

# Covid-19 behaviours in Malaysia

► **Report** September 2020

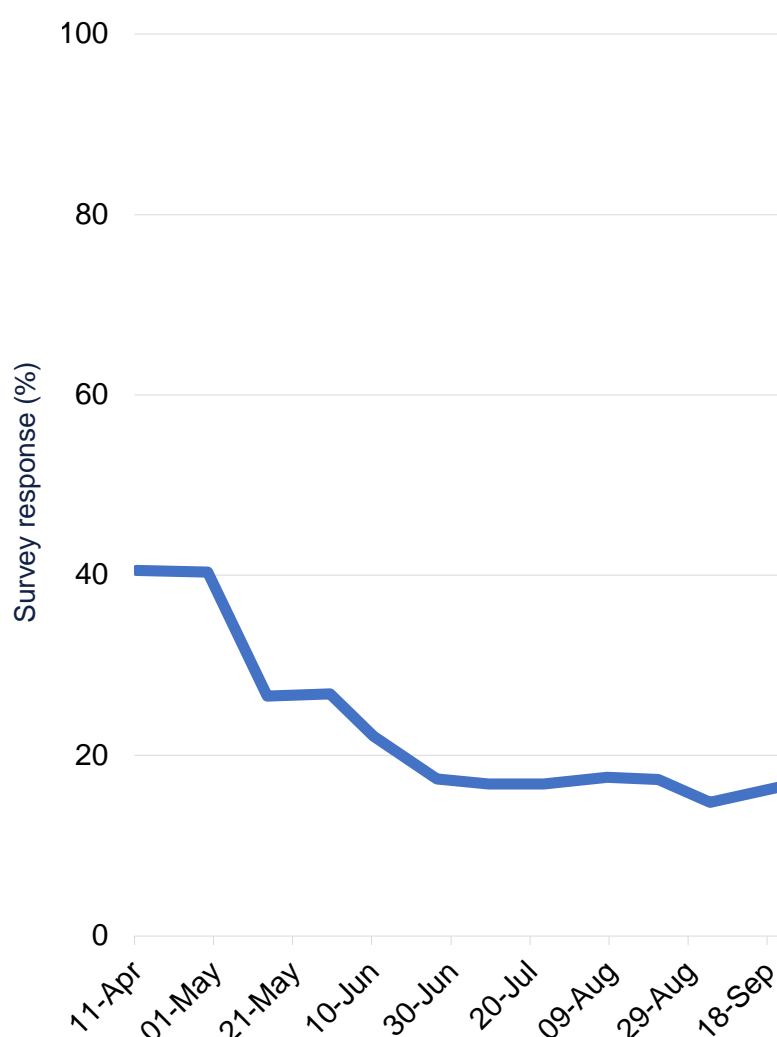
Insights and trends in people's behaviours related to COVID-19. Brought to you by a team of health and behavioural experts at the Institute of Global Health Innovation (IGHI) at Imperial College London and YouGov. These reports are created on a regular basis, following new survey results.

# Are people in Malaysia returning to work?

This graph shows the percentage of people not working from outside their home between April and September, 2020.

▲ As of September 21<sup>st</sup> 2020

Thinking about the next 7 days... will you be working outside your home in one of the following roles? Percentage of respondents that answered, "No, I will not be working from outside my home".



The share of people who have stated they will not be working from outside their home has decreased since April.



17% of people in Malaysia will not be working outside their homes



24pp\* decrease in people not working outside their home compared to April

Among respondents who stated they would be working outside their home, **food retail** (13%), **school** (12%) and **healthcare** (11%) work accounted for the largest share of people working outside the home



