

Results of the Tokyo-iCDC Risk Communication Team's Survey on Residents' Awareness

April 15, 2021

- **Survey method:** Internet survey
- **Target audience:** Residents of Tokyo aged from their 20s to 70s
- **Sampling method and sample size:** Quota sampling based on gender and age composition proportional to the population ratio of Tokyo.

10,000 samples.

	20 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 59	60 to 69	70 to 79	Total
Male	793	994	1087	804	755	564	4997
Female	772	953	1048	760	776	694	5003

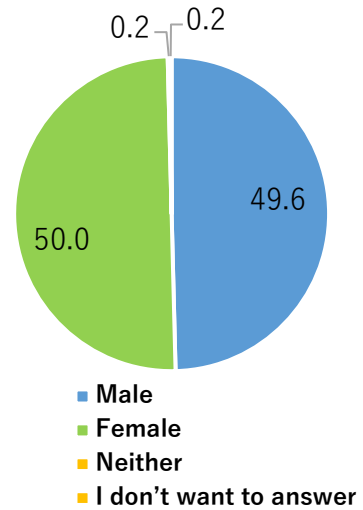
- **Survey period:** February 26 to March 3, 2021 (during the second state of emergency)
- **Survey items:**
 - Current infection prevention measures being taken (○ Reasons for not taking or being unable to take infection prevention measures)
 - Feelings and experiences regarding COVID-19
 - Information behaviors regarding COVID-19
 - Awareness and experiences regarding medical consultations
 - Awareness and knowledge of vaccines
 - Experiences regarding COVID-19 infection and response
 - Status of health
 - Changes in work and life
 - Human relationships, experiences of prejudice and discrimination
 - Basic attributes, etc.

Basic Attributes of Valid Responses

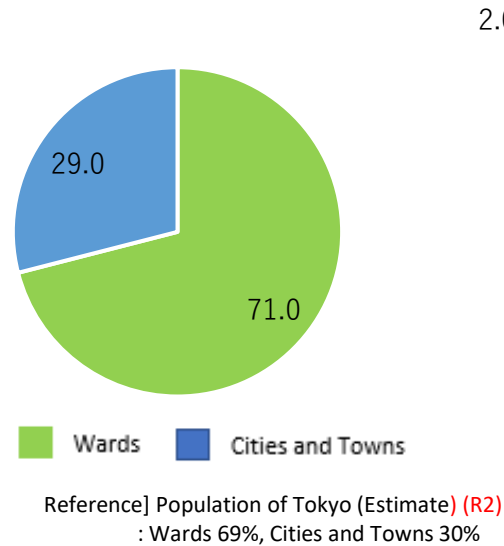
Number of Valid Responses:
n = 10,000

(In %)

