Imperial College London

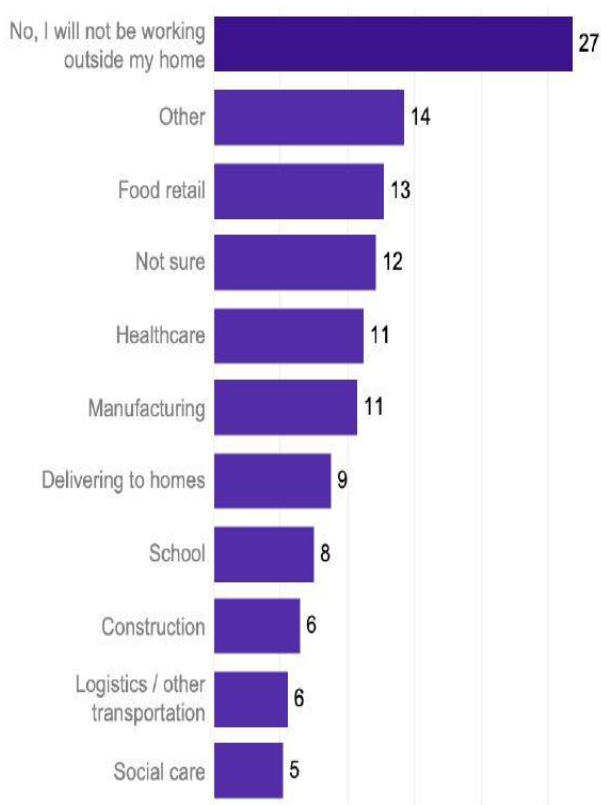# Covid-19 behaviours in Malaysia

▟ Report May 2020

Insights and trends in people's behaviours related to COVID-19. Brought to you by a team of health and behavioural experts at the Institute of Global Health Innovation (IGHI) at Imperial College London and YouGov. These reports are created on a regular basis, following new survey results.

Institute of Global Health Innovation

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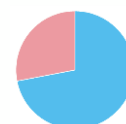# How are people in Malaysia responding?

▲ As of May 31st 2020

This report looks at insights from Malaysia covering April 6th through May 31st

Thinking about the next 7 days... will you be working outside your home in one of the following roles? Mark all that apply (%)

Role	%
No, I will not be working outside my home	27
Other	14
Food retail	13
Not sure	12
Healthcare	11
Manufacturing	11
Delivering to homes	9
School	8
Construction	6
Logistics / other transportation	6
Social care	5

72%

of people in Malaysia are staying home or only leaving the house once a day

27%

of people in Malaysia are not planning on working outside the home the following week

14% will work outside the home in a role not mentioned. Of the roles that were included, food retail and healthcare accounted for the largest share of people working outside the home
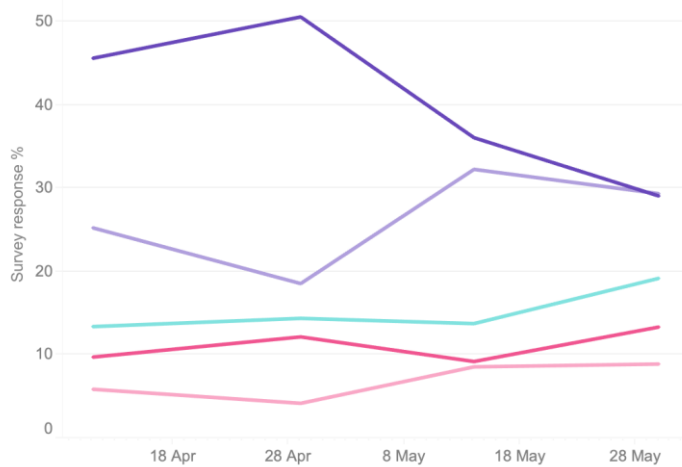
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How are behaviours in Malaysia changing?

