

# **Youth and Covid-19 in Thailand: Socioeconomic impact of the crisis**

22.9.2020

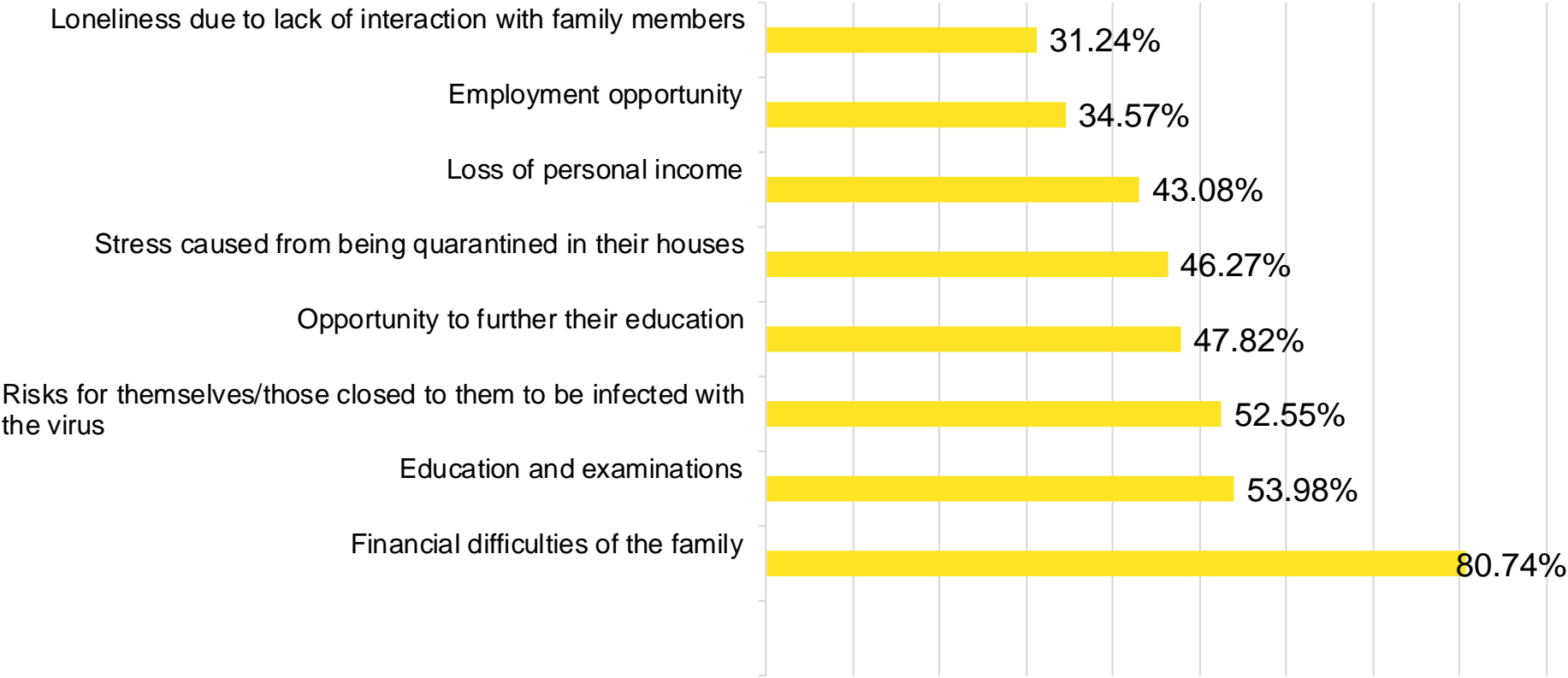
# Survey population and method

- Series of online surveys led by the United Nations sub-group on young people
- Partners: Institute for Population and Social Research (Mahidol University), Children and Youth Council of Thailand (CYCT), etc.
- Survey distributed through formal and informal channels
- Surveys generated convenience samples of specific groups of specific parts of the youth population in Thailand

Survey population	Time of data collection	Age of respondents	Sample size
General youth	28 March – 10 April	15-19	6771
Ethnic minority and stateless youth	4 May – 1 June	15-30	1005
Teenage mothers	11 June – 12 July	15-19	90
Youth from the three southernmost provinces	11 June – 4 July	15-30	215
Youth with disabilities	12 June – 24 July	15-30	186
General youth	11 June – 12 July	15-30	818