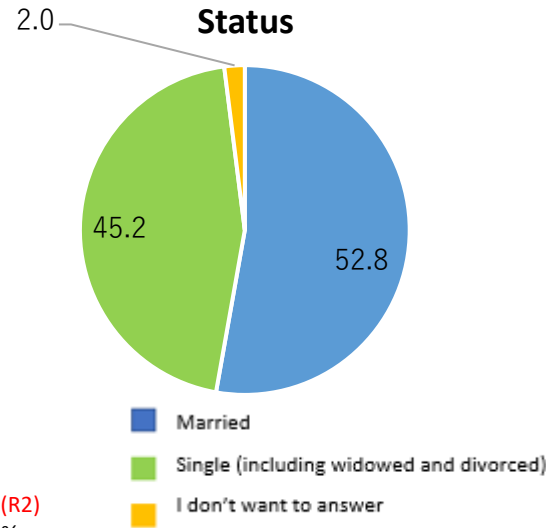
Respondent's Gender



Respondent's Location



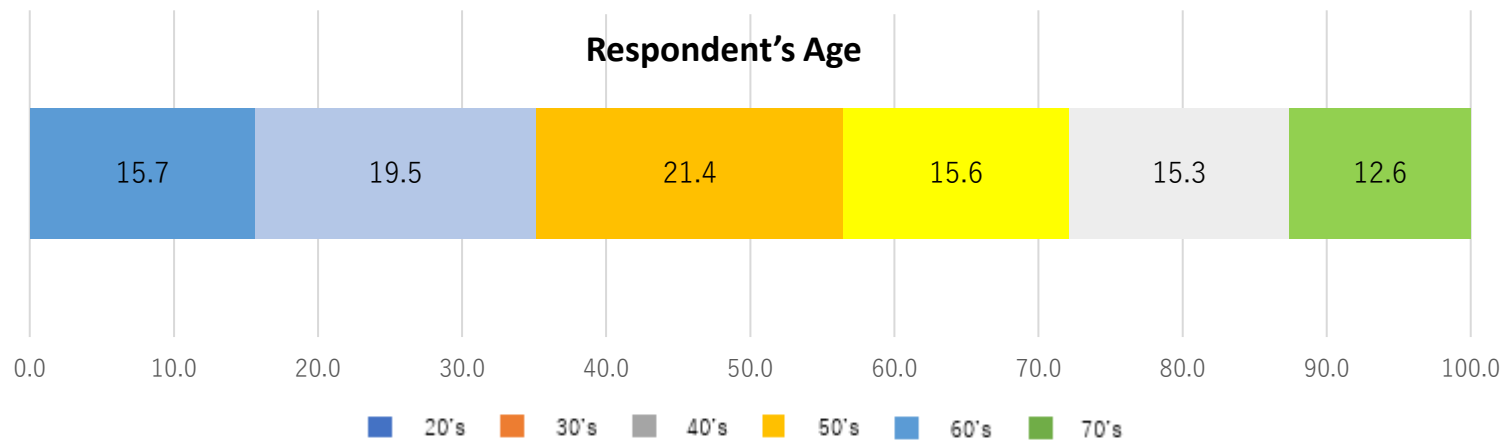
Respondent's Marital Status



Respondent's Career

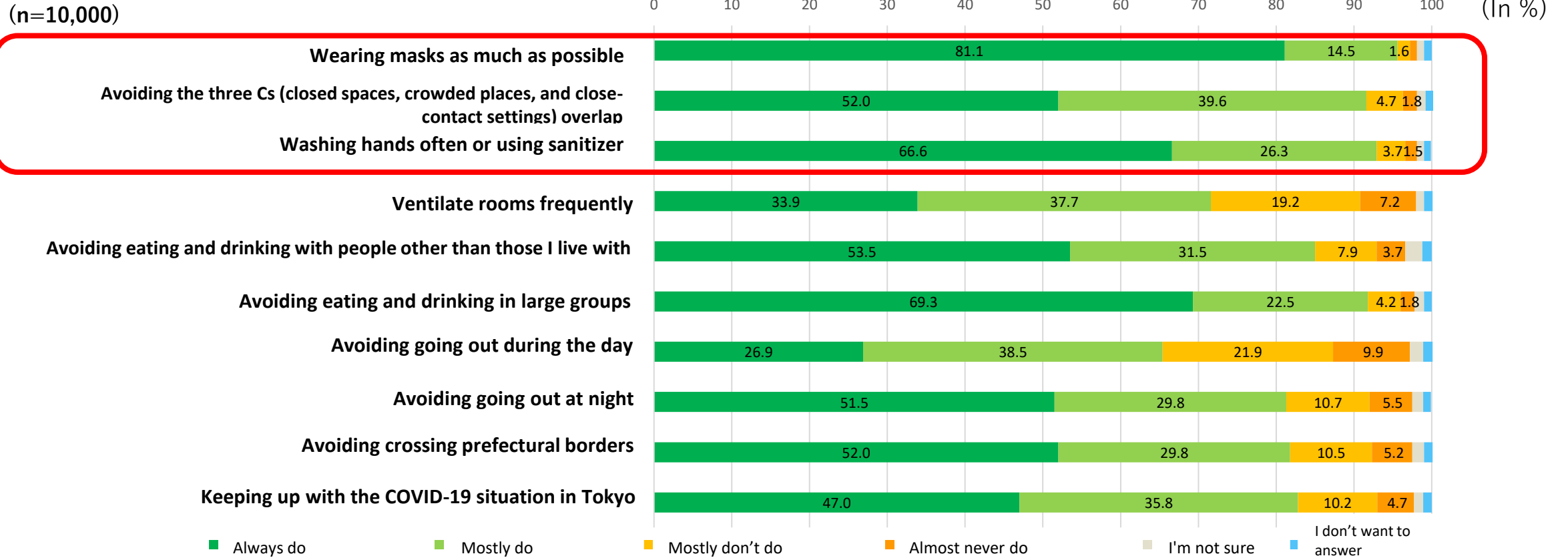
Managers	8.3
Professional/technical workers	13.9
Clerical workers	19.6
Sales workers	4.3
Service workers	10.3
Security workers	0.6
Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries workers	0.0
Production process workers	1.4
Transport and machinery operators	0.8
Construction and mining workers	0.7
Transportation, cleaning, and packaging workers	1.4
Occupation not classifiable	2.9
Homemaker	15.2
Student	2.9
Unemployed	14.0
I don't want to answer	3.6
Overall	100.0

Respondent's Age



Q

Please select the COVID-19 countermeasures you are currently using.

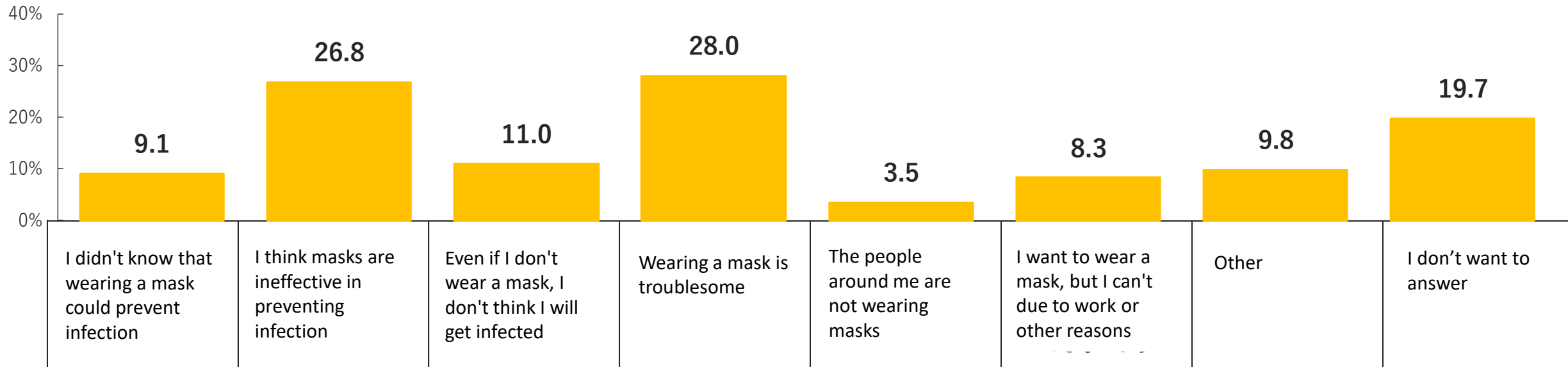


- ◆ **Constant readiness:** Many responded that they are most careful (from most to least) in the order of wearing masks, hand hygiene, and avoiding the three Cs (closed spaces, crowded places, and close-contact settings).
- ◆ **Items that residents were requested to pay particular attention to during the state of emergency:** Many responded that they are most careful (from most to least) in the order of avoiding dining with large groups or non-family members, followed by crossing prefectural borders, and going out at night

Q Mask wearing:

For those who answered "Mostly don't do" or "Almost never do" regarding wearing masks, Why? Please select all that apply.

(n=254)

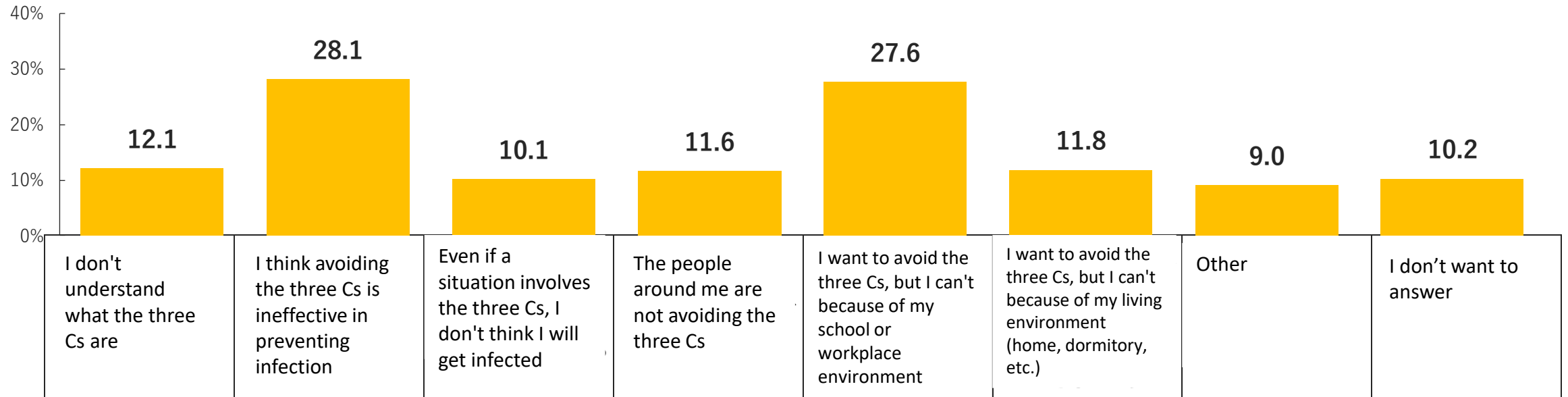


- ◆ "Wearing a mask is troublesome" and "I think masks are ineffective in preventing infection" stand out.
- ◆ Considering newly understood insights, creating a renewed awareness of the preventive effects of masks and the effectiveness and methods of reducing infection through proper mask-wearing habits might be necessary.

