Youth from the South
Covid-19 online survey

5.8.2020
Survey population and method

• Data were collected from 11 June – 4 July 2020.
• Eligible respondents included youth aged 15-30 years living in the three Southernmost provinces of Thailand (Narathiwat, Pattani, Yala).
• The survey was administered online through Google Forms.
• The online questionnaire was shared through the members of the Children and Youth Council of Thailand and the networks of UNFPA and the Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University. This included sharing the survey via Facebook pages, community leaders and volunteers.
• The survey generated a convenience sample of 215 respondents.
Background information
Province and area of residence of respondents

Province

- Narathiwat: 23.7%
- Pattani: 48.8%
- Yala: 27.4%

Area of residence

- Urban
  - 42.33%
- Rural
  - 57.67%

215 respondents
Age group and biological sex

215 respondents

Age group

- 15 to 19: 36.74%
- 20 to 24: 33.95%
- 25 to 30: 29.3%

Sex

- Male: 20.47%
- Female: 79.53%

215 respondents
95% were Muslims, but only 35% attended religious services at least a few times a year.
Majority of respondents were not in a relationship and had never been married; mostly living with extended family.
Majority of respondents currently studying upper secondary or Bachelor. Others mostly Bachelor graduates.

- **Are you currently studying?**
  - **Graduated:** 37.7% (58.6% total)
  - **Dropped out:** 0.9% (0.9% total)
  - **Non-formal:** 0.9% (0.9% total)
  - **Religious:** 1.9% (1.9% total)
  - **Formal:** 58.6% (58.6% total)

- **Current level of study**
  - **Lower secondary:** 0.8%
  - **Upper secondary:** 33.3%
  - **Vocational:** 7.6%
  - **Bachelor:** 56.1%
  - **Postgraduate:** 2.3%

- **Highest level of study**
  - **Lower secondary:** 1.2%
  - **Upper secondary:** 3.6%
  - **Vocational:** 7.2%
  - **Bachelor:** 79.5%
  - **Postgraduate:** 8.4%
Majority relies on parents or employment. Most have social welfare card.

- Employment: 31.3%
- Parents: 56.5%
- Family members: 3.7%
- Inlaws: 0.5%
- Partner: 2.8%
- Government: 4.2%
- Student loan: 0.5%
- Savings: 0.5%

What is your main source of money for spending?

- Social welfare card
- No social welfare
- Student loan
- Government support
- Elderly allowance
- Child subsidy (0-6 years)
- Disability allowance
- Subsidy for poor people
- Social Security Fund
- Other, specify

214 respondents
One quarter has no health insurance.

What kind of healthcare plan are you currently on?

- 30-Baht scheme
- No healthcare coverage
- I don’t know
- Social Security Fund
- Student or employee insurance
- Parents’ insurance
- Private insurance

Percent of respondents

213 respondents
Concerns about Covid-19
Younger groups more worried about education and financial impact. Older ones more worried about health and treatment.

What are your three most important concerns during the Covid-19 outbreak?

- Infection risk (Covid)
- Education or career goals
- Financial situation (own and family)
- Access to necessary goods
- Access to treatment (Covid)
- Stress from only staying at home
- Fear of accessing government support
- Lack of religious gatherings
- Lack of trustable information
- Tension/conflict in family
- Increase in religious prejudices
- I don’t have any concern
- Lack of PPE at workplace
- Other, specify

214 respondents
Impact of Covid-19
A large share of working youth got unemployed during Covid-19. Private employees and one-person businesses most affected. One-person businesses have quickly recovered.
Many youth were not able to meet their friends during the outbreak, in particular those in older age groups.

In the past 3-4 months during COVID 19, how often have you met, hung out or spent times with your friends?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Less than once a week</th>
<th>1– 2 days</th>
<th>3 or more days a week</th>
<th>Everyday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 to 19</td>
<td>47.9</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24</td>
<td>62.0</td>
<td>31.6</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 30</td>
<td>68.3</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

215 respondents
More than half experienced problems in accessing health care due to Covid-19 sometimes or most of the time

Have you experienced any problems in accessing health care due to the Covid-19 outbreak?

- Most of the time: 22.0%
- Sometimes: 35.0%
- Rarely: 20.6%
- Not at all: 7.0%
- No need for health care: 15.4%

214 respondents
9% had to move during Covid-19

Due to the Covid-19 outbreak, has your living arrangement changed?