Compared to early April, respondents in Malaysia showed…

■ Always   ■ Frequently   ■ Sometimes   ■ Rarely   ■ Not at all

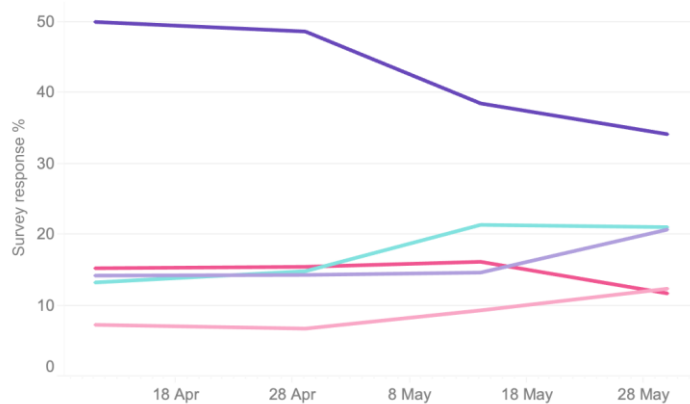Since developing symptoms…to what extent have you self-isolated yourself on each of the following 7 days?

16pp* Decrease in people who always self-isolate since developing symptoms

■ Always   ■ Frequently   ■ Sometimes   ■ Rarely   ■ Not at all

Thinking about the last 7 days… how often have you avoided working outside your home (if job is full or part-time) to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? As a reminder, please exclude any measures that you have already taken for reasons other than coronavirus (COVID-19). %
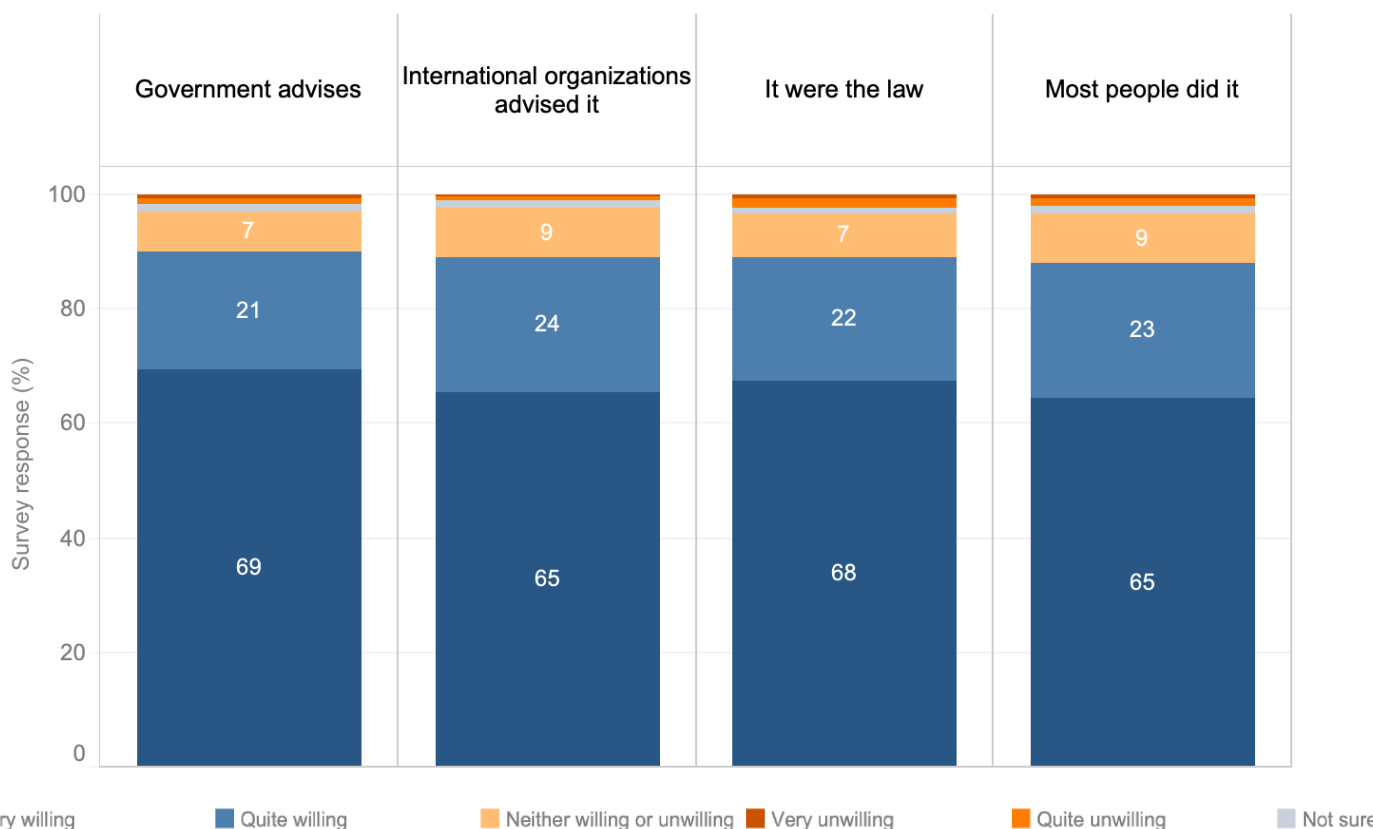