Q Avoiding the three Cs:

For those who answered "Mostly don't do" or "Almost never do" regarding wearing masks, Why? Please select all that apply.

(n=644)

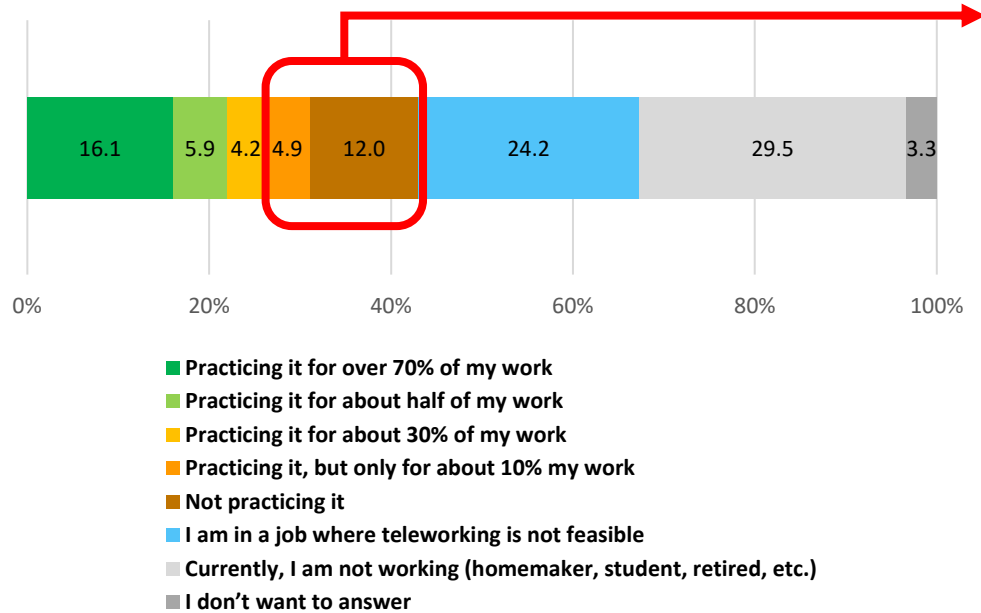


- ◆ "Avoiding the three Cs is ineffective in preventing infection" and "I want to avoid the three Cs, but can't due to my school or workplace environment" are prominent.
- ◆ Environmental factors also play a significant role in realizing avoidance of the three Cs.
- ◆ Recommunicating the concept and risks of the three Cs to both residents and institutions like schools and businesses, including strategies for avoidance, might be beneficial.

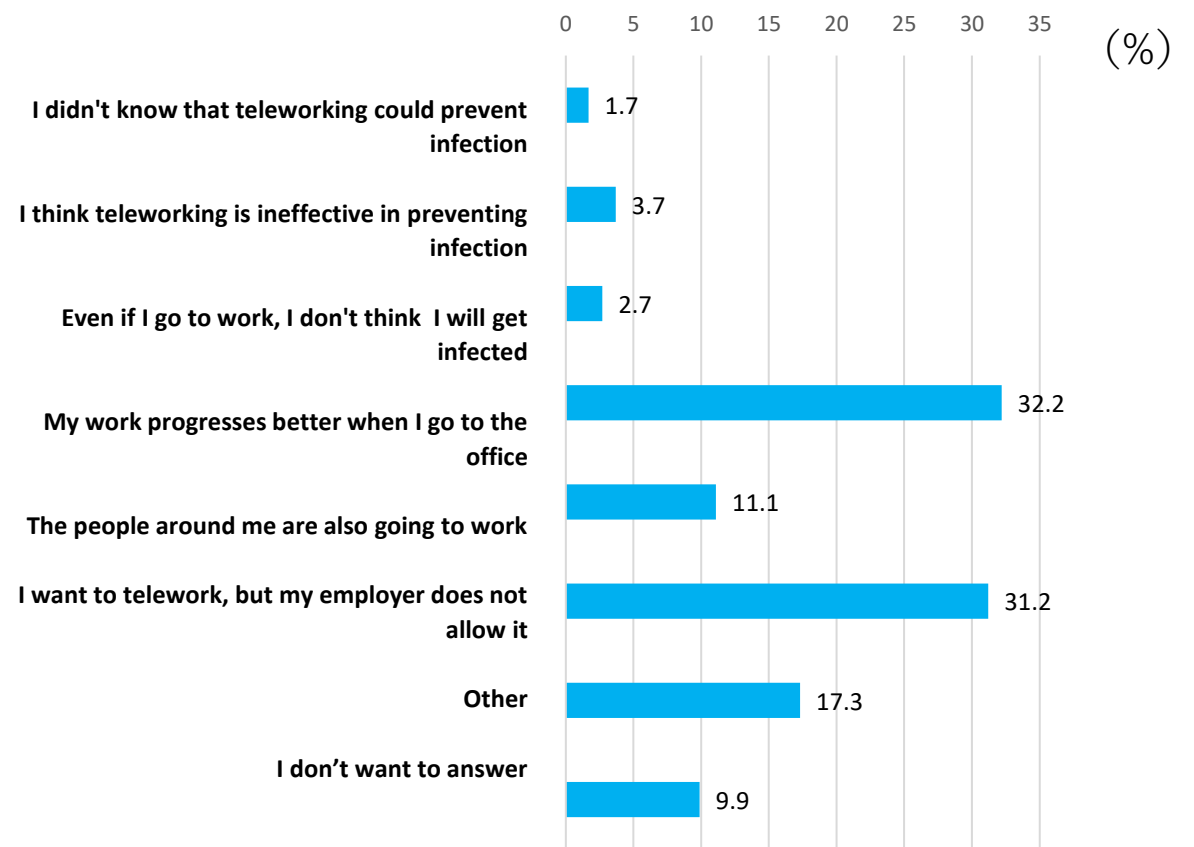
Q Telework: Degree of practice

For those who answered "practicing it, but only for about 10% of my work" or "not practicing it," Why? Please select all that apply.