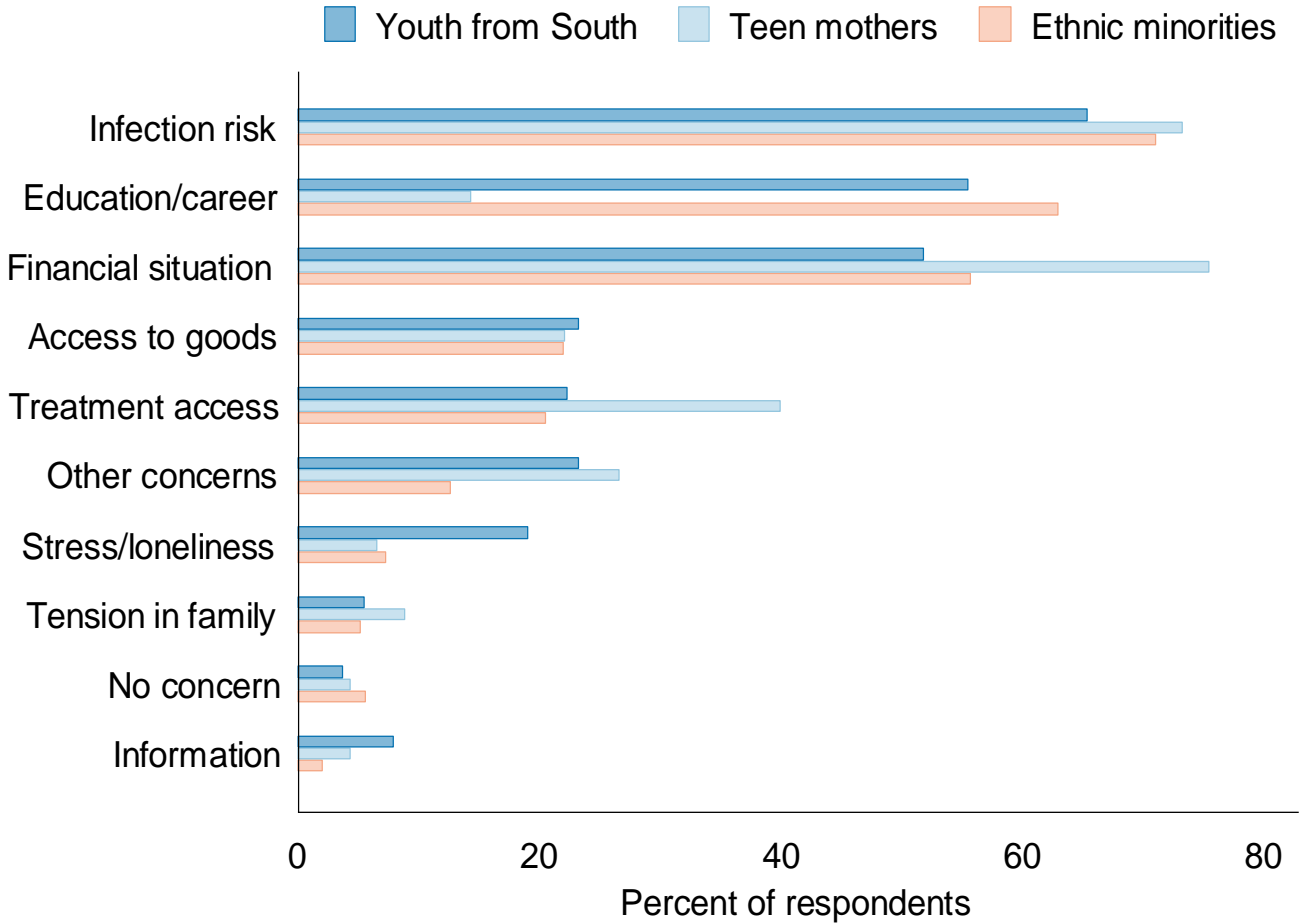
# **Concerns of young people during the Covid-19 crisis**

# General youth (March/April): Aspects that young people were most worried about



(n=6771)