16pp* Decrease in people who always avoid working outside their homes

*pp= percentage point

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What are people's attitudes towards using face masks in Malaysia?

How willing or not are you to wear a face mask or covering if … ? %

| Government advises | International organizations advised it | It were the law | Most people did it |

Survey response (%)

Very willing: 69, 65, 68, 65
Quite willing: 21, 24, 22, 23
Neither willing or unwilling: 7, 9, 7, 9

■ Very willing　■ Quite willing　■ Neither willing or unwilling　■ Very unwilling　■ Quite unwilling　■ Not sure

9 in 10 would willingly wear a face mask if advised to by their government

90% of people in Malaysia would willingly follow government advice of wearing a face mask or covering
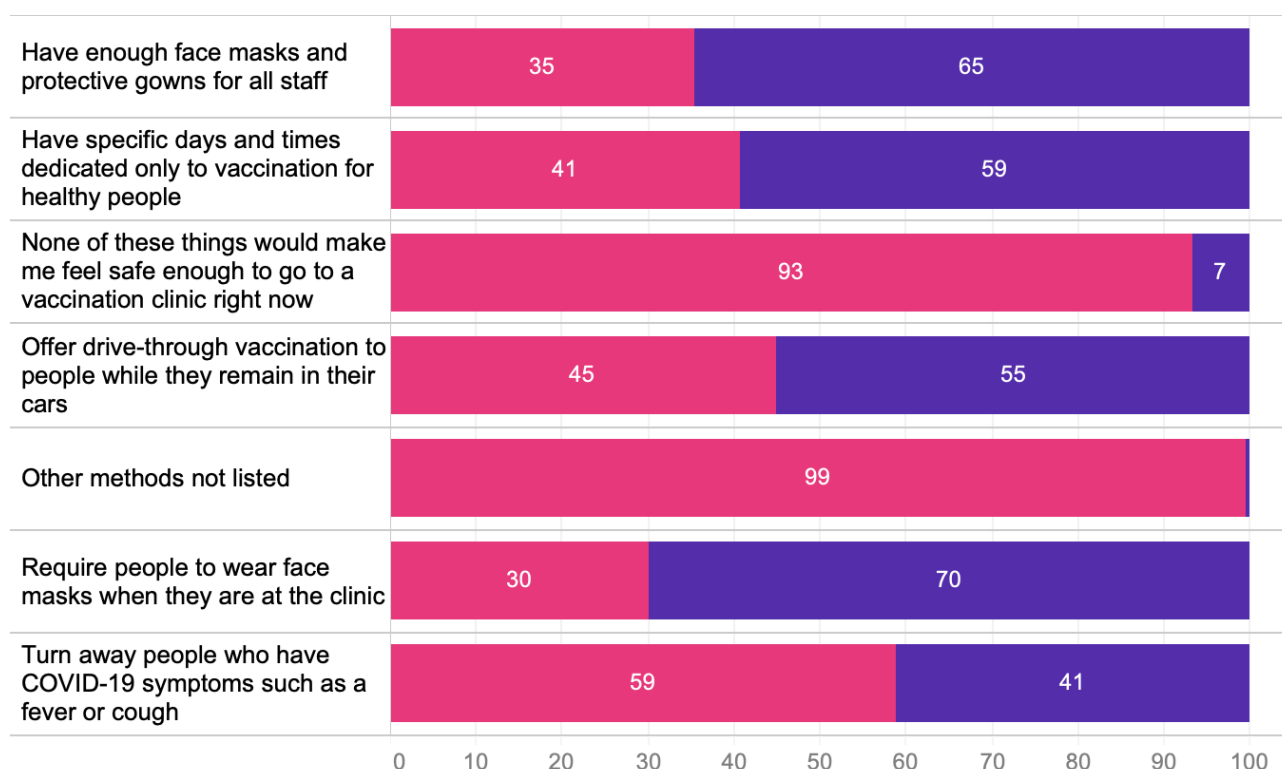
89% of people would willingly wear a face mask if advised to by an international organization