"In the past month, how much have you practiced teleworking?" (n=10,000)



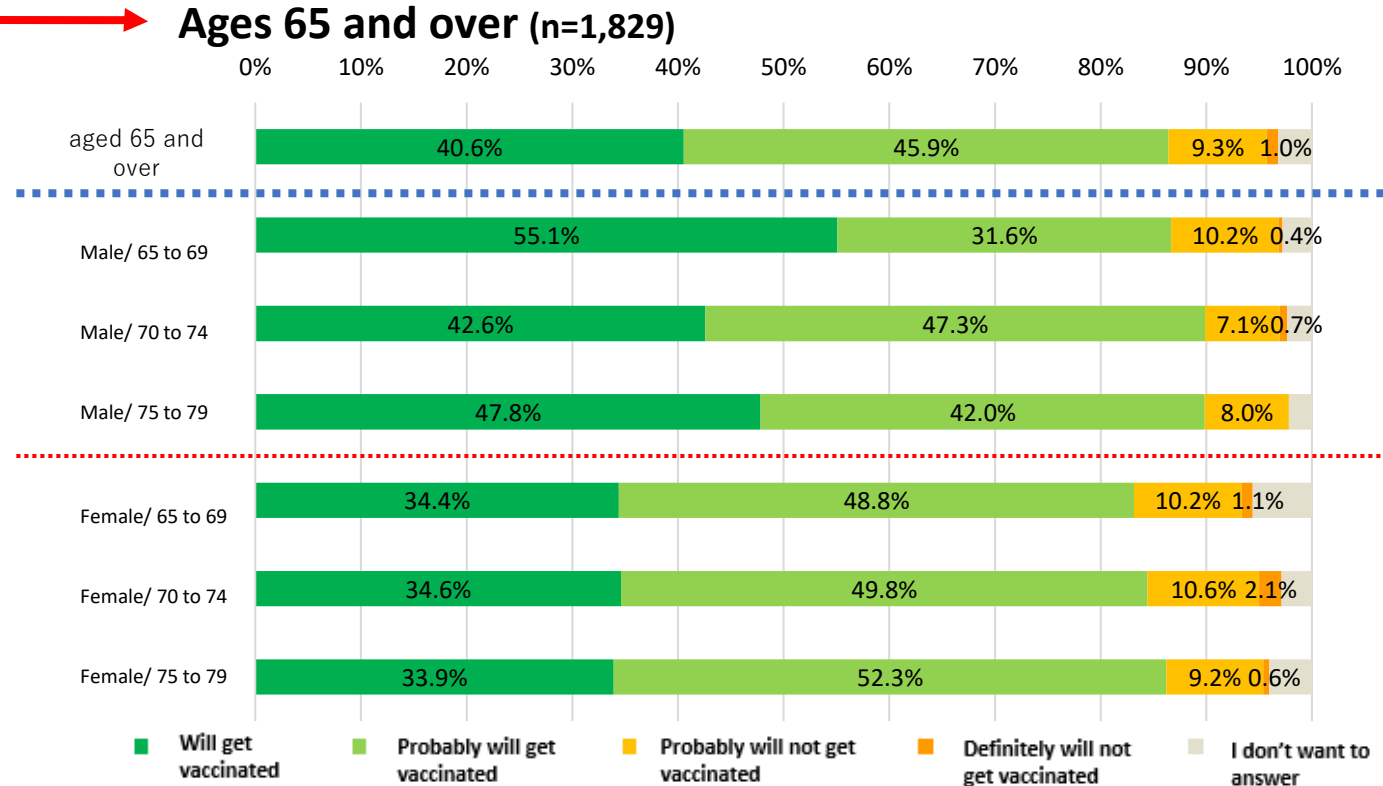
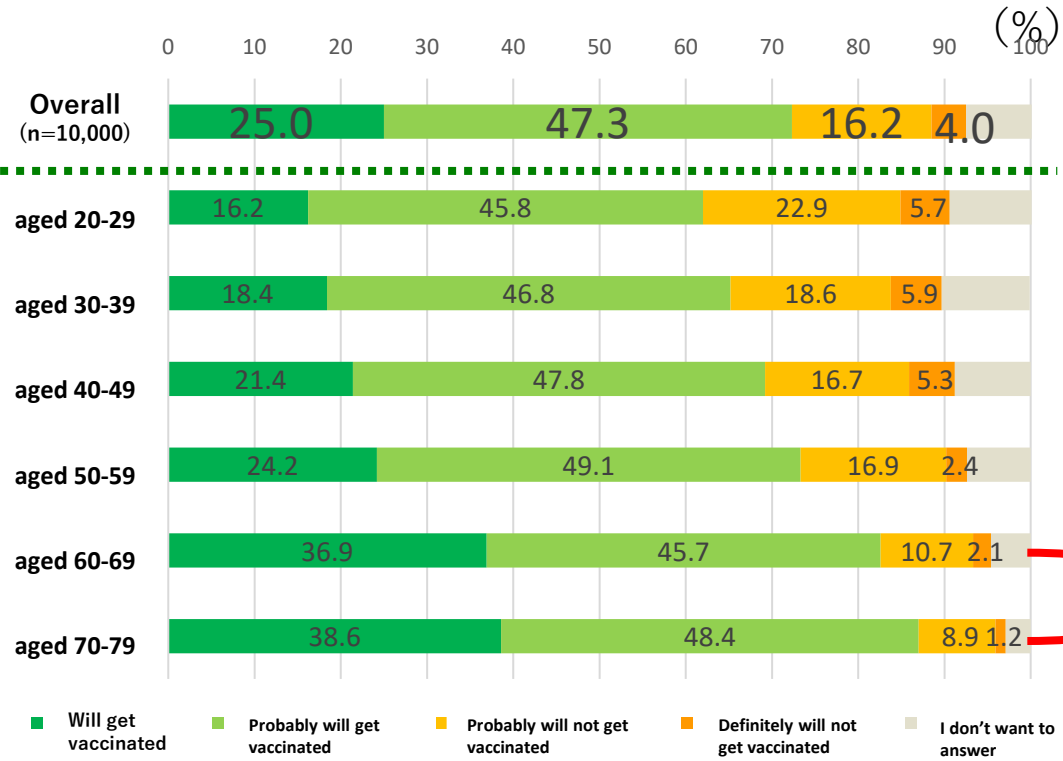
"Why?" (n=1,685)



- ◆ Amongst reasons for not practicing telework, "My work progresses better when I go to the office" and "I want to telework, but my employer does not allow it" rank high.
- ◆ Businesses may need to take more proactive steps in facilitating the conditions and environment for telework where it is feasible.

Q

Do you plan to get vaccinated against COVID-19? Please select the option that applies.



