



# COVID-19 Survey Results

**PAVE PAKISTAN**



Australian Government  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

# Survey Overview

## Overview

Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, a small survey was conducted with married female farmers participating in PAVE Pakistan. The purpose of this survey was to get an idea of how life, workloads and household dynamics of the female farmers have been impacted by COVID-19.

For the survey, a total of 37 randomly selected smallholder farmer women were interviewed. Around half of the interviews were conducted in-person by PAVE's Women Seed Officers, with the rest of the interviews conducted over the phone.



*PAVE project staff conducting the COVID-19 survey with respondent*

# Survey Overview



*PAVE project staff conducting the COVID-19 survey with respondent*

## **Participants:**

37 women smallholder farmers participating in PAVE Pakistan

## **Data collection:**

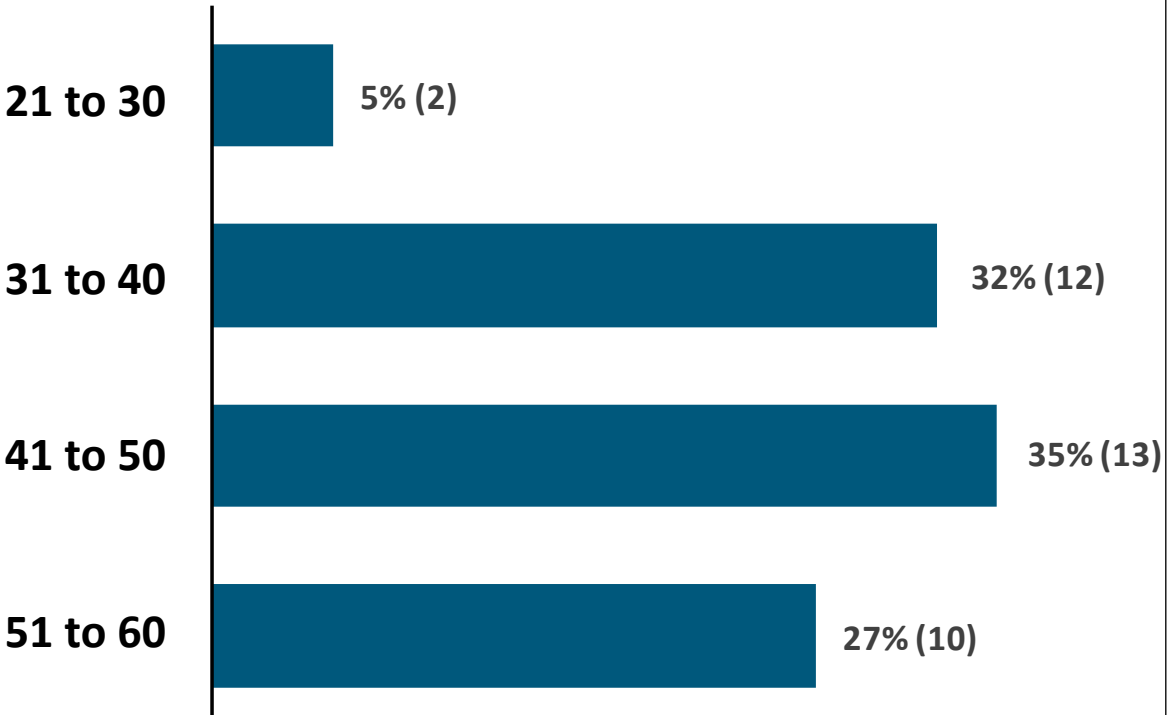
June 25, 2020 – June 28, 2020

## **Locations:**

Sheikhupura and Gujranwala districts, Punjab, Pakistan

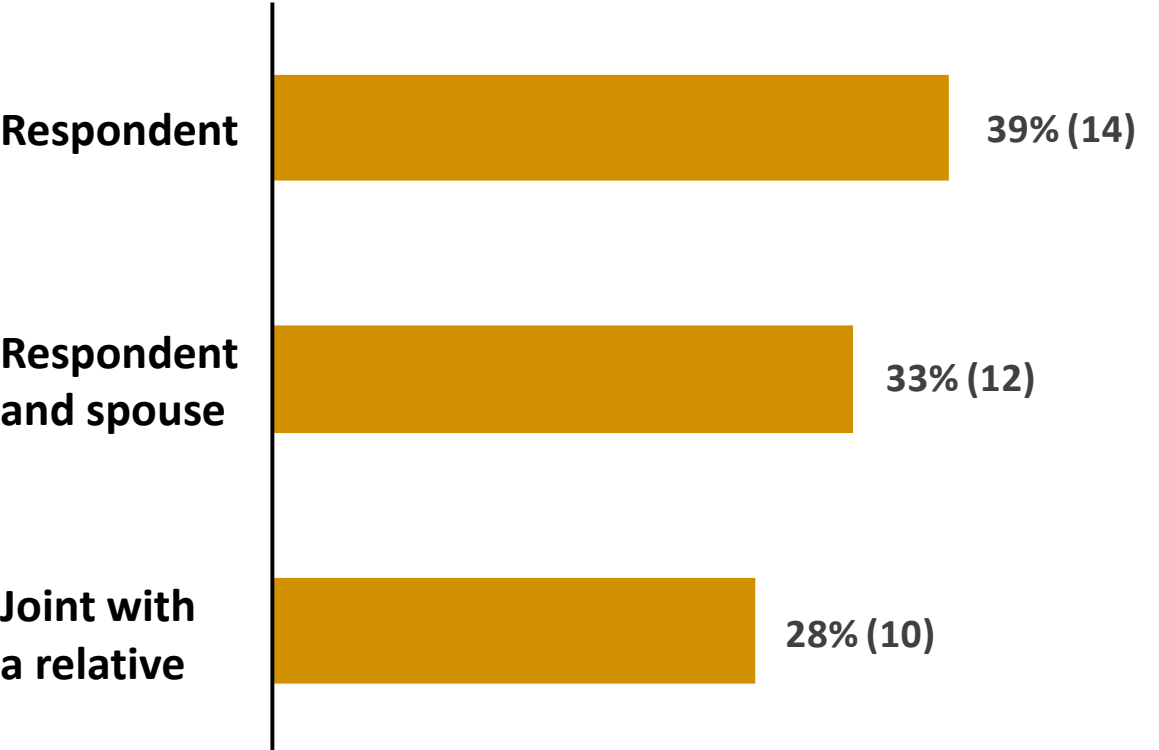
# Respondent Demographics

## Respondent Age



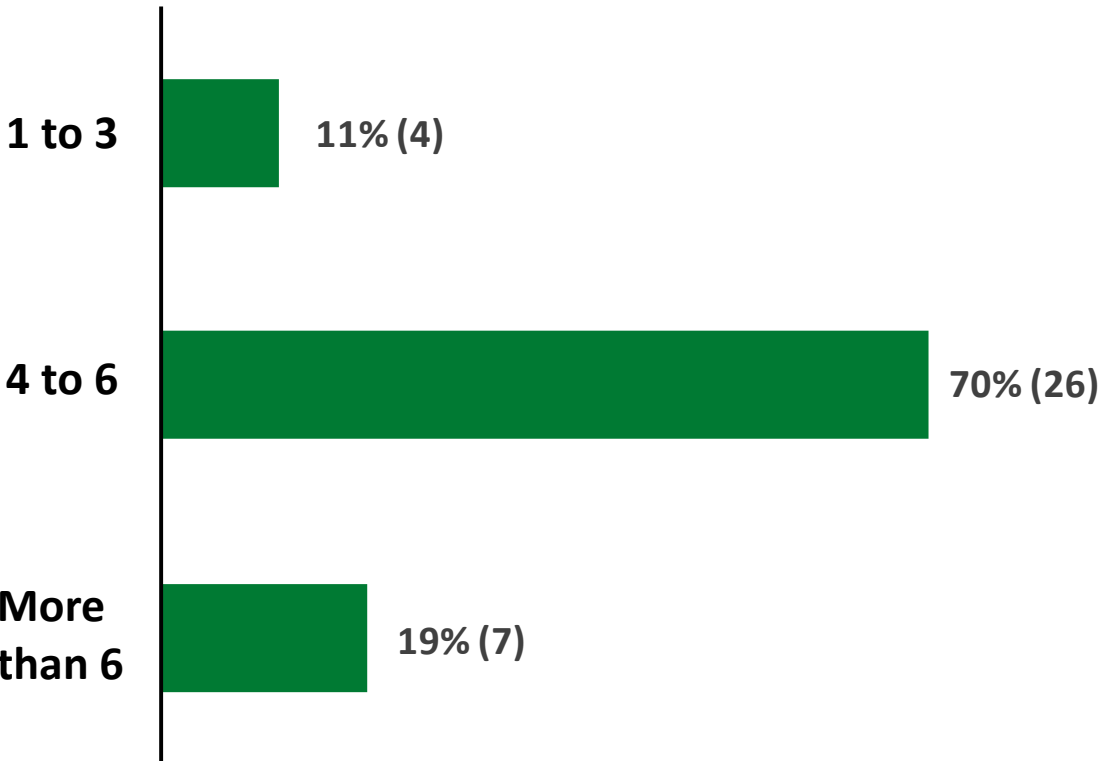
Most of the women interviewed were between 31 and 50 years old.

## Head of Household



39% of the women interviewed said that they were the head of the household.