90% stated they would willingly wear a face mask if it were the law

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What are people's attitudes towards routine vaccinations during Covid-19 in Malaysia?

■ No   ■ Yes

What should vaccination clinics do to help your household feel safe getting vaccinated during this time? %

Category	No	Yes
Have enough face masks and protective gowns for all staff	35	65
Have specific days and times dedicated only to vaccination for healthy people	41	59
None of these things would make me feel safe enough to go to a vaccination clinic right now	93	7
Offer drive-through vaccination to people while they remain in their cars	45	55
Other methods not listed	99	
Require people to wear face masks when they are at the clinic	30	70
Turn away people who have COVID-19 symptoms such as a fever or cough	59	41

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

7 in 10 would feel safe at vaccination clinics if everyone wore face masks at the clinic

Face masks as a requirement for everyone at the clinic is a popular driver of feeling safe getting vaccinated during the Covid-19 crisis. 65% would feel safe if all staff at the vaccination clinics have protective gowns and face masks.

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How does Malaysia's behaviour compare to other countries?

Compared to other countries surveyed the same week (May 25th through May 31st) respondents in Malaysia were…

Comparable to Vietnam in likelihood of avoiding going to shops; more likely to wear face masks than China*

■ Always   ■ Frequently

Avoided going to shops

Country	Value
Philippines	79
Singapore	63
China*	53
Thailand	52
Malaysia	47
Vietnam	47
Indonesia	46

Worn a face mask outside my home

Country	Value
Philippines	93
Singapore	96
China*	87
Thailand	92
Malaysia	92
Vietnam	90
Indonesia	92

## More likely than Singapore and the Philippines to come into contact with people outside the home

Thinking about the last 7 days…how often have you come into physical contact with someone outside your household? (excluding those in your household) %

	0	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 19	20+
Singapore	51	16	9	10	10	5
Philippines	30	25	15	17	10	3
Malaysia	28	22	16	19	12	4
Thailand	27	32	14	17	7	3
China*	19	20	16	22	14	9
Indonesia	16	21	21	23	15	4
Vietnam	6	12	12	20	25	26

*Survey responses from China are representative of the 'online population'

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How does life satisfaction in Malaysia compare to that of its peers?