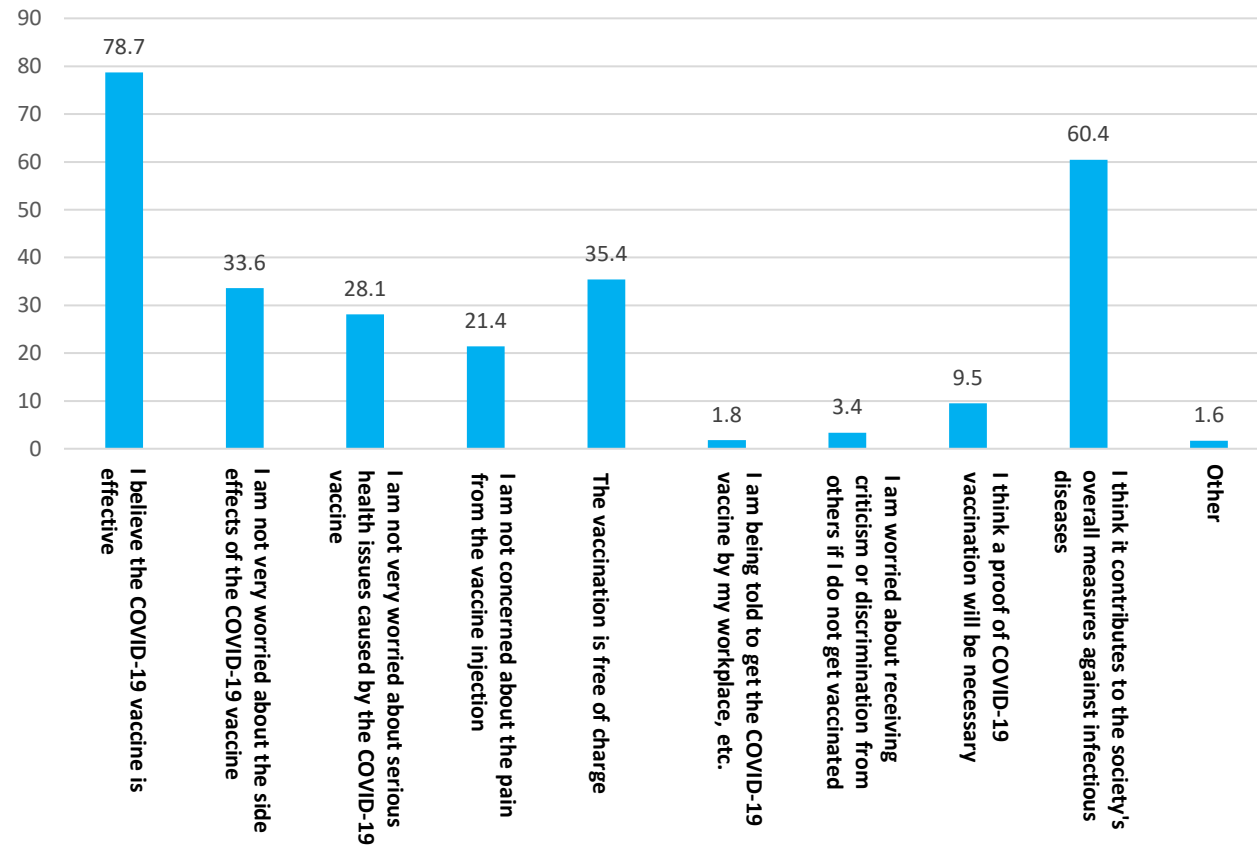
- ◆ The desire to get vaccinated increases with age.
- ◆ It is possible that the younger demographic is not considering vaccination as a personal matter yet, partly because the timeline for when they can get vaccinated is unclear.
- ◆ 86.5% of the elderly population is eager to get vaccinated.

Reasons for getting or not getting the COVID-19 vaccine (Ages 65 and over) (Select all that apply)

Reasons for getting vaccinated:

Ages 65 and over (n=1,579)

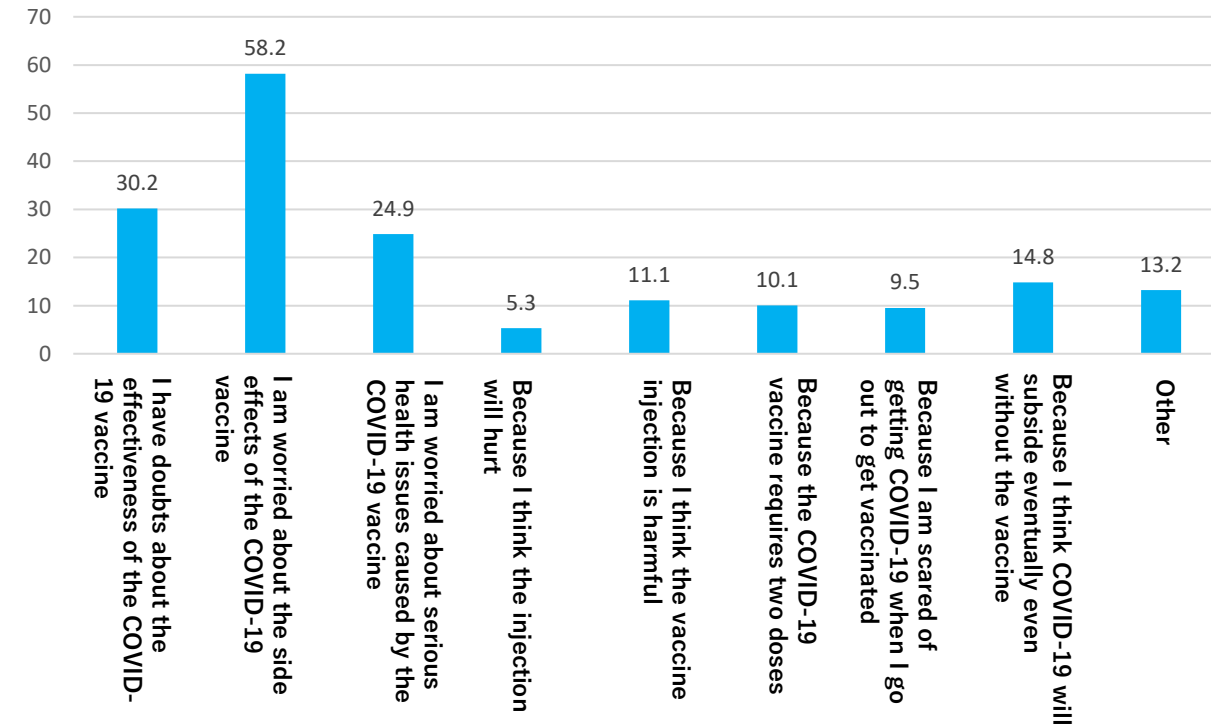
(%)



Reasons for not getting vaccinated:

Ages 65 and over (n=189)

(%)



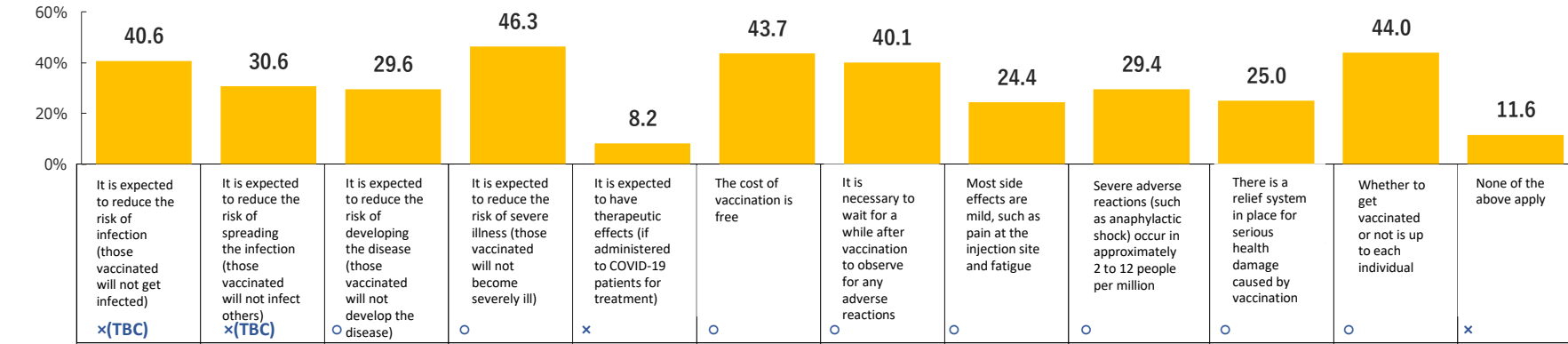
- ◆ Many respondents appreciate not only the personal benefits but also the benefits to society as a whole.
- ◆ There are ongoing concerns about side effects, so continuous, careful communication is necessary.