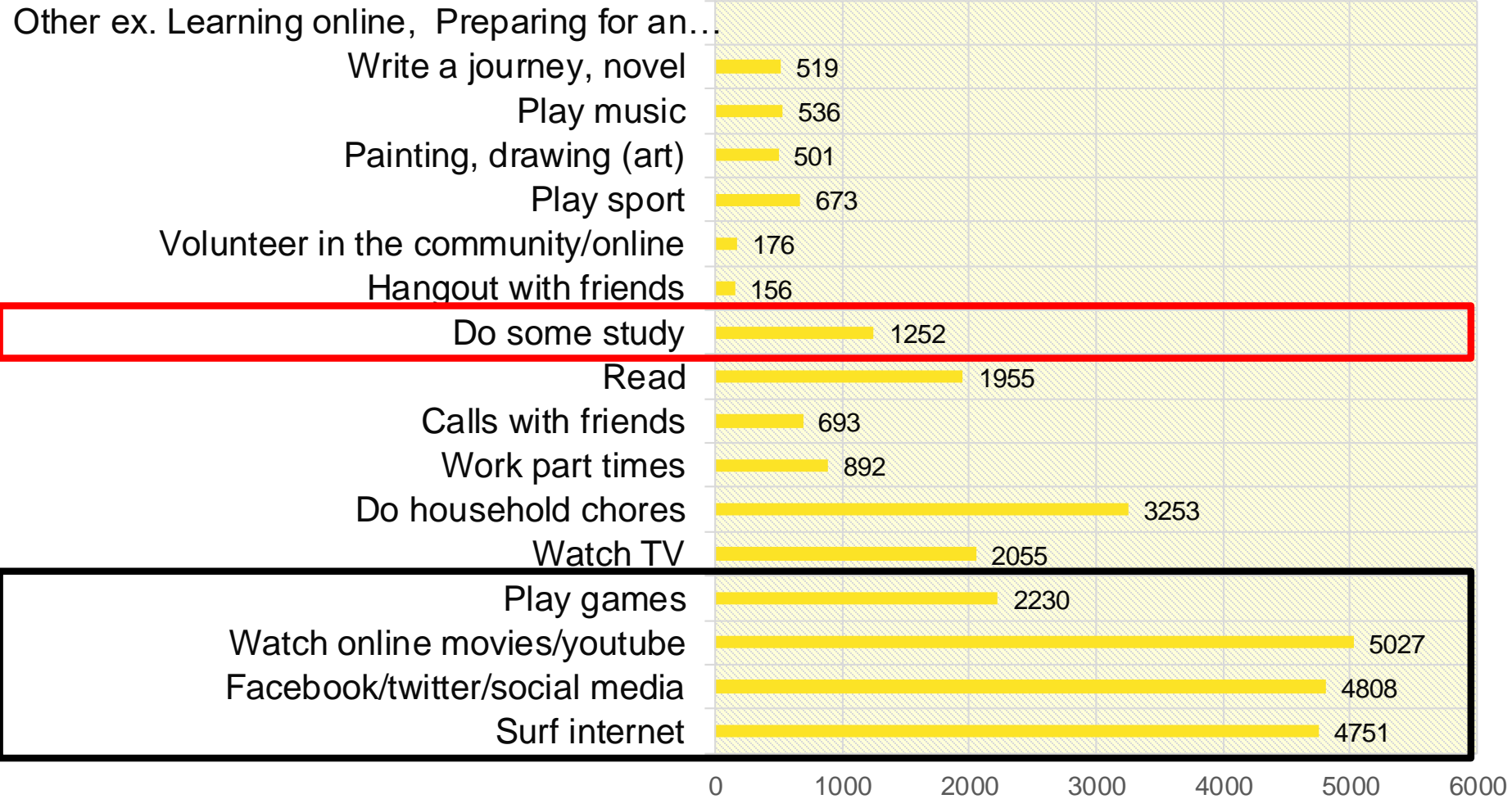
# Top 3 concerns of young people during the Covid-19 crisis



(Youth from the South: n=214; Teenage mother: n=90; Ethnic minority and stateless youth: n=1005)