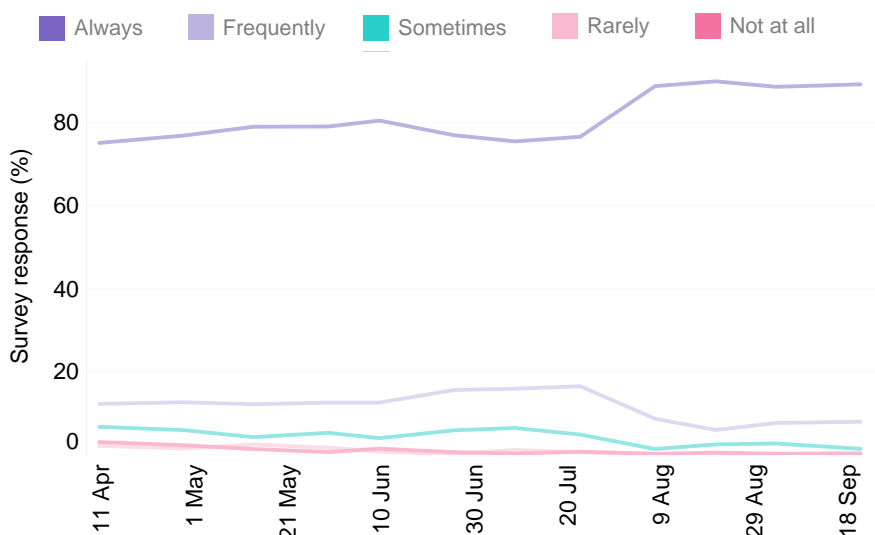
\*pp= percentage point

# How likely are people in Malaysia to wear face masks?

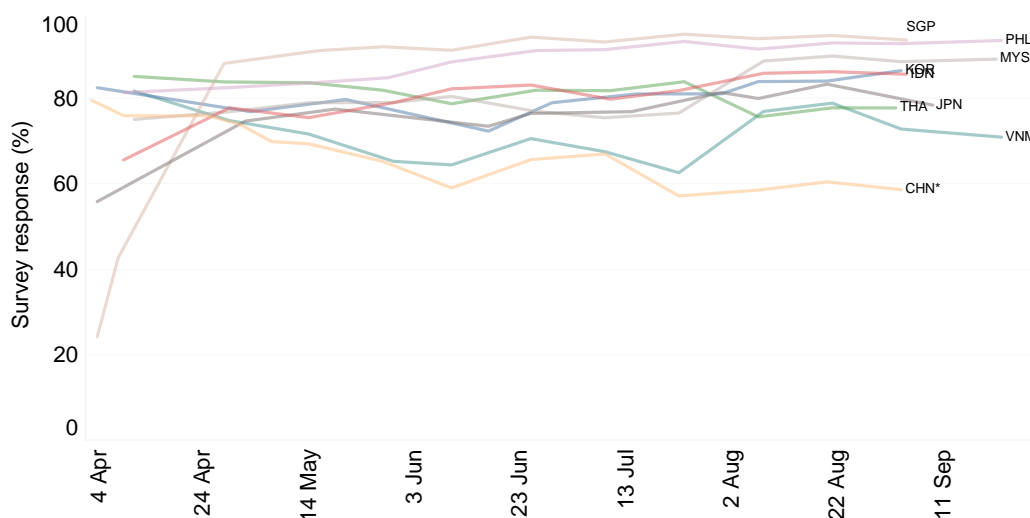
These graphs show the face mask use in Malaysia between April and September, 2020 and a comparison with other Asian countries.

As of September 21<sup>st</sup>, respondents in Malaysia who reported always wearing a face mask outside their home has increased from 75% to 89% since April. Across Asian countries surveyed in September, Singapore and the Philippines have the highest share of respondents who always wear a face mask outside their homes while China has the lowest (59%).

Thinking about the last 7 days how often have you worn a face mask outside your home to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? (%)



Asian country breakdown of respondents who answered “Always” to wearing a face mask outside the home (%).

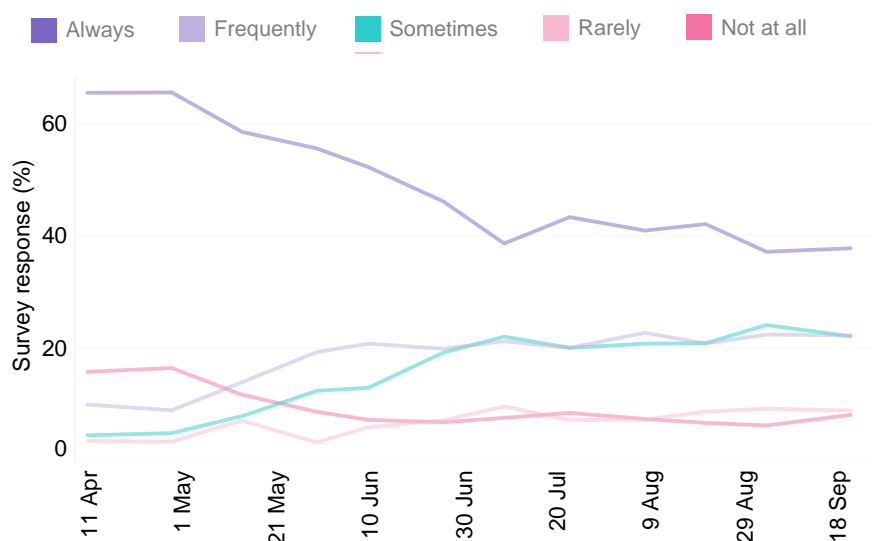


\*China is representative of the 'online population'. All other countries, areas or territories are representative of the national population

