the survey (e.g. due to absences, refusals).

Data collection, capture and processing

- As in round 1, ten interviewers plus a data entry operator were employed by Statistics Niue for the data collection phase in round 2, with all but one having been employed in round 1 or on previous Statistics Niue surveys/censuses. Prior to each round of the survey, Statistics Niue – in the role of field supervisor – provided comprehensive face-to-face survey training to this group.
- Data collection for round 2 was conducted across Niue over a six-week period, commencing April 1st, 2022 (a year to the day from the start of round 1 data collection, which was conducted over a three-week period). In both rounds, Statistics Niue undertook regular field monitoring throughout the data collection phase to assure the quality of the data.
- An extended round 2 data collection period was required for a number of reasons: detection of COVID-19 at Niue's border in early March, resulting in an increase to the Covid-19 alert level and the need for additional health and safety precautions for both surveyors and respondents; some respondents requesting to fill in the forms themselves and return to the surveyor; one surveyor having to leave Niue mid-way through the field work; three public holidays falling in mid-late April; and supervisor intervention being required to secure responses from some Households and achieve a high response rate.
- A 98% response rate was achieved in round 2 (compared with 100% in round 1) when HH replacements are allowed for (11% in round 2, in addition to 17% in round 1). 204 Households and respondents were successfully interviewed across Niue in round 2 (compared with 208 in round 1), with a sample retention rate of 88% of Households and 74% of respondents between rounds.
- Following the collection phase for each round, the data entry operator electronically captured the data from the paper forms into Excel. Statistics Niue then carried out quality assurance checks on the data entry. Final data processing, including data validity and consistency checks, was then conducted by both Statistics Niue and Statistics New Zealand, with any resulting data queries followed up with the interviewers. Relatively minor data editing and recoding was required to produce the final dataset.

Weighting, estimation and error measurement

- Each round, weights for each Household/Respondent were calculated based on the achieved sample sizes. These weights account for the HH selection probabilities and any non-responding Households. No further adjustments were made to the sample selection weights (e.g., to benchmark survey estimates to known population totals).
- The weights for each round were attached to the corresponding final dataset. These final datasets were then used to produce weighted estimates – counts and percentages of Households/Respondents – for all the indicators collected in each round of the survey.
- Sample errors were calculated for the key COVID-19 estimates or indicators in each round. The table below provides some examples from round 2:

| | National | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|-------|
| | Estimate (%) | Standard Error (%) | 95% Confidence Interval bounds (%) | |
| | | | Upper | Lower |
| K1. Has the respondent been keeping updated on the latest information/progress/news of COVID-19 pandemic? | | | | |
| <i>Yes</i> | 84.8 | 2.024 | 80.8 | 88.8 |
| <i>No</i> | 15.2 | 2.024 | 11.2 | 19.2 |
| E1. Did respondent do any income-generating activity prior to April 2021? (Work for pay, business, farm etc.) | | | | |
| <i>Yes</i> | 71.6 | 2.544 | 66.6 | 76.6 |
| <i>No</i> | 28.4 | 2.544 | 23.4 | 33.4 |
| C7. Over the next 12 months does respondent expect their HH savings to: | | | | |
| <i>Increase</i> | 12.3 | 1.849 | 8.6 | 15.9 |
| <i>Stay the same</i> | 68.3 | 2.617 | 63.5 | 73.8 |
| <i>Decrease</i> | 16.2 | 2.077 | 12.1 | 20.2 |
| H8f. About how often the respondent felt depressed? | | | | |
| <i>None of the time</i> | 70.1 | 2.582 | 65.0 | 75.2 |
| <i>A little of the time</i> | 20.1 | 2.260 | 15.7 | 24.5 |
| <i>Some of the time</i> | 6.9 | 1.426 | 4.1 | 9.7 |
| P2. How SAFE do you feel about the preparations to opening the border for a Quarantine Free Travel (QFT) Bubble with New Zealand with the latest COVID-19 development? | | | | |
| <i>I feel very safe</i> | 17.6 | 2.150 | 13.4 | 21.9 |
| <i>I feel somewhat safe</i> | 42.2 | 2.785 | 36.7 | 47.6 |
| <i>I don't feel safe</i> | 24.0 | 2.409 | 19.3 | 28.7 |
| <i>I don't want QFT at all</i> | 13.2 | 1.911 | 9.5 | 17.0 |

- The survey estimates are also subject to non-sampling error, though careful control of these was a focus as the survey processes and methods were developed and implemented. Despite this, there are some acknowledged biases in both the round 1 and round 2 estimates – e.g. due to non-random selection of an available respondent in each surveyed HH; due to the replacement of Households that are unable or unwilling to participate.

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