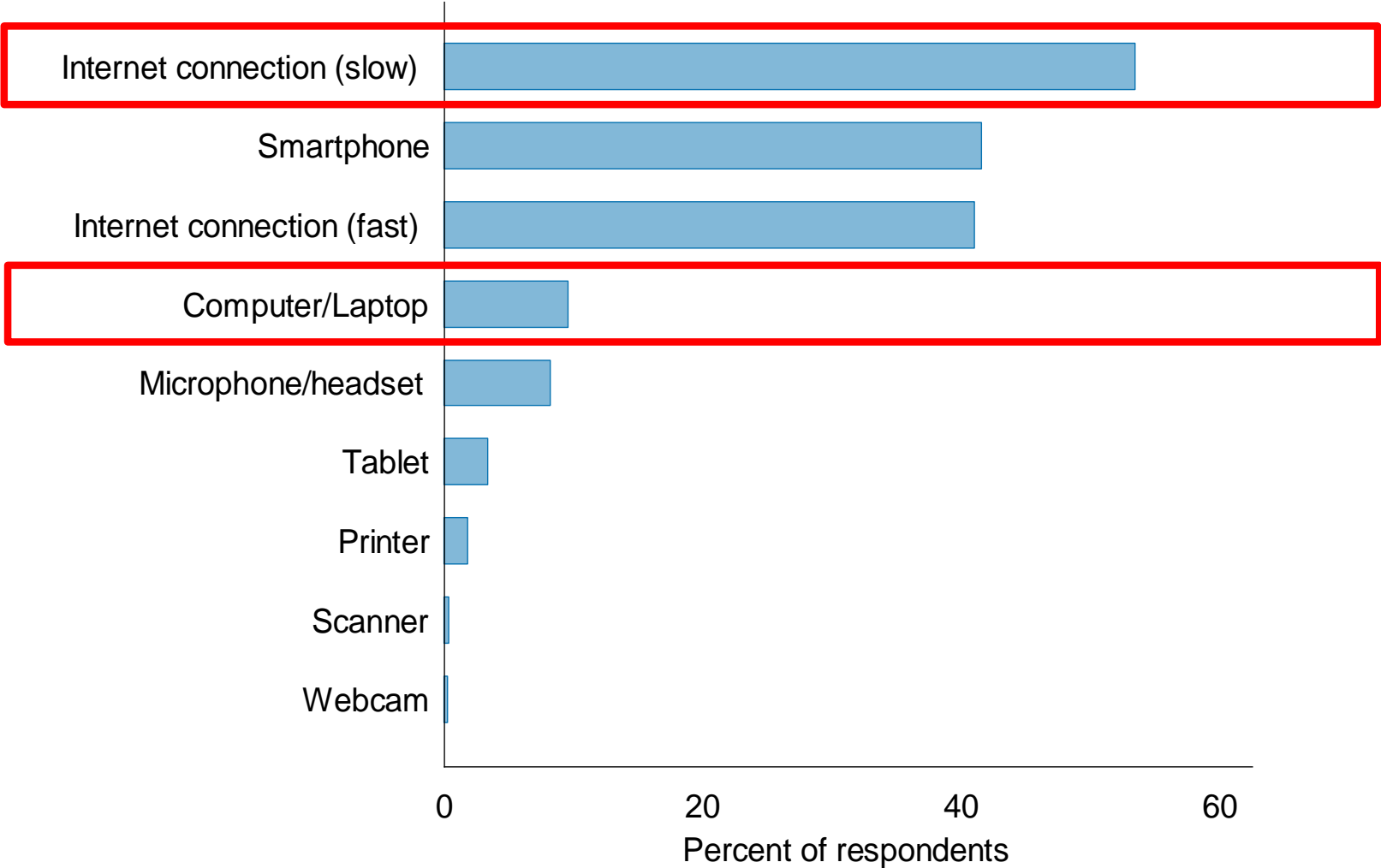
**Education/learning  
during the Covid-19 crisis**

# General youth (March/April): Activities that young people spend most of their free time on during the lockdown



(n=6771)

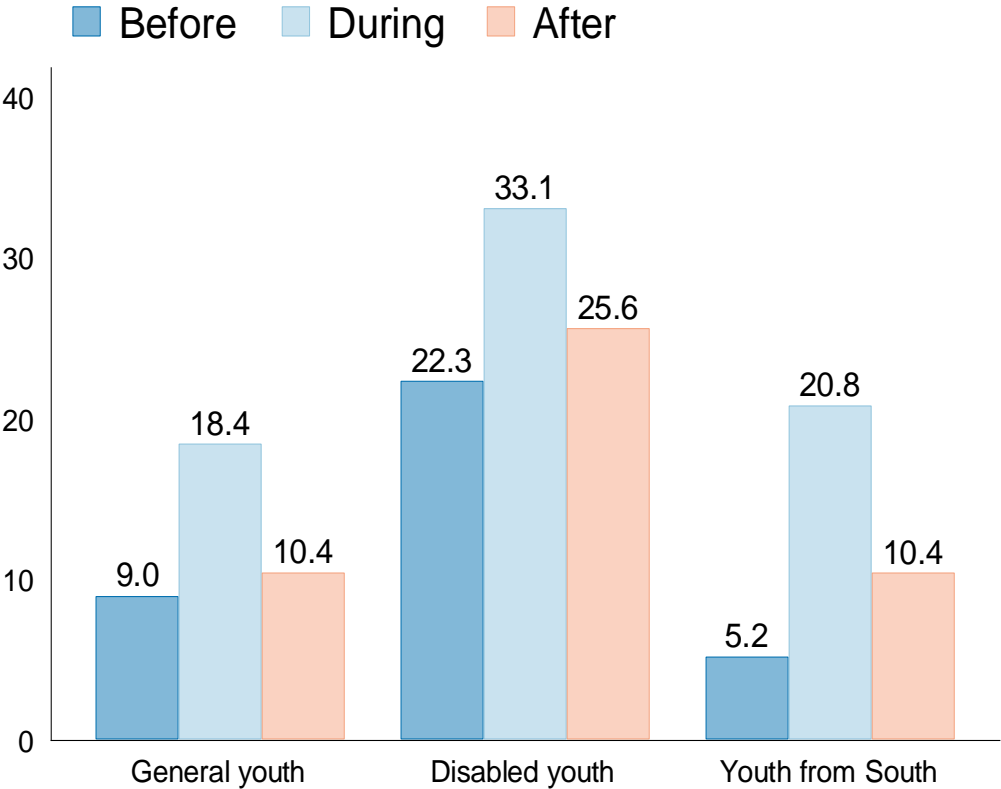
# Equipment for online learning among ethnic minority and stateless youth