## Household Size



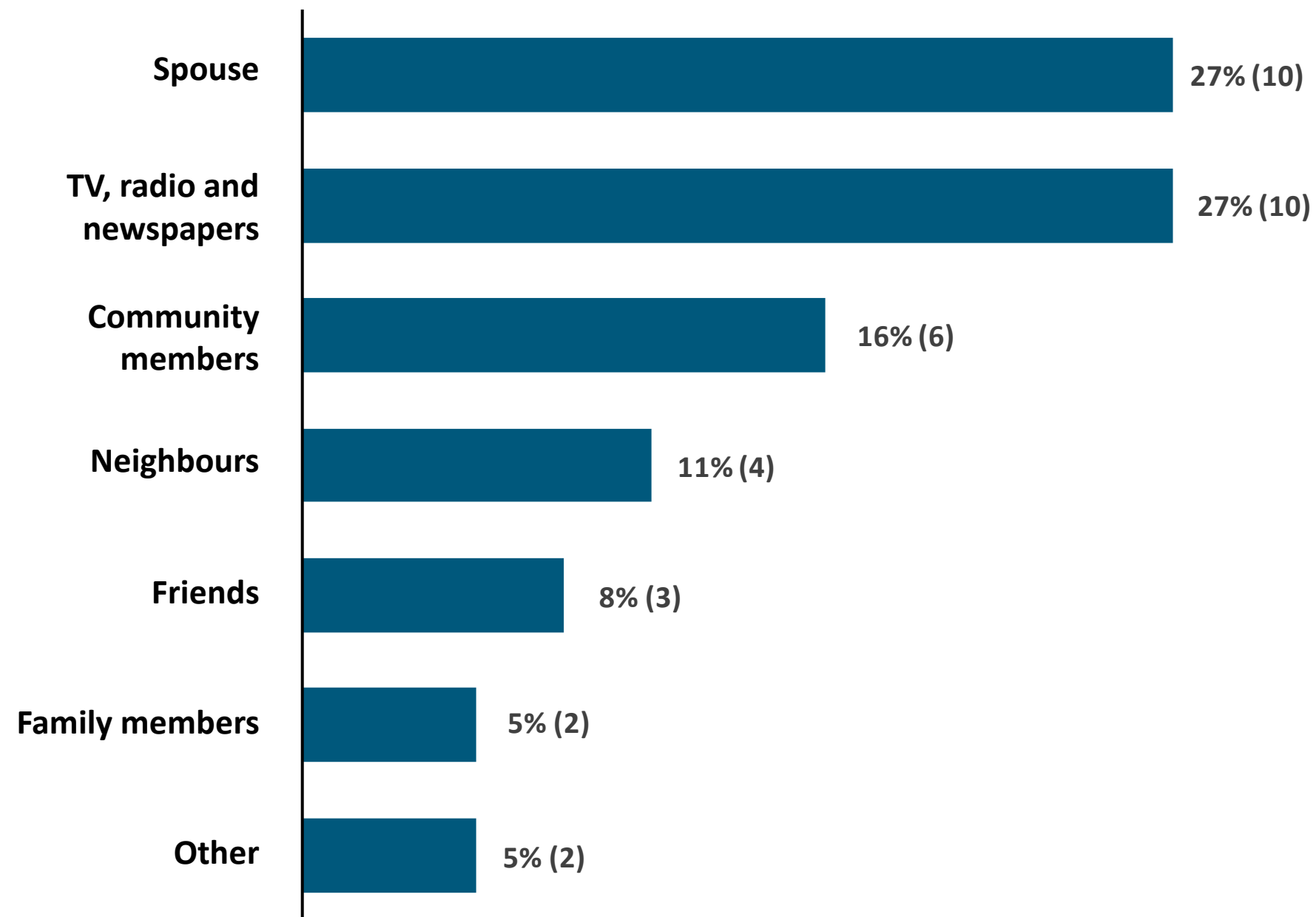
The majority (70%) of women interviewed had between 4 to 6 members in their household.

