

What have we learned from this devastating pandemic?

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“As individuals, as families, as communities, it is you who will determine whether we experience the devastation that so many other countries have suffered, or whether we can spare our people, our society and our economy from the worst effects of this pandemic.”

- *President Cyril Ramaphosa*
24 May 2020

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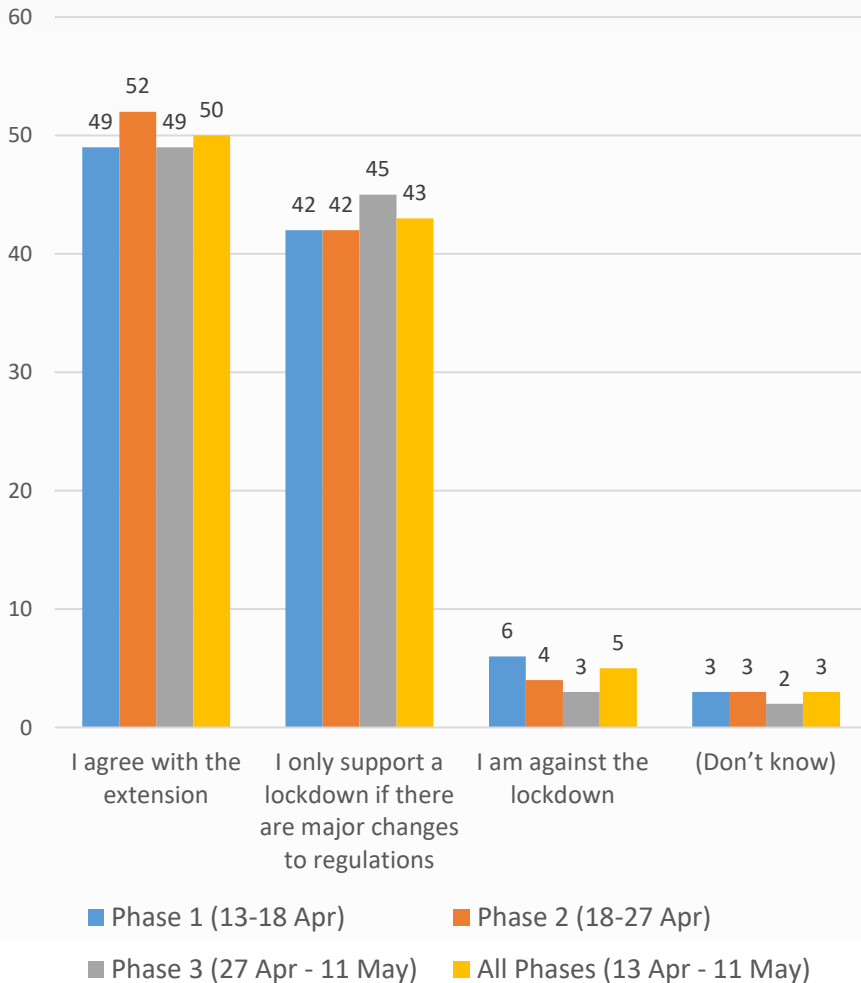
Social Compact

- From these messages it clear that government consider the fight against the coronavirus as a **collective effort**.
- That all those living in South Africa should **work together** to prevent the spread of this devastating pandemic.
- In the President's letter on Monday he called on **parents to continue to play a more active role in the education of their children even beyond the lockdown** - through school governing bodies, volunteering to clean schools, establishing vegetable gardens and being part of neighbourhood safety committees.
- Many other stakeholders (despite differences) – business, civil society organisations, labour, political parties have all agreed and **supported this call to work together**.