# **Unemployment and financial difficulties during the Covid-19 crisis**

# Unemployment rate among young people who were not full-time students before the Covid-19 crisis (before, during [March-May] and after the height of the crisis in Thailand)



### Teenage mothers:

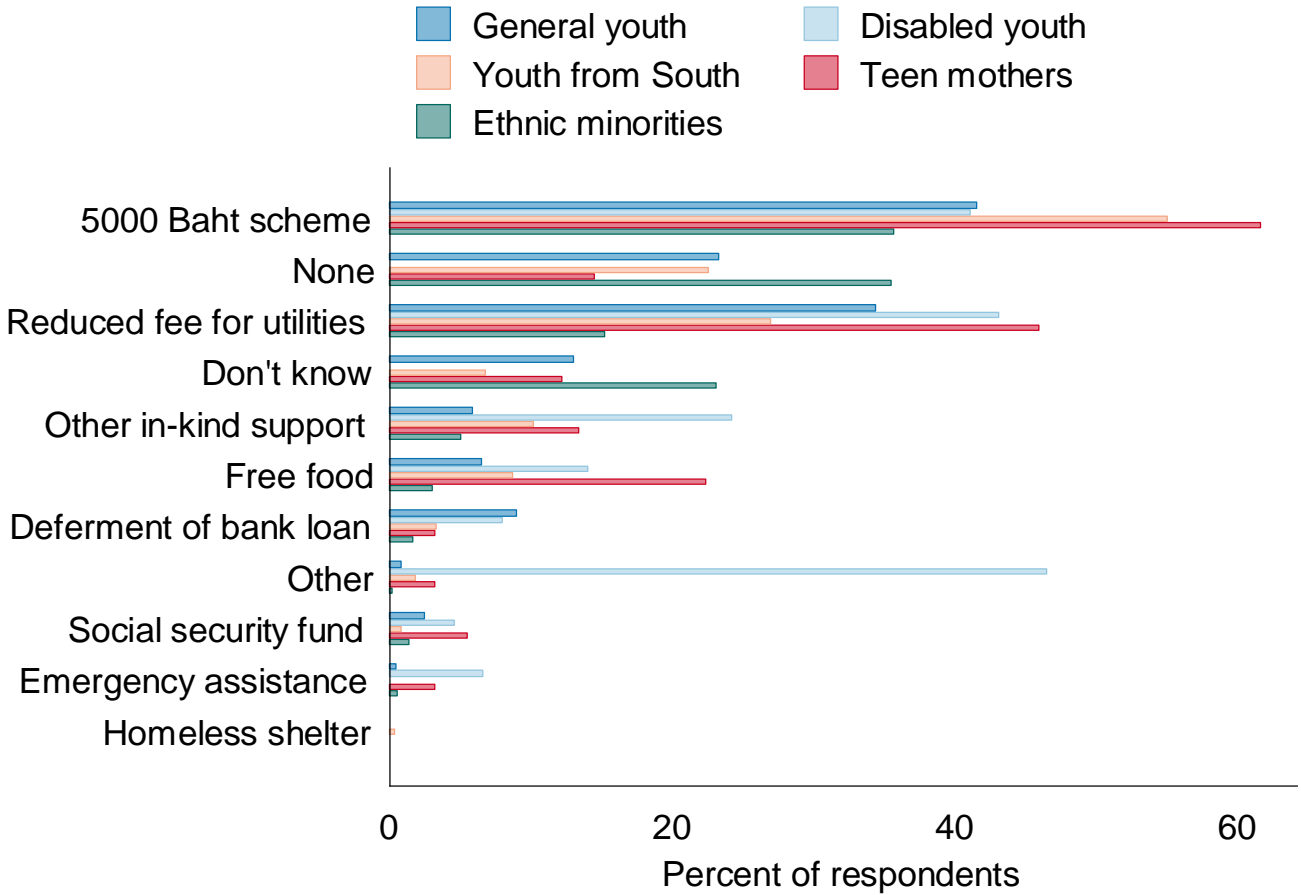
Unemployment after height of crisis 36% higher than before