**Note:** Percentages are of 37 total respondents, number of respondents is in brackets



# Awareness of COVID-19

## Primary Source of COVID-19 Information



**Note:** Percentages are of 37 total respondents, number of respondents is in brackets

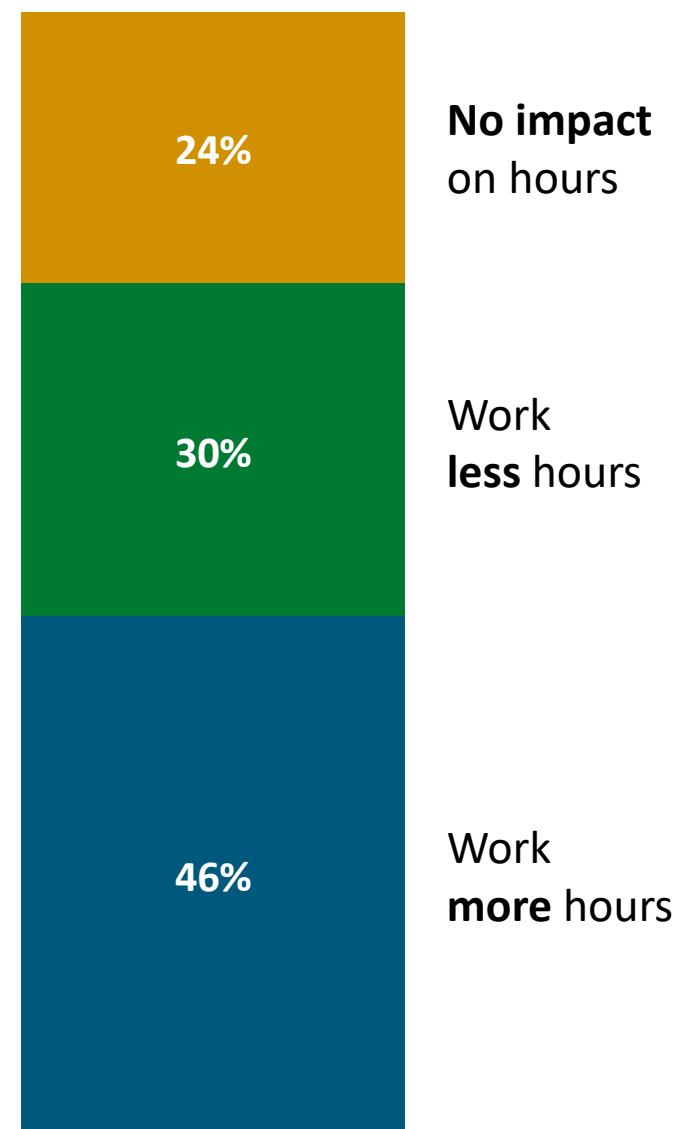
100% of respondents were aware of the coronavirus pandemic, but none of the respondents had family affected by the virus.

When asked about their primary source of COVID-19 information:

- **27% of the women responded that they received news from TV, radio, and newspaper.**
- **27% of the women said that they received information from their husband.** Husbands, who are primarily involved with business dealings in the public sphere, have more access to information than women.
- **A combined 35% said that they received information from neighbors, friends, or community members.** These communities are knit closely in terms of their social relations and interactions, so exchange of information is very common.