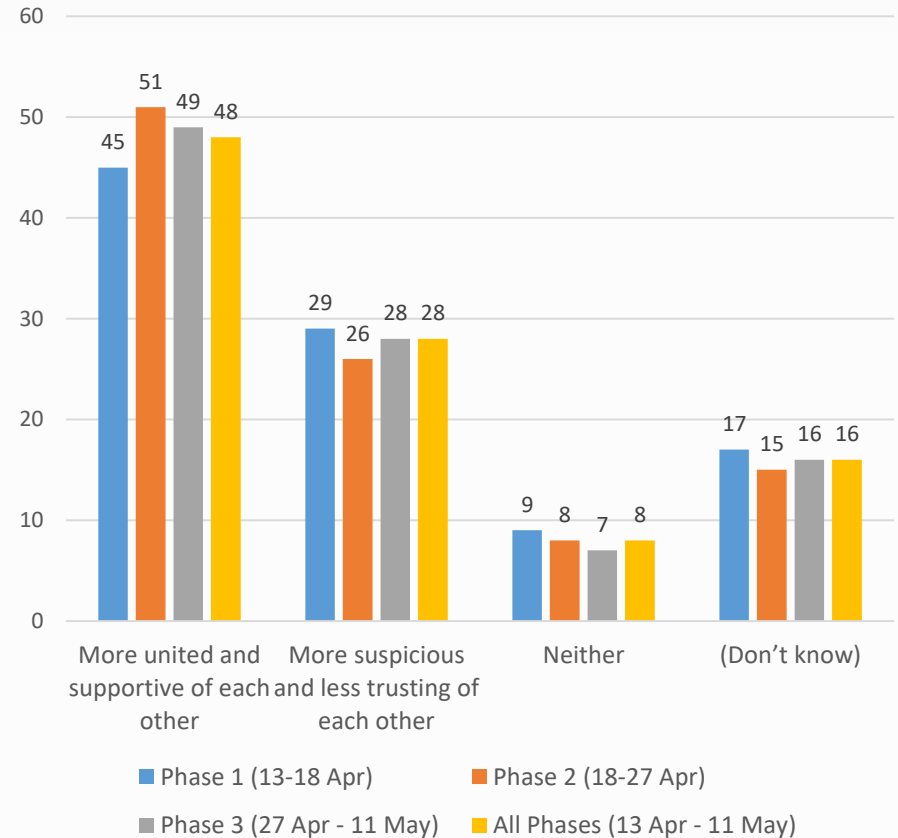


South Africans have been patient

Continue lockdown until end April (%)



In the immediate future, the Coronavirus pandemic is more likely to make South Africans



South Africans have done well

- Our survey showed that participants were **willing to support the extension** of the lockdown until end April.
- More participants felt that **South Africans are more united and supportive of each other** than more suspicious and less trusting of each other.
- There are many other examples of how **South Africans are helping each other**. To mention food parcels and soup kitchens



Challenges facing us

- When thinking about the Coronavirus here in South Africa – **53% said worse is yet to come** and 18% said worse is over
- About **89% were very concerned** that the coronavirus situation will have a negative impact on their **child's education**.
- **52% indicated** it is likely or very likely that their personal **situation will get worse** in the next few months due to the economic consequences of coronavirus, compared to 27 who felt it is unlikely or very unlikely
- **78%** agree / strongly agree that they have **difficulties paying for their expenses** due to their financial situation. 7% disagree or strongly disagree