### Ethnic minority and stateless youth who were employed before the Covid-19 crisis:

68% reported that they had less or no work, were laid off or received less payment during the crisis

(General youth: n=201; Youth with disabilities: n=121; Youth from the South: n=77)

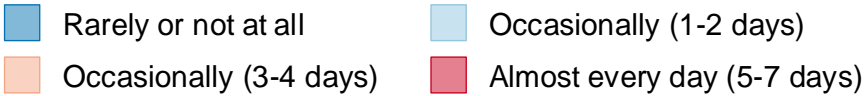
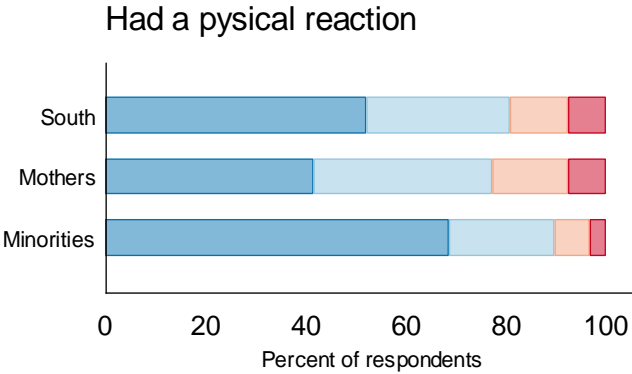
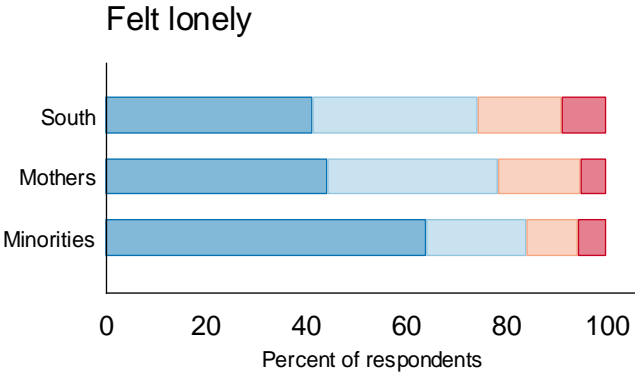
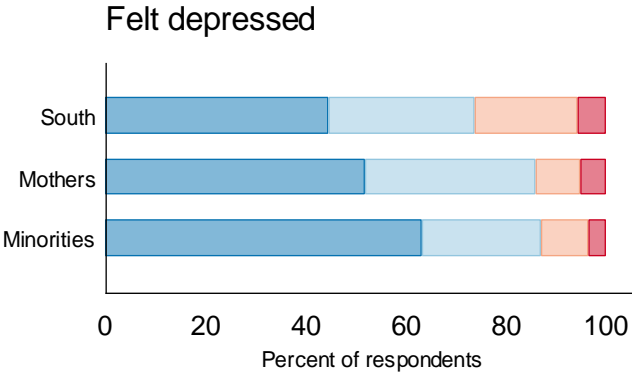
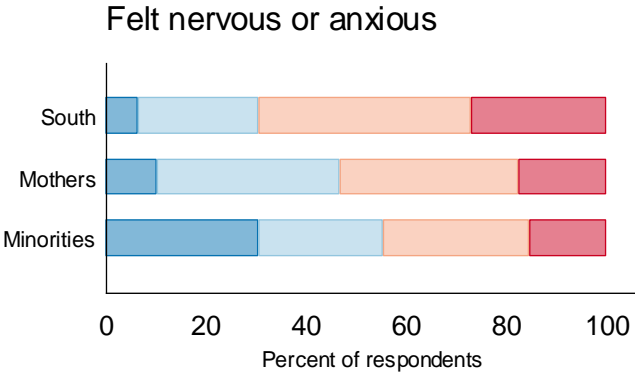
# Covid-19-related emergency support received by youth and their families



(General youth: n=797; Youth with disabilities: n=148; Youth from the South: n=203; Teenage mother: n=89; Ethnic minority and stateless youth: n=1005)