# How are behaviours in Malaysia changing?

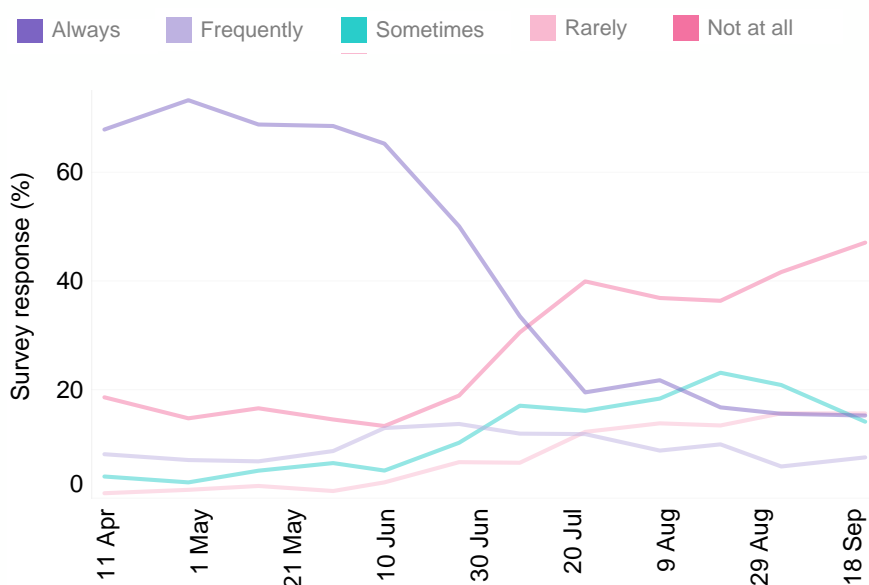
These graphs show the changes in behaviours in Malaysia between April and September, 2020.

Thinking about the last 7 days... how often have you avoided medium-sized social gatherings (between 3 and 10 people) to protect yourselves or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? (%)



As of September 21<sup>st</sup>, respondents are almost **2 times less likely** to avoid medium-sized social gatherings compared to April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Thinking about the last 7 days... how often have you avoided letting your children go to school/university(if you have children) to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? (%)



Between April and September, the share of respondents that always avoid letting their children go to school/university **decreased from 68% to 15%**, while the share of those that are not at all avoiding it **increased from 19% to 47%**.

# How confident are people in the healthcare system and government responses to COVID-19?

These graphs show confidence in response and handling of the pandemic by the healthcare system and the government.

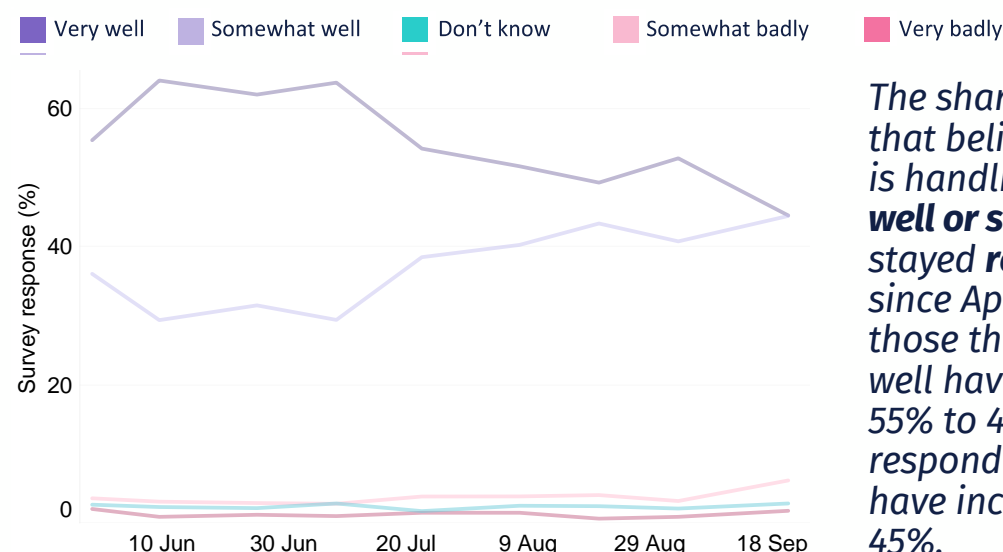
As of September 21<sup>st</sup>, 89% of respondents stated a lot or a fair amount of confidence in the healthcare system’s response to a COVID-19 outbreak. 90% of respondents believe the government handled the issue of the Coronavirus very or somewhat well.