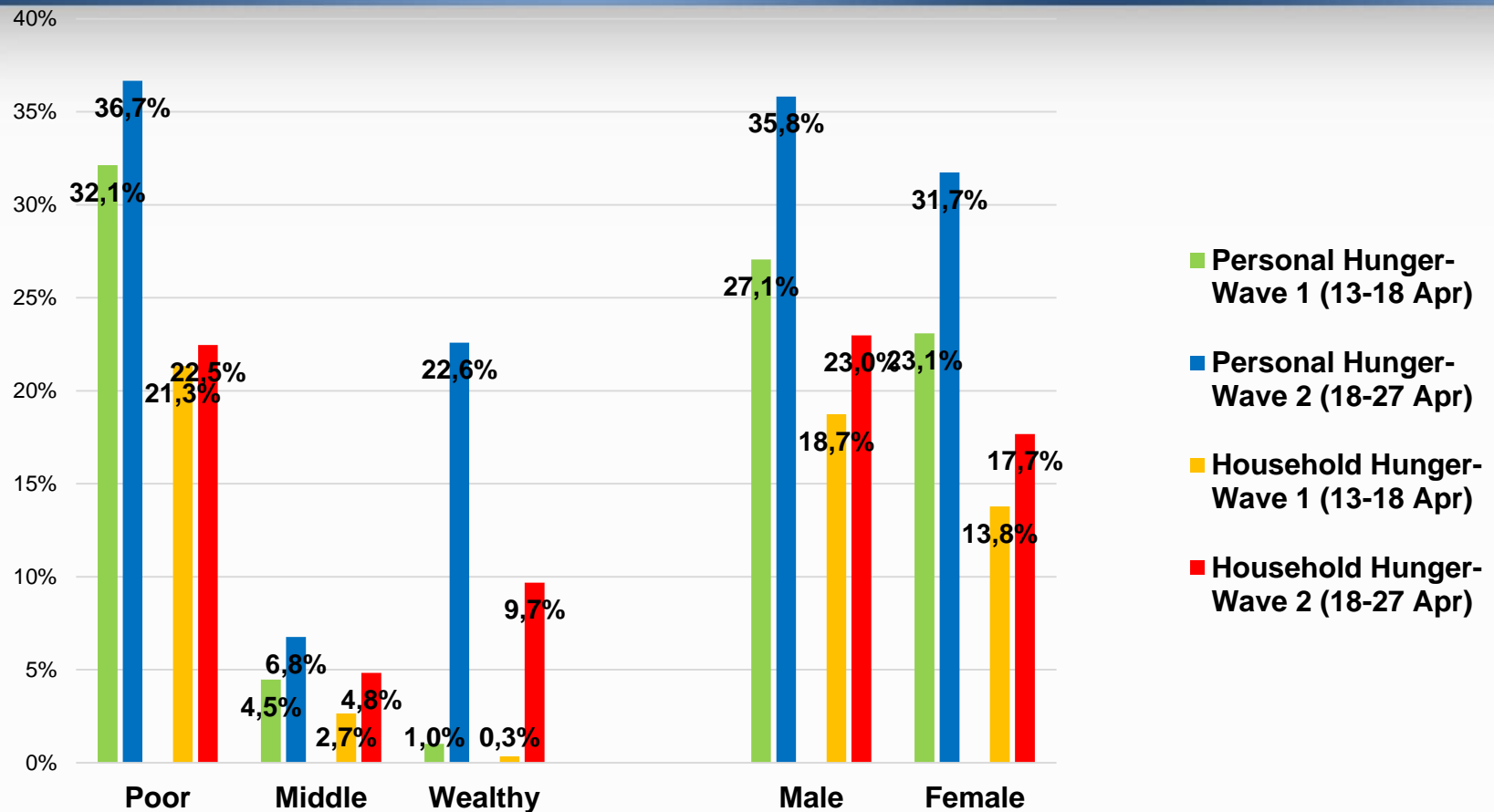


Lived experiences since lockdown

	Phase 1 (13-18 Apr)	Phase 2 (18-27 Apr)	Phase 3 (27 Apr - 11 May)	All Phases (13 Apr - 11 May)
You have gone to bed feeling hungry	33	42	43	38
Someone else in your household has gone to bed hungry	21	23	26	22
You have run out of soap or hand sanitizer	31	40	40	36
You have had problems with electricity at home	22	25	28	24
You have had problems getting water	9	10	12	10
You have been unable to get public transport when you needed it	18	18	21	19
Had none of the above problems	40	25	21	31