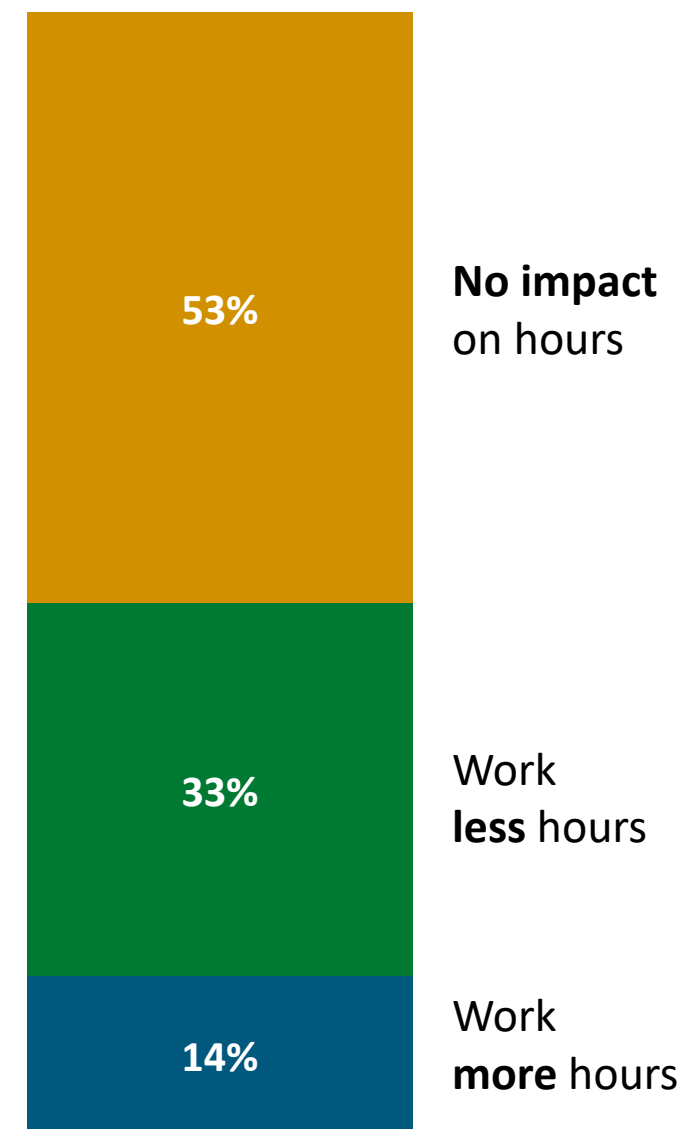
# COVID-19 Impact on Workload

COVID-19 impact on:  
**Household workload**



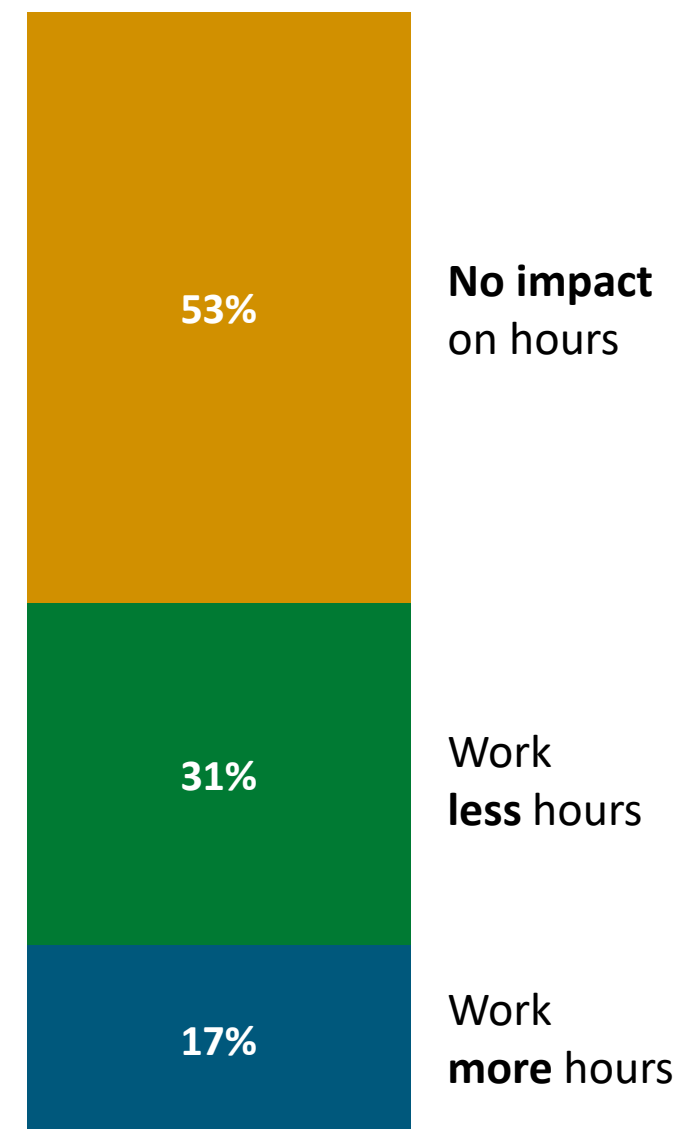
All respondents

COVID-19 impact on:  
**Farm workload**



All respondents

COVID-19 impact on:  
**Overall workload**



All respondents

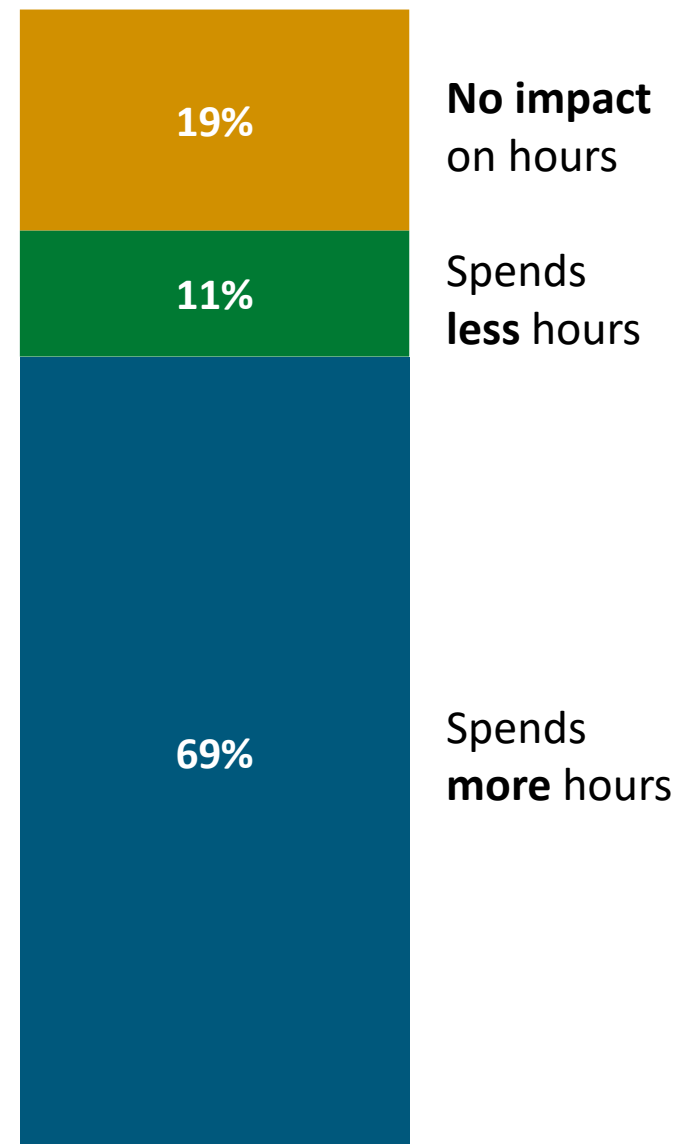
When asked about COVID-19's impact on the respondent's workload:

- **Household workload:** 46% of respondents said their household work has increased while 30% said that their workload had decreased.
- **Farm workload:** 53% of the women said that the virus had no impact on their farm work while 33% said it had decreased. Very few women said their farm workload increased.
- **Overall workload:** 53% said there has been no significant change in their workload, while 31% said it has become easier to manage. For women, whose husband and children were willing to assist them in their household work, their presence at home meant the woman's workload decreased overall.

**Note:** Percentages are of 36 total respondents, one respondent did not answer question

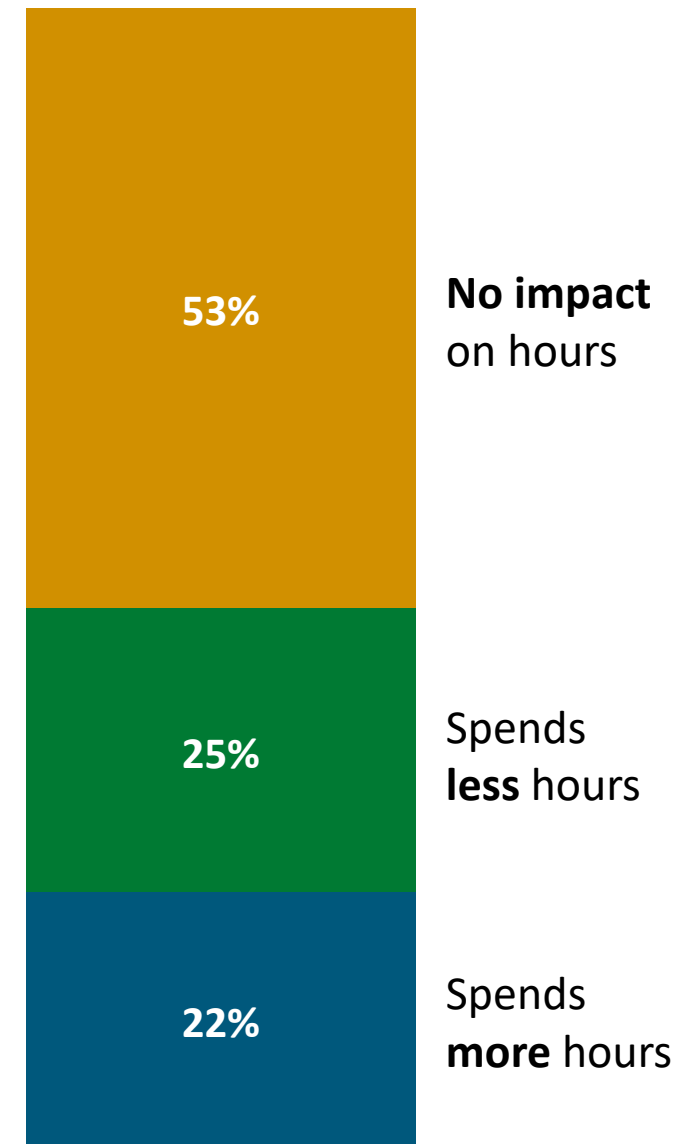
# COVID-19 Impact on Relationship with Spouse