## How much confidence do you have in the healthcare system to respond to a Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in your country?



The percentage of respondents who reported **'a lot of confidence'** in the healthcare system to respond to a COVID-19 outbreak has **dropped** from 58% to 48% since May 30<sup>th</sup>.

## How well or badly do you think the Government is handling the issue of the Coronavirus (COVID-19)?



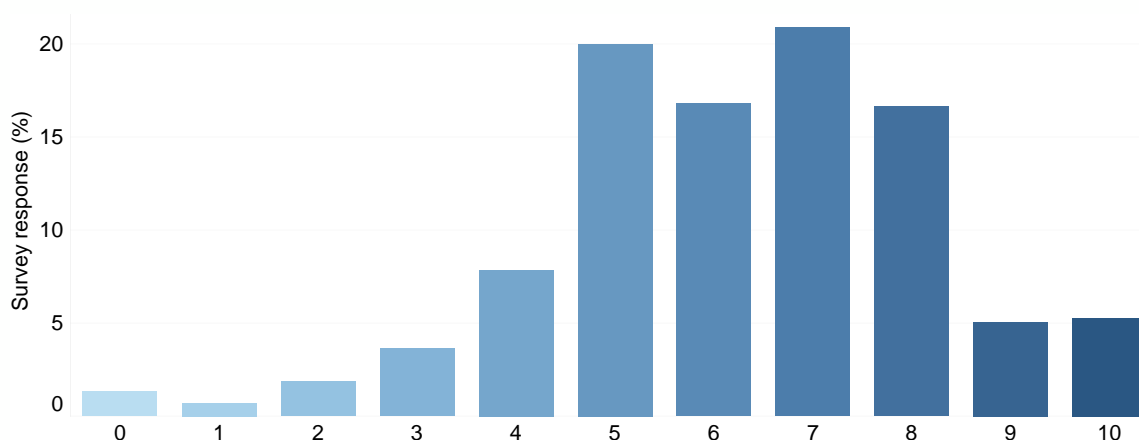
The share of respondents that believe the government is handling the COVID-19 **well or somewhat well** has stayed **relatively consistent** since April 21<sup>st</sup> although those that responded very well have decreased from 55% to 45% and those that responded somewhat well have increased from 36% to 45%.

# How does Malaysia’s life satisfaction compare to that of its peers?

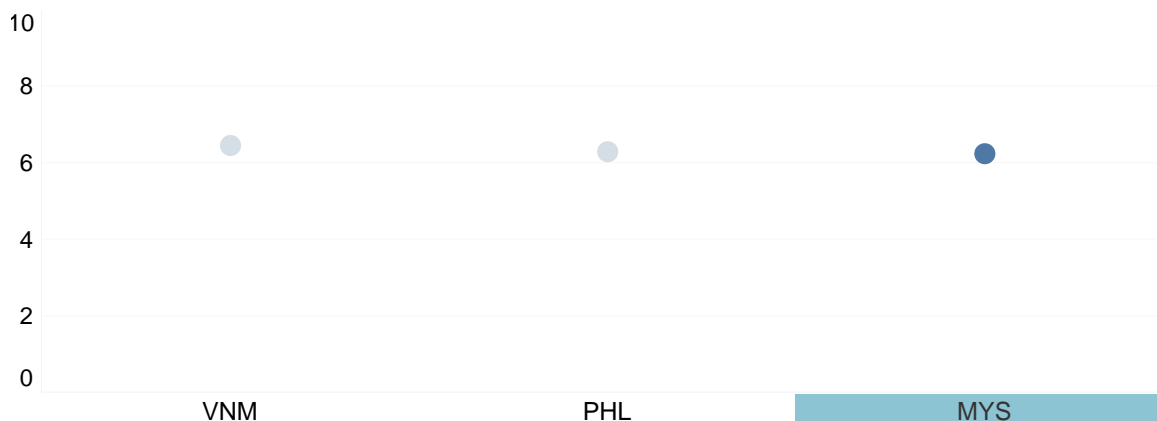
This graph shows the life satisfaction score of Malaysia compared to other Asian countries surveyed.