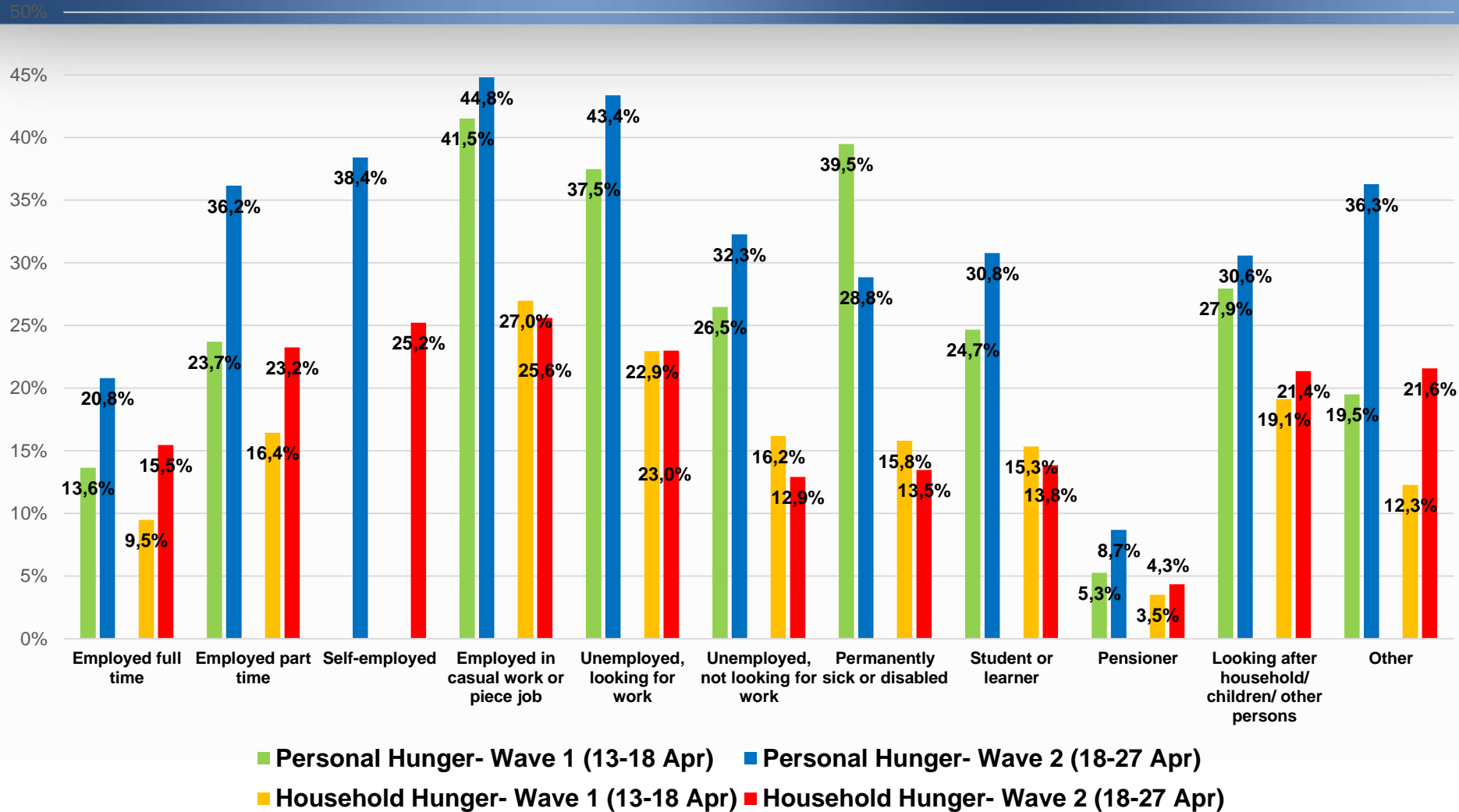
Experience of hunger at personal & household level, by Income Class and Gender



- Hunger is being most acutely felt by the poor (monthly household income < R10k).
- Men reported more experience of hunger by themselves or their household members than did women.