# **Mental health during the Covid-19 crisis**

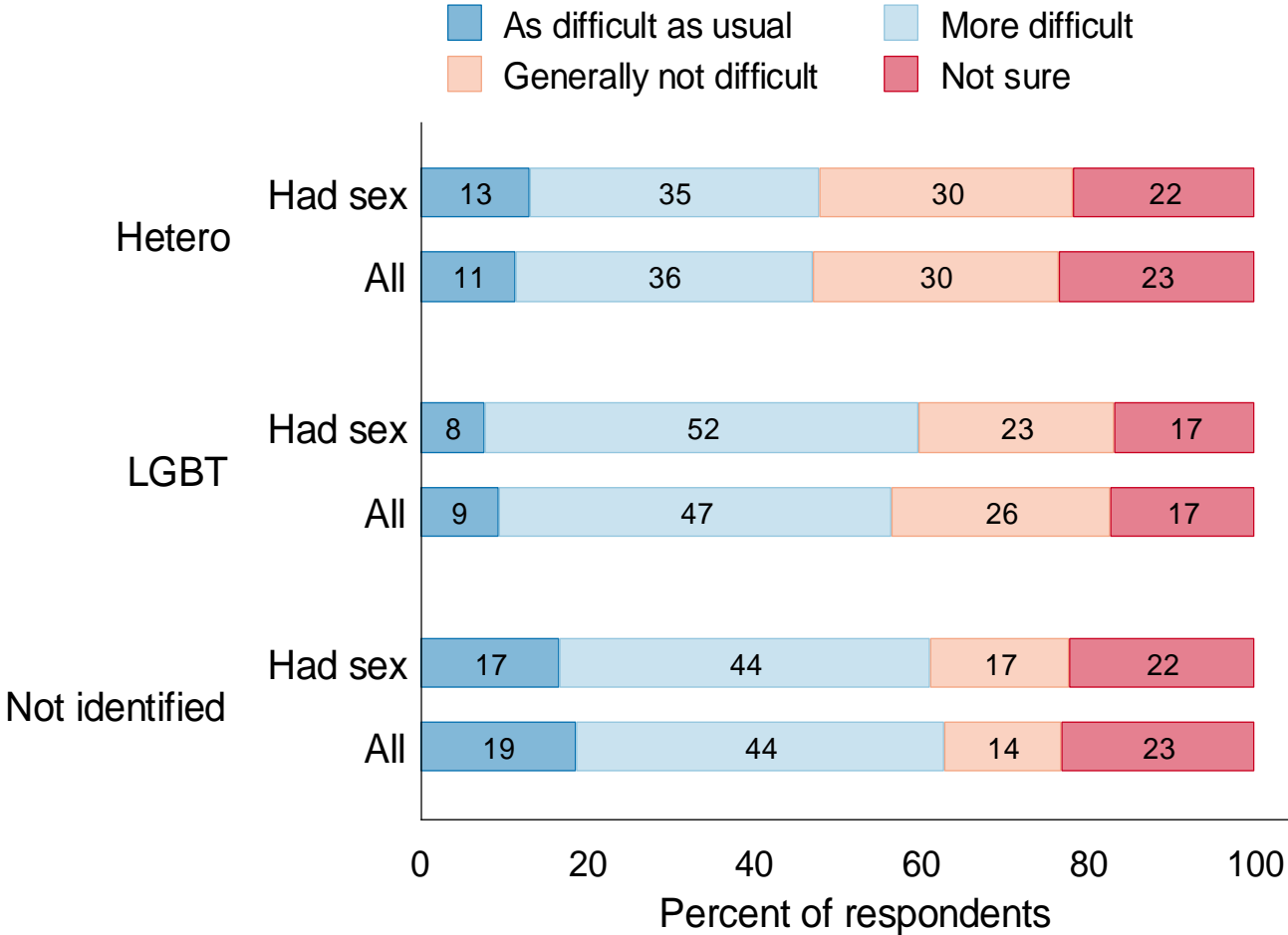
# Mental health symptoms experienced by youth within 7 days prior to the survey



(Youth from the South: n=214; Teenage mother: n=88; Ethnic minority and stateless youth: n=1005)

# **Sexual and reproductive health (SRH) during the Covid-19 crisis**

# Perception of young people aged 18 years and older regarding whether the Covid-19 crisis complicated youth's access to SRH services, by sexual orientation and whether they had sex during the Covid-19 crisis