COVID-19 impact on:  
**Husband's time spent in house**



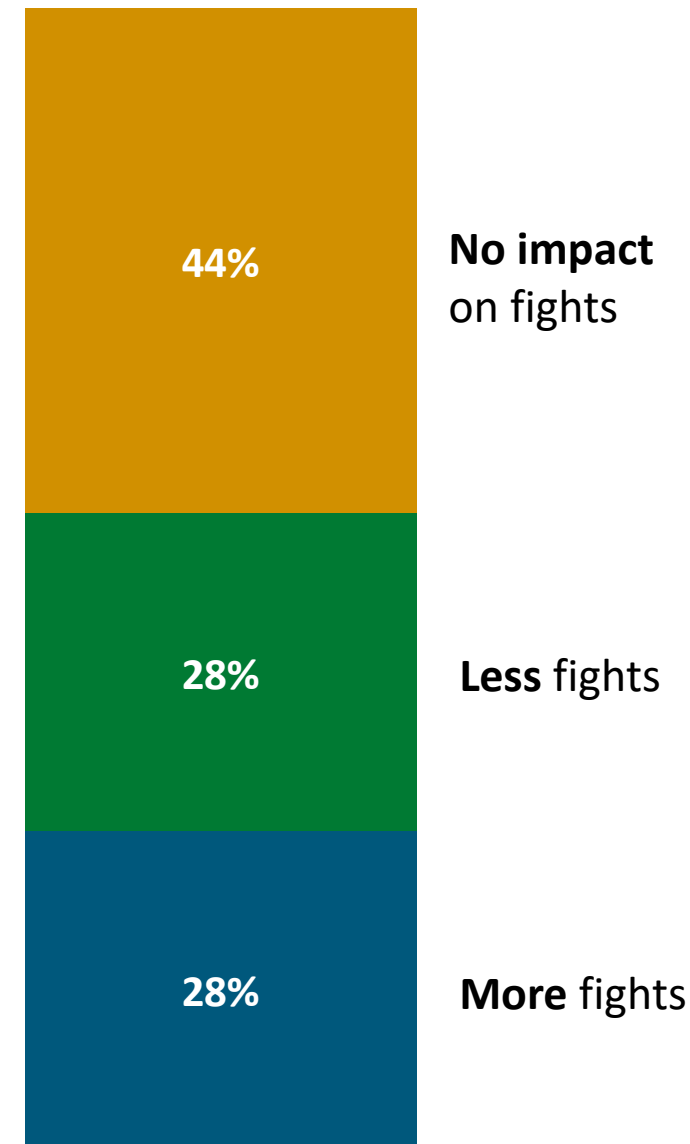
All respondents

COVID-19 impact on:  
**Husband's time spent doing chores**



All respondents

COVID-19 impact on:  
**Number of fights with husband**



All respondents

When asked about COVID-19's impact on their relationship with their spouse:

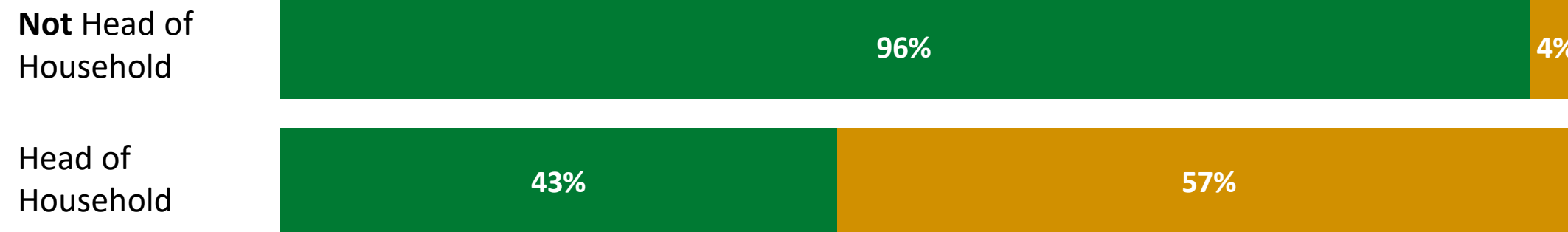
- **Time in house:** 69% of women reported their husbands spending more time at home. Most of the men had limited their farming activities due to COVID-19.
- **Time spent doing chores:** the majority (53%) of the women said that there was no change in their husband's time spent doing chores, even though they were spending more time at home.
- **Number of fights:** the majority (44%) of women said that COVID-19 had no impact on the fights between them and their husband. Some women mentioned that they were happy that husbands were looking after the kids and helping them in their work.

**Note:** Percentages are of 36 total respondents, one respondent did not answer question

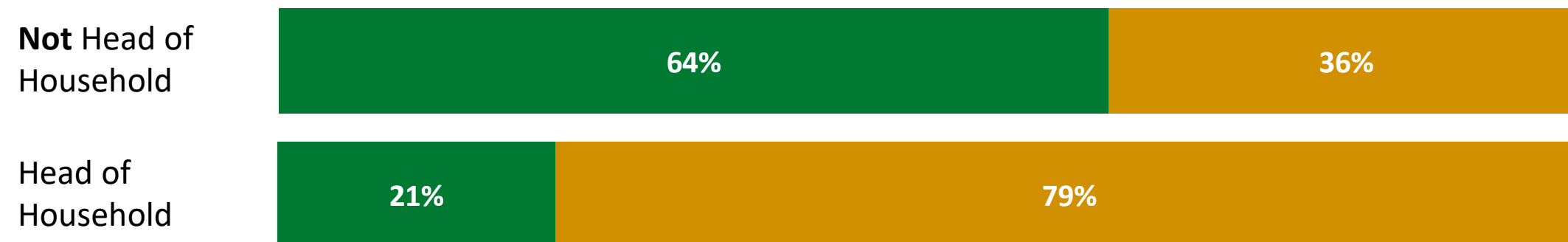
# COVID-19 Impact on Workload: HoH vs. Non-HoH