*Malaysia reported a life satisfaction comparable to other Asian countries surveyed in the same week (September 21<sup>st</sup> through September 28<sup>th</sup>).*

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 represents the worst possible life for you. On which step of the ladder would you position yourself in? (%)



Average Cantril ladder Score



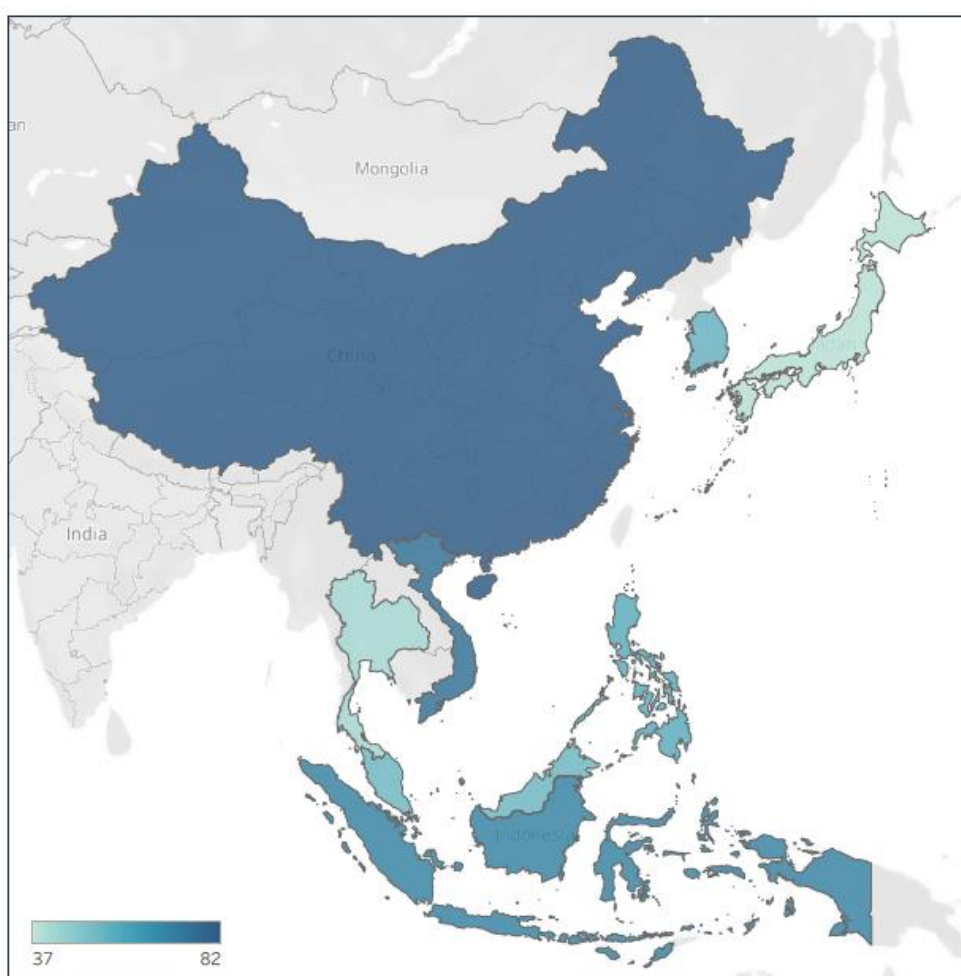
The *Cantril ladder* serves as a proxy for life satisfaction. *Life satisfaction* is a powerful measure of the *quality of people’s lives*. The annual World Happiness Report attributes the differences over time and between countries to *good health, income and the quality of social environment*. These 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 surveyed country, provide a valuable barometer reading of life under COVID-19, reflecting each country’s institutions and policies.

\*China is representative of the 'online population'. All other countries, areas or territories are representative of the national population

## How does Malaysia’s government response compare to that of its peers?

This map highlights the government stringency score in Malaysia and other Asian countries surveyed.

As of September 24<sup>th</sup>, China had the most stringent government and Japan had the least stringent across Asian countries surveyed. The University of Oxford’s Government Stringency Index is a measure of the number and severity of measures put in place by the governments to address the COVID-19 pandemic.



China	Vietnam	Indonesia	Philippines	South Korea
<b>82</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>54</b>
	Singapore	Malaysia	Thailand	Japan
	<b>52</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>37</b>

Policy measures and dates are provided by University of Oxford <https://bit.ly/34DPZzB>

Compare your data with that of 29 other countries, areas or territories on

[coviddatahub.com](https://coviddatahub.com)

# About this report

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

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# For more behavioural data on a global level, visit [coviddatahub.com](https://coviddatahub.com) to explore our interactive charts

The [CovidDataHub.com](https://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, areas or territories 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](#).

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