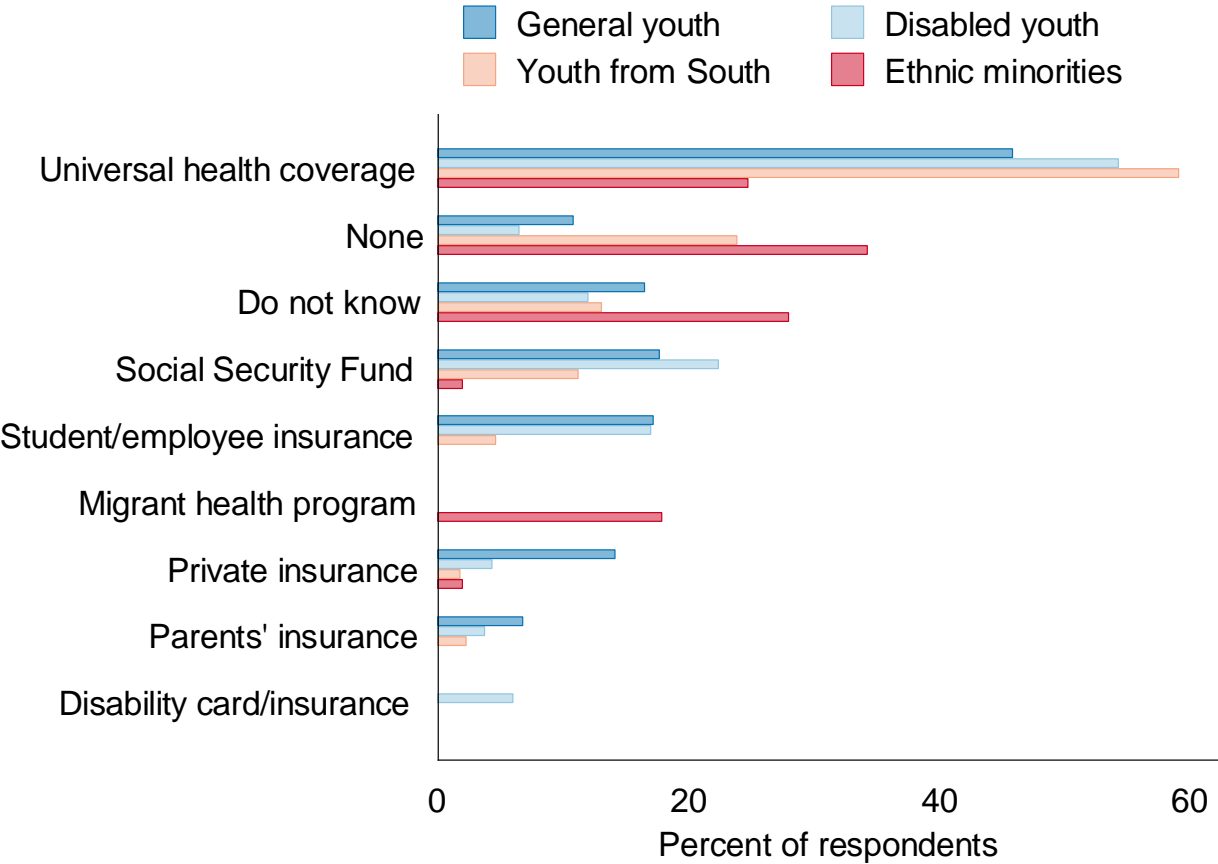


(Hetero/Had sex: n=69; LGBT/Had sex: n=77; Not identified/Had sex: n=18; Hetero/All: n=132; LGBT/All: n=138; Not identified/All: n=43)

# **Perceived health insurance coverage of young people**



# Perceived health insurance coverage of young people



## Teenage mothers:

30% reported to have no health insurance (or not knowing about it) for neither themselves nor their children.

(General youth: n=815; Youth with disabilities: n=182; Youth from the South: n=213; Ethnic minority and stateless youth: n=1005)

## Summary of key findings

- Young people were most concerned about risk of infection, education and financial difficulties/employment during the pandemic.
- Not all young people were prepared to engage in online learning when physical access to educational institutions was limited.
- Youth unemployment increased sharply during March to May. After lifting of the lockdown restrictions, the situation improved, but youth unemployment remains at an increased level, in particular in the three southernmost provinces.
- Young people's mental health was negatively affected by the crisis.

## Summary of key findings

- Many young people struggled to access sexual and reproductive health services and practiced unprotected sex during the pandemic.
- There were disparities in young people's access to regular social support and emergency support during the Covid-19 crisis.
- Access to general healthcare services was difficult for some young people.
- The variety of problems faced by youth calls for a multidimensional response