## Household workload

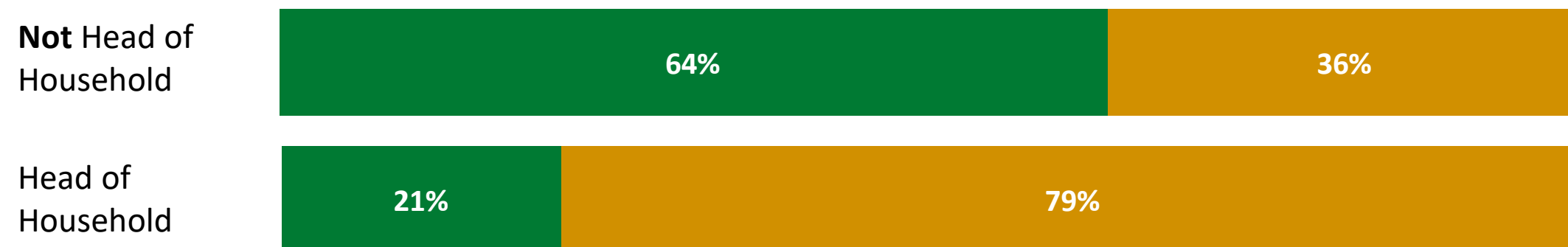
■ Workload increased or decreased ■ Workload didn't change



## Farm workload



## Overall workload



**Women who self-declared as heads of their households experienced less variation in their workload due to COVID-19:** for household, farm, and overall workloads, women who were heads of their households were more likely to report that their workload didn't change. This is especially noticeable in household work, where 94% of non-HoH women reported their workload either increasing or decreasing, compared to only 43% of HoH women.

One potential explanation could be that as head of the household, they have more say in how tasks are allocated within the household.

**Note:** Head of household (HoH) sub-sample consists of 14 respondents. Non-HoH sub-sample consists of 22 respondents



# Open-ended Responses



Female smallholder farmers demonstrating seed processing techniques in a feedback session conducted by the Project Director

## In your opinion, what has been the major impact of COVID-19 for you as individual?

"We have started keeping our home cleaner. I have become more health conscious than before."

"Workload has increased. I have to keep my home clean all the time and I have to cook again and again because most of the family members spend most of their time in the home."

"Because of COVID-19, my children are at home and disturb me the whole day. Moreover, I spend my whole day in kitchen."

"My workload has increased. I am very worried about my husband. Because of COVID-19, he has no work."

"Things are normal. But I take precautions on my level to protect my family. When my husband comes from job. I advise him to take a bath first."

"Because of decreased spending on shopping and useless things we saved money for spending on the marriage of my daughter."

"We have learned to do business from home."

# Open-ended Responses

**In your opinion, what has been the major impact of COVID-19 for your household?**

“Workload has not increased as my husband spends more time at home. He helps me more in my household work. **All are at home and work gets shared**”

“It has been easy to manage work **because my daughters do more work**. Because they are jobless in this scenario”.

“**My husband spends more time at home** and that’s the best part”.

“We have got our **social interactions, visits, contacts decreased because of COVID-19**. And, this is a point of distress”.

“**Kids have started taking responsibility to share workload of the family** as they are at home.”

“**My daughters have started their sewing business** after learning that in the holidays and during COVID-19”.

“In our rural communities, **focus on health, hygiene and cleanliness has increased**, and everybody has started taking care. “



*PAVE project staff conducting the COVID-19 survey with respondent*

# Open-ended Responses



Project participant Baba Sardar in his paddy seed *plot* with PAVE Project Director

## In your opinion, what has been the major impact of COVID-19 for your husband?

“Although my husband has no work to do, he spends more time with me. **Has become more caring and loving.** He cooks new dishes and helps me in my chores.”

“My husband respects me more because he remains at home all the time. **When he observes me doing works for my family, he respects me more.**”

“My husband works on daily wages as a laborer. **He has less work these days.** My son is a rikshaw driver. His work has also almost stopped. **My husband is worried.**”

“Because of being at home most of the time. **He spends more time on criticizing, eating and fighting.** “

“My husband is jobless due to COVID-19 **and fights with me the whole day.** I pray that COVID-19 finishes quickly. “

“We now work together at farm and at home. **He has become more cooperative.** He loves me more than the months before COVID-19”.

“My husband has started working on his previously rented land. **He has also started his milk business as well.**”