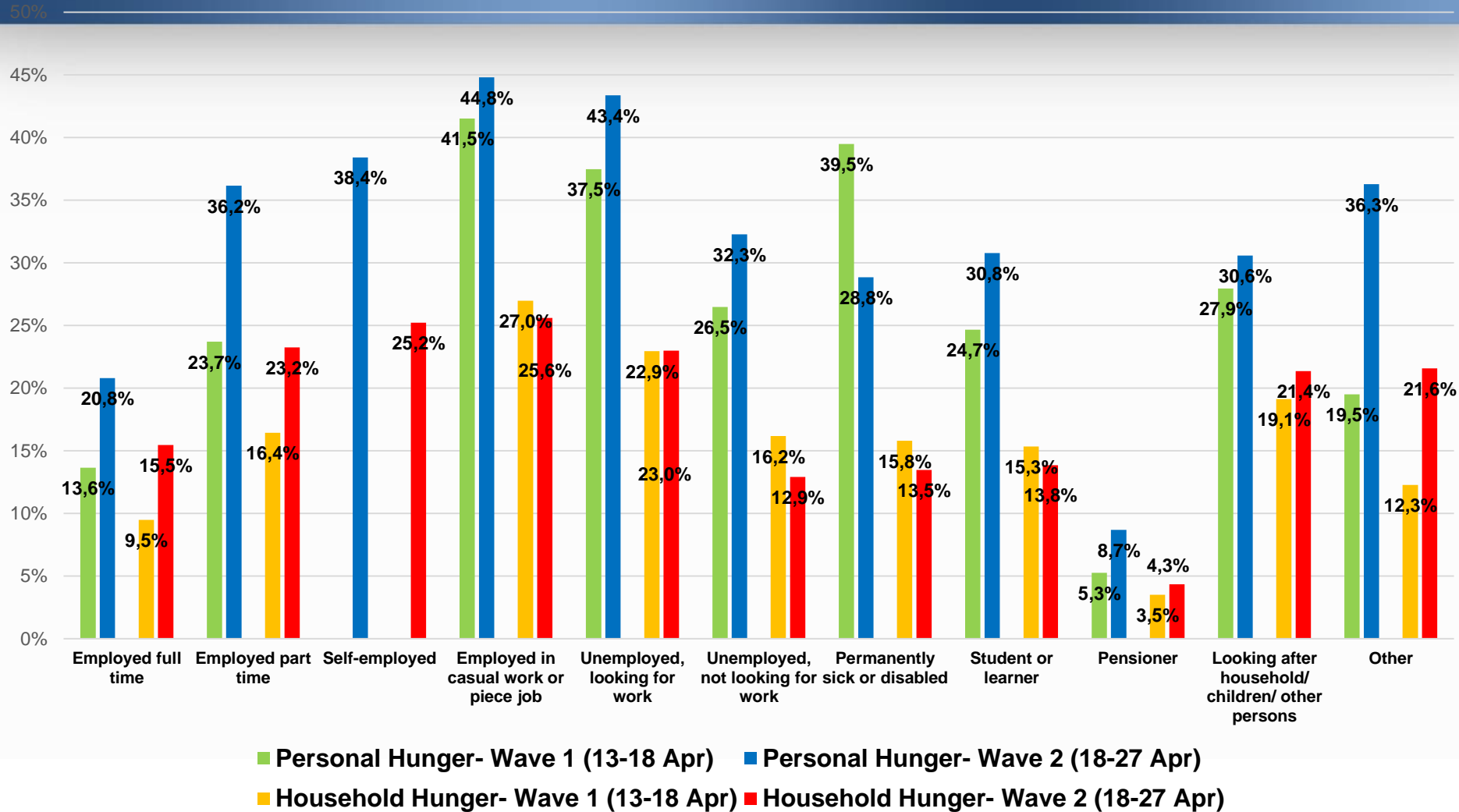


Experience of hunger at personal & household level, by occupation



- Hunger is highest amongst the casual or part-time employed, but is high even amongst the full-time employed.