- No: 90.7%
- Yes: 9.3%

215 respondents
Feeling nervous/anxious was common among all age groups. Feeling depressed or lonely and having physical reactions was slightly more common among teens than older age groups.

When thinking about the Covid-19 outbreak in the past seven days, have you had any of the following problems?

- Feeling nervous or anxious
- Feeling depressed
- Feeling lonely
- Had a physical reaction

Response options:
- Rarely or not at all
- Occasionally (1-2 days)
- Occasionally (3-4 days)
- Almost every day (5-7 days)

199 respondents
Among those who belong to a religion, 40% reported that the Covid-19 outbreak made their faith stronger, while it didn’t change for 55%.
No change or reduction in alcohol consumption among local youth reported by most respondents who were able to answer that question

In the past 3-4 months during COVID 19, have you noticed any change in alcohol consumption among youth in your area?

- No change: 17.5%
- More consumption than usual: 5.2%
- Less consumption than usual: 16.5%
- Don’t know: 60.8%

212 respondents

In the past 3-4 months during COVID 19, have you noticed any change in illegal drug consumption among youth in your area?

- No change: 25.7%
- More consumption than usual: 6.5%
- Less consumption than usual: 9.8%
- Don’t know: 57.9%

214 respondents
A relatively large share of youth noticed a decrease in insurgent activities during the Covid-19 outbreak.

Have you noticed any change in insurgent activities during the Covid-19 outbreak?

- No change: 27.1%
- Increase in violent attacks: 13.1%
- Decrease in violent attacks: 35.0%
- Don’t know/No answer: 24.8%

214 respondents
Response to Covid-19
Majority received Covid-19-related information through online channels

What are the sources of information from which you have received most information about COVID-19?

- Internet and social media: 80 percent
- Television/radio/newspaper: 60 percent
- Official government websites: 40 percent
- Community, including family and friends: 20 percent
- Friends / partners: 10 percent
- Religious leader / Local Iman: 5 percent
- Village health volunteer: 5 percent
- Parents/guardians: 5 percent
- NGO/Civil society organization: 5 percent
- Teachers at school: 2 percent
- Never searched for information: 2 percent
- Workplace: 2 percent
- Other, specify: 2 percent

214 respondents
Large share of youth received support through the 5,000 Baht scheme and reduced utilities fee during Covid-19. A fifth received no support at all.

Have you or your family received financial or social support during the outbreak?

- 5000 Baht scheme
- Reduced fee for utilities
- None
- Assistance for agriculture
- Other in-kind support
- Free food
- I don’t know/Not sure
- Deferment of bank loan
- Social security fund
- Low income family allowance
- Deferment of tax payment
- Support from employer
- Homeless shelter
- Government emergency loans
- Other
- Emergency assistance

214 respondents
Among those who attended religious services at least a few times a year before Covid-19, a majority reduced their attendance in religious events or group prayers.
Summary of key findings

Concerns about Covid-19

- Youth from the South were mostly concerned about the risk of Covid-19 infection as well as the impact of Covid-19 on their education and financial situation.

- Younger youth were more worried about their education and financial situation as well as stress from having to stay at home. Their older peers were more concerned about the infection risk, access to treatment and access to necessary goods during the lockdown.
Summary of key findings

Impact of Covid-19

• A large share of working youth from the South got unemployed during Covid-19. Private employees and one-person businesses were most affected. One-person businesses have quickly recovered since the easing of the lockdown.

• More than half of youth experienced problems in accessing health care sometimes or most of the time during the Covid-19 lockdown.

• Many youth were not able to meet their friends during the outbreak, in particular those in older age groups.

• Feeling nervous/anxious was common among all age groups. Feeling depressed or lonely and having physical reactions was more common among teens.

• 9% of youth had to change their living arrangement due to the lockdown.

• No change or reduction in alcohol consumption among local youth reported by most respondents who were able to answer that question.

• A relatively large share of youth noticed a decrease in insurgent activities during the Covid-19 outbreak.

• Among those who belong to a religion, 40% reported that the Covid-19 outbreak made their faith stronger, while it didn’t change for 55%.
Summary of key findings

Response to Covid-19

- Majority received Covid-19-related information through online channels.
- Large share of youth received support through the 5,000 Baht scheme and reduced utilities fee during Covid-19. A fifth received no support at all.
- Among those who attended religious services at least a few times a year before Covid-19, a majority reduced their attendance in religious events or group prayers.