Q

Which of the following statements about the COVID-19 vaccine do you believe to be correct?

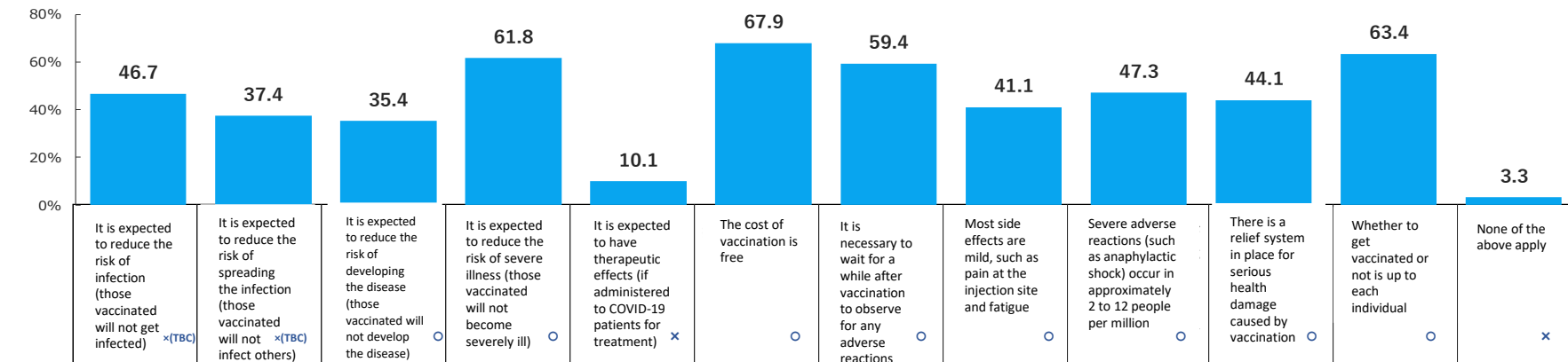
Please select all that apply.

All generations (n=10,000)



* TBC: to be confirmed. Currently, information on effectiveness is limited and unclear

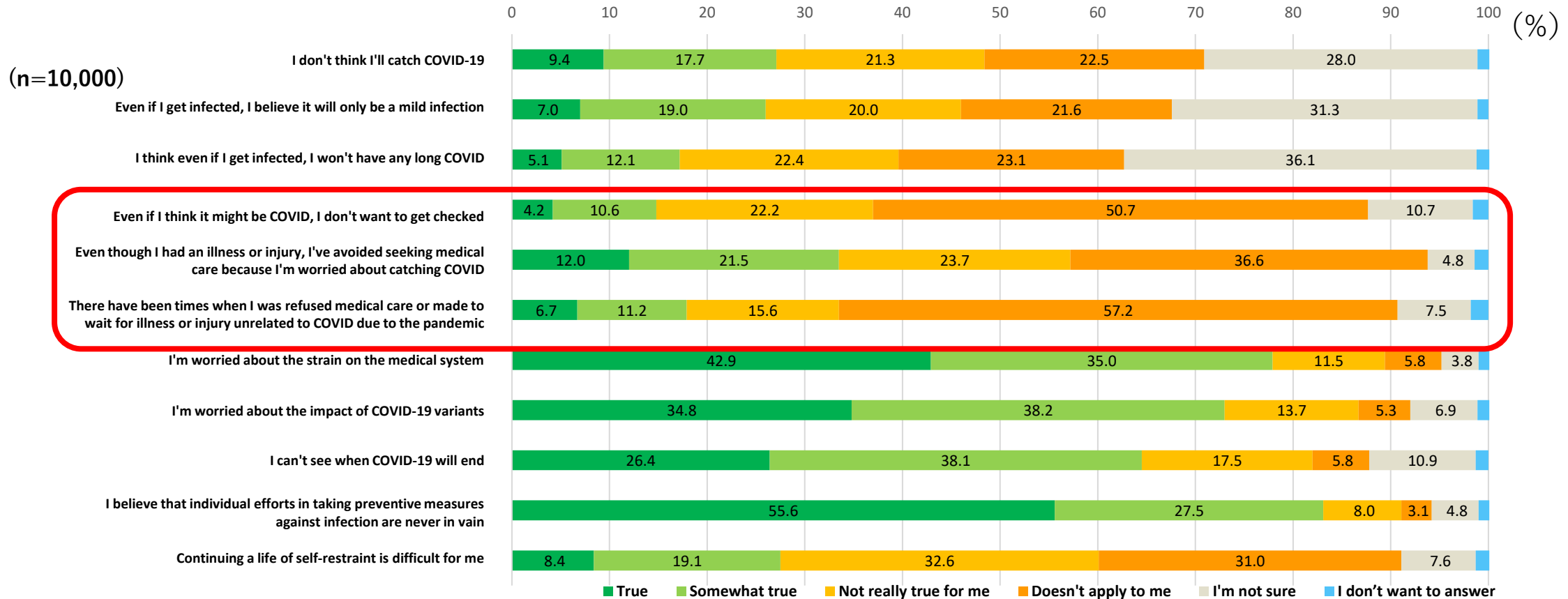
Ages 65 and over (n=1,829)



- ◆ The elderly have a higher percentage of respondents who understand, compared to the average across all ages.
- ◆ However, there are slightly more respondents among the elderly who think the vaccine is for therapeutic purposes or believe that vaccination prevents infection, compared to the average across all ages.
- ◆ Elderly women have a higher understanding than elderly men regarding the effects of the vaccine (other than the reduced risk of developing the disease), side effects and health issues and how they are addressed, and that vaccination is voluntary.
- ◆ It is essential to communicate that basic preventive measures against infection are still important even after vaccination