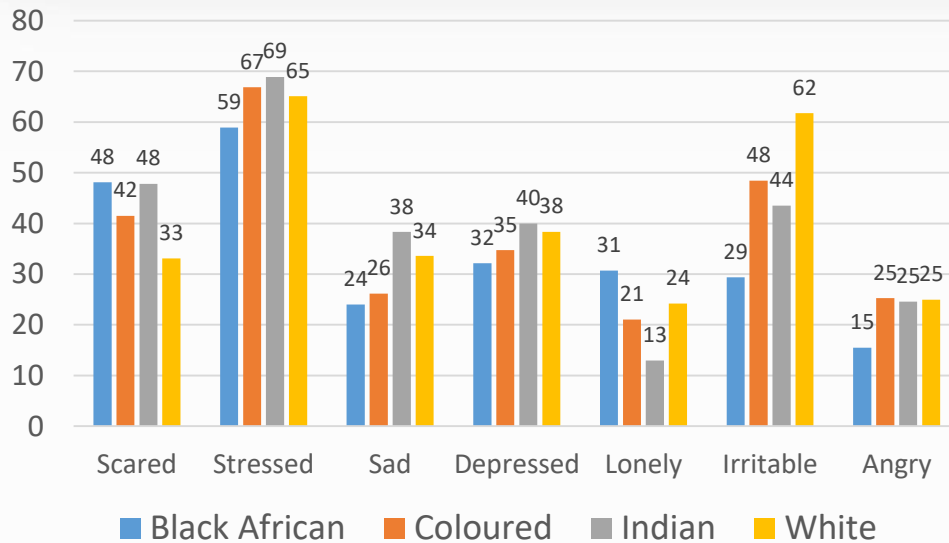
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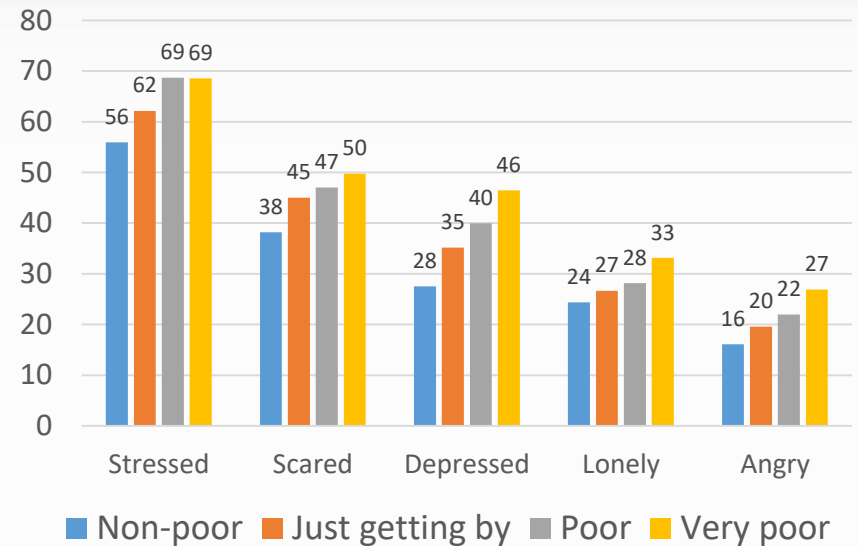
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Differential emotional experiences under lockdown: race, class

Population group



Subjective poverty status



- There are other important variations to disentangle reflecting our rainbow nation.
 - 53% of white respondents reported household incomes above R10,000 per month, compared to merely 6% of black Africans. That, sadly, was expected.
 - Yet only 29% of black African adults reported irritation, half that among white adults (62%)!

Equality and the lockdown

- This issue of **equality** is important during this lockdown.
- The **Constitution** is clear – “Everyone is equal before the law and has the right to equal protection and benefit of the law” (s 9 of the C)
- This is one of the reasons why the South African Human Rights Commission (**SAHRC**) requested the Minister of Basic Education to come back to them with revised back-to-school directions.
- The SAHRC issue was with equality from the onset: "We are **concerned about disadvantaged learners and whether their right to education is fulfilled or not,**" (Commissioner Andre **Gaum**)