Please imagine a ladder with steps numbered from zero at the bottom to 10 at the top. The top of the ladder represents the best possible life for you and the bottom of the ladder represents the worst possible life for you. On which step of the ladder would you position yourself in? (%)
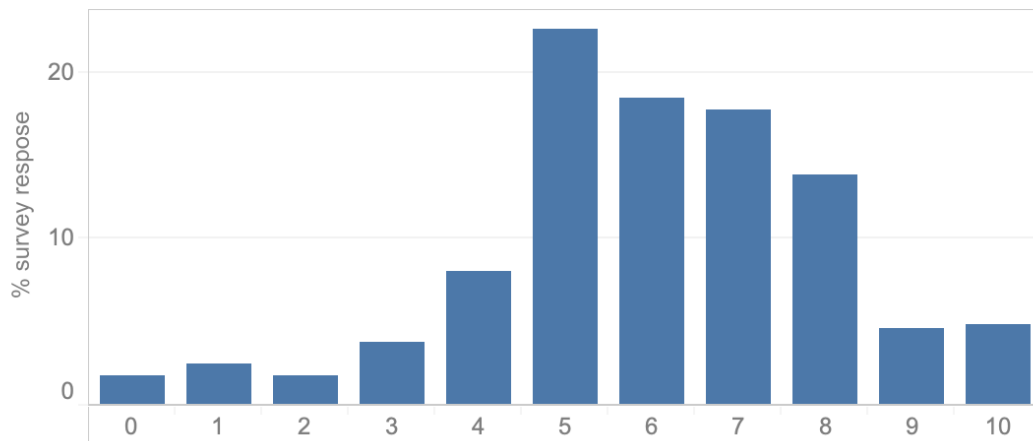
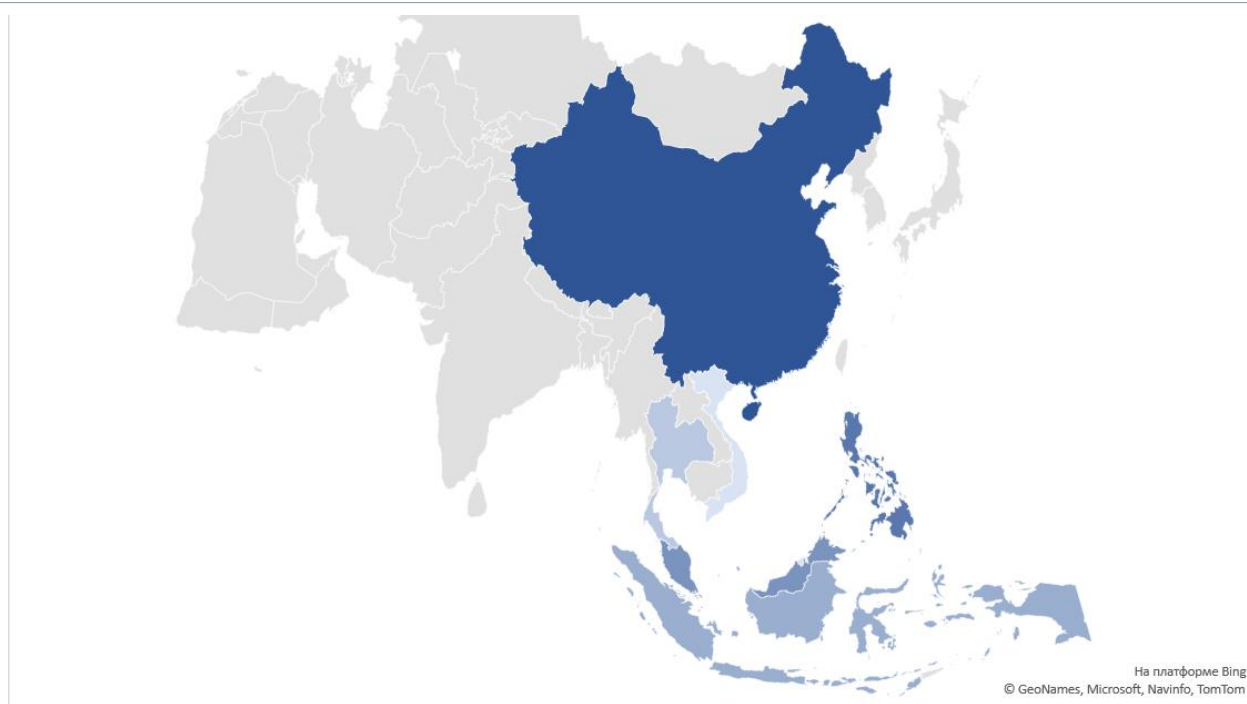
Average Cantril ladder score by country
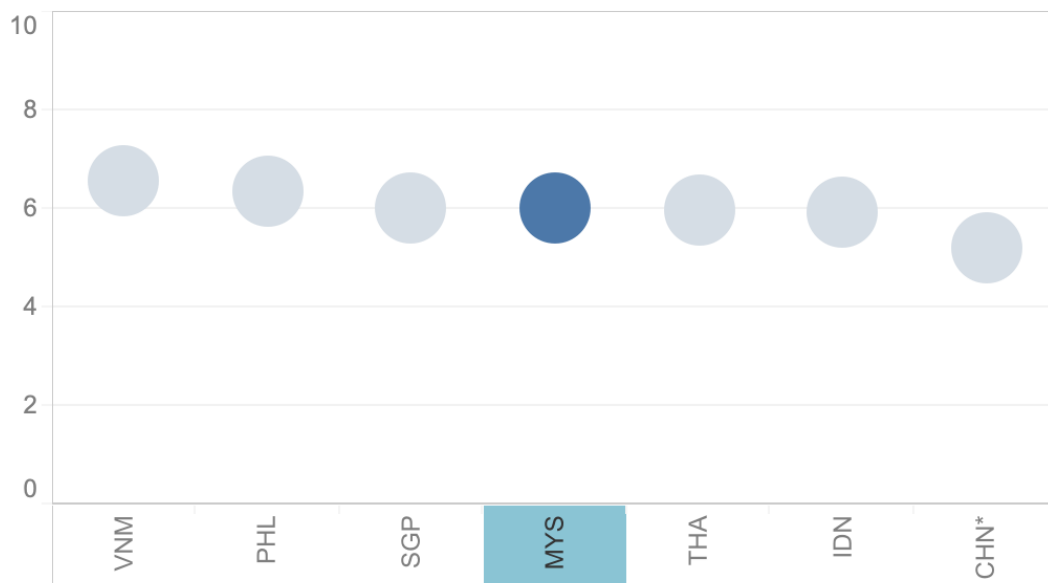
The Cantril ladder serves as a proxy for life satisfaction. Life satisfaction is a powerful measure of the quality of people's lives. The annual World Happiness Reports attributes the differences over time and between countries to good health, income and the quality of the social environment. These factors are changing under COVID-19, often in ways we have never experienced before. The YouGov life satisfaction data, collected regularly as the pandemic evolves in each survey country, provide a valuable barometer reading of life under COVID-19, reflecting each country's institutions and policies.

*Survey responses from China are representative of the 'online population'

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How stringent is the government of Malaysia compared to its peers?

The University of Oxford's Stringency Index is a measure of the number and strictness of government policies in response to the Covid-19 outbreak. Stringency Index range is from 0 - 100. Numbers below are for May 31st

Darker shades in the map below are indicative of higher stringency indices

На платформе Bing
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China	Singapore	Philippines	Malaysia
82	81	78	75

Indonesia	Thailand	Vietnam
72	69	66

*China is a representative of the 'online population'

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About this report

Led by Imperial College London's Institute of Global Health Innovation (IGHI) and YouGov

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Supporters

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For more behavioural data on a global level, visit coviddatahub.com to explore our interactive charts

The CovidDataHub.com project is a joint collaboration between the Institute of Global Health Innovation (IGHI) at Imperial College London and YouGov Plc to gather global insights on people's behaviours and life satisfaction in response to COVID-19. The research covers 29 countries and surveys are conducted on a regular basis since the first week of April.

This report is designed to provide insights on how different populations are responding to the pandemic, helping public health bodies in their efforts to limit the impact of the disease. Anonymised respondent level data is generously made available for all public health and academic institutions globally by YouGov Plc at our GitHub site.

In collaboration with

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World Happiness Report