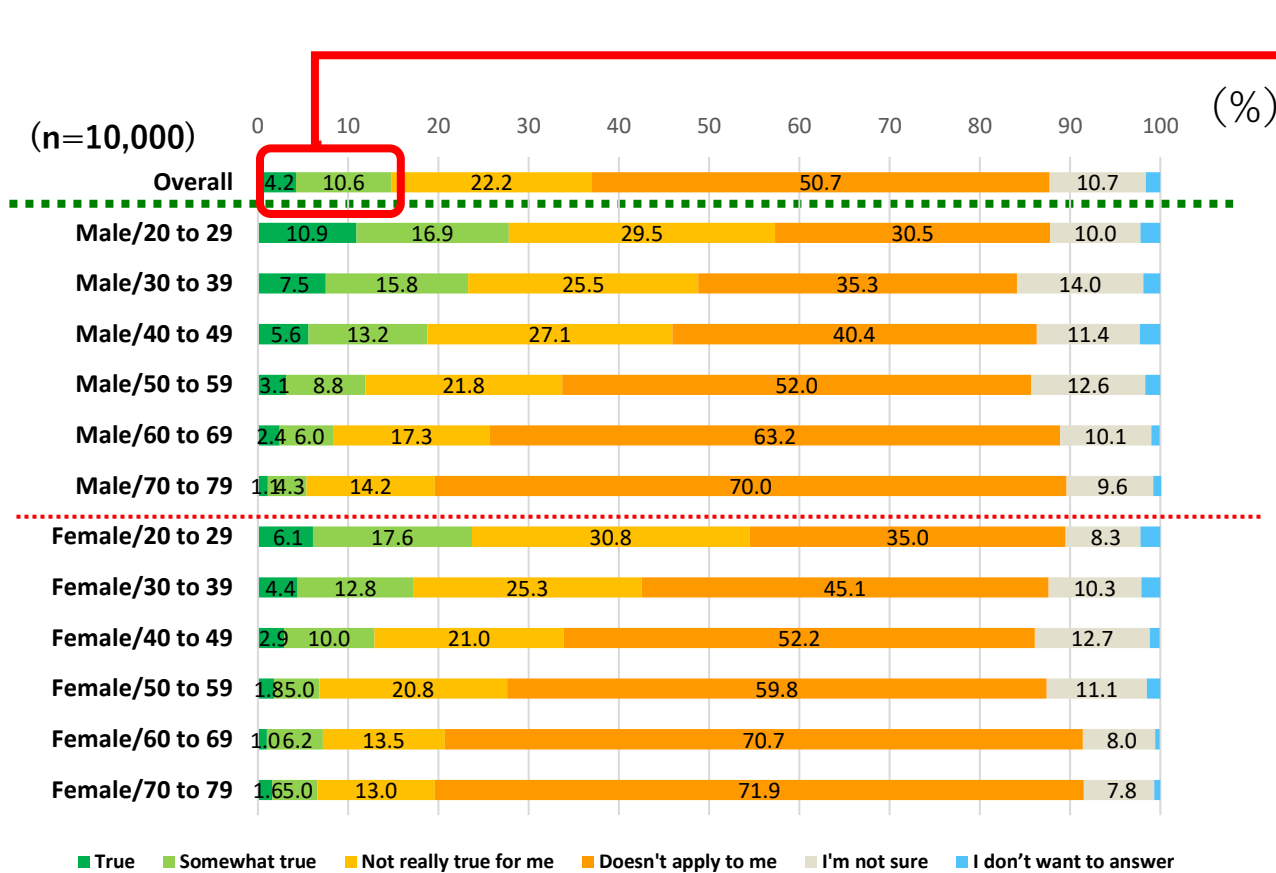
Q

Please select one item that applies to your feelings and experiences regarding COVID-19.

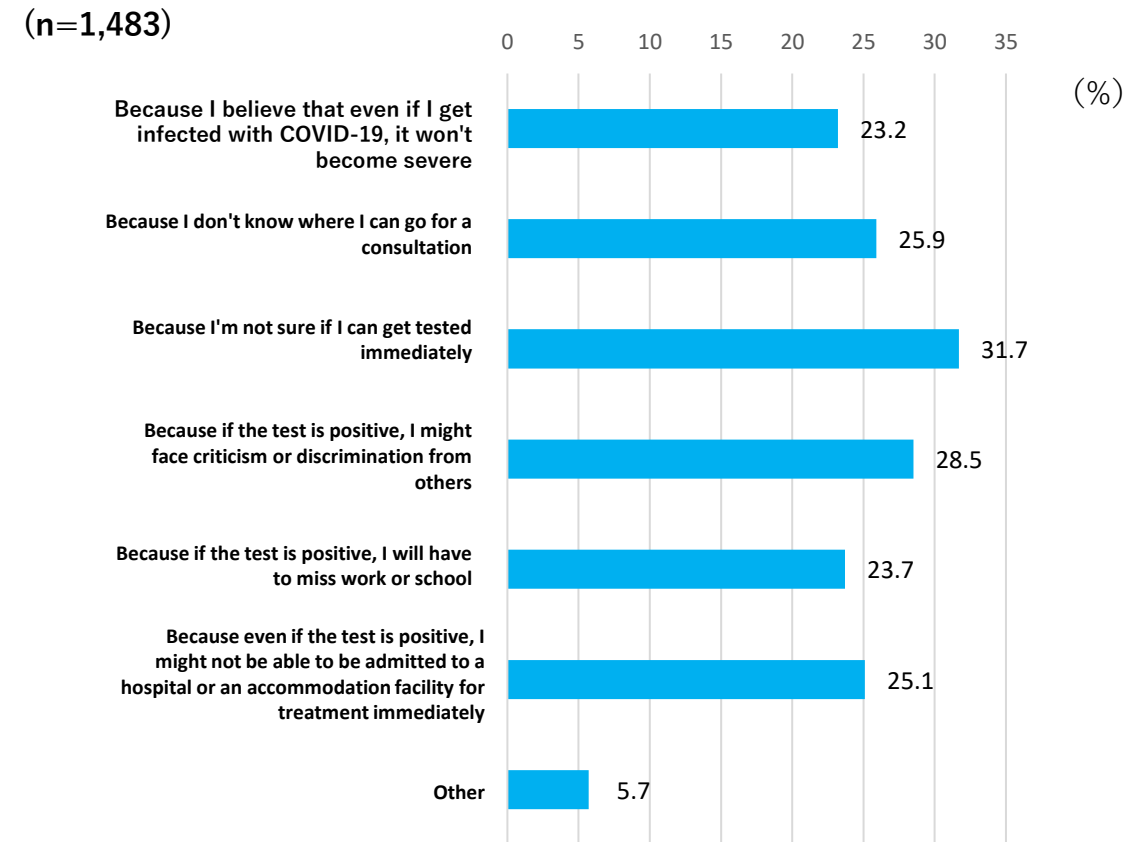


- ◆ Concerns about the strain on the healthcare system and the impact of variants are shared by more than 70%
- ◆ 14.8% responded they have refrained from seeking medical care even when they suspected COVID-19
- ◆ Impact on chronic conditions or injuries: 33.5% have experience avoiding medical visits due to fear of COVID-19 infection, and 17.9% have been refused medical care or had delayed treatment for conditions unrelated to COVID-19

"Even if I think it might be COVID, I don't want to get checked" by age/ gender and reason



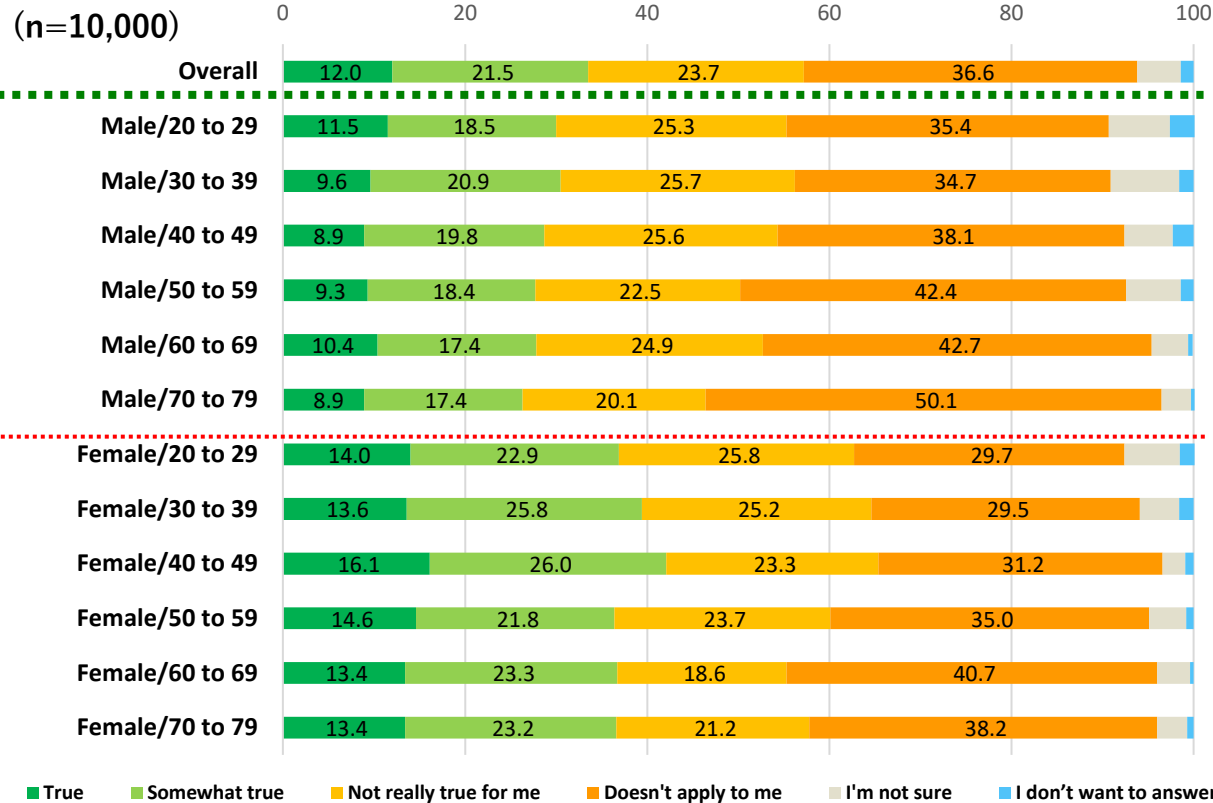
For those who answered "True/Somewhat true" to "I wouldn't get tested even if I thought I had symptoms." Please select all reasons that apply.



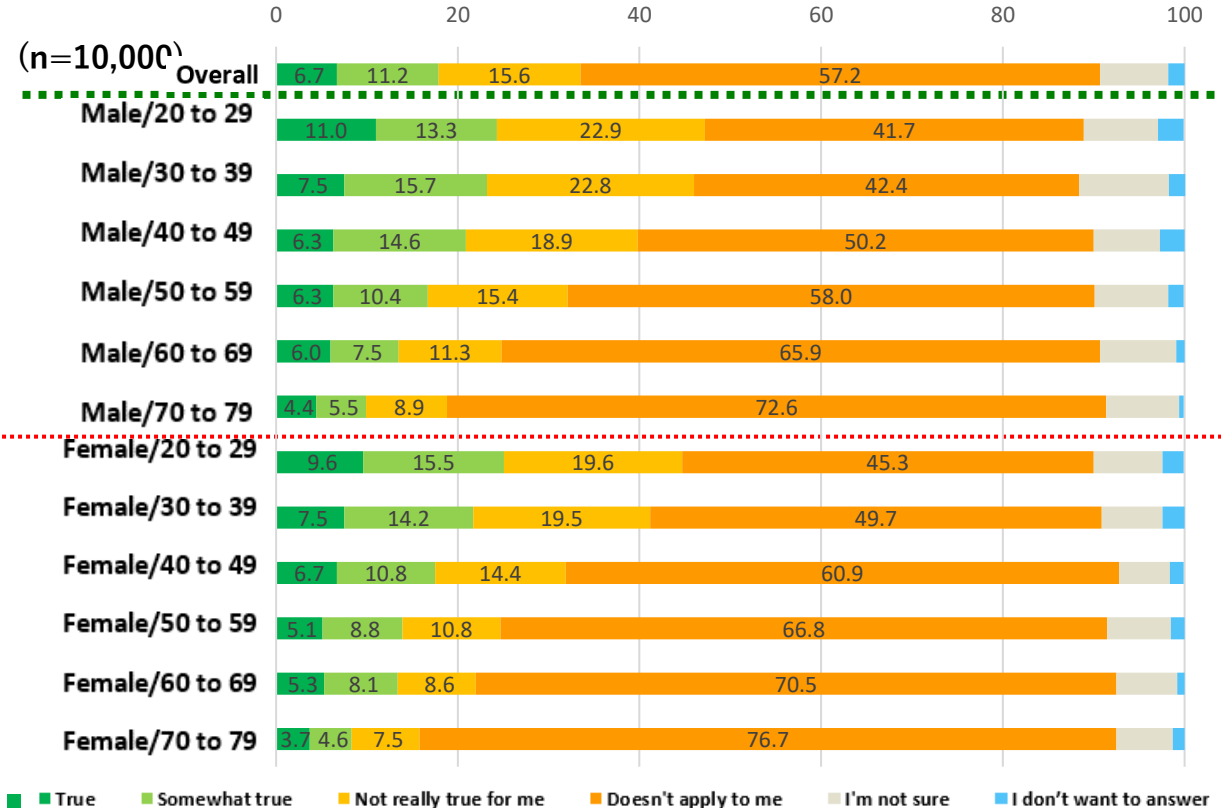
- ◆ There may be a perception that getting tested immediately is difficult, the facts about this need to be emphasized when sharing information
- ◆ Sending a strong message that prejudice or discrimination against those infected with the virus is unacceptable is essential

Refraining from or unable to get medical consultations for health issues unrelated to COVID-19 by age/gender

“Even though I had an illness or injury, I've avoided seeking medical care because I'm worried about catching COVID” (%)



“There have been times when I was refused medical care or made to wait for illness or injury unrelated to COVID due to the pandemic” (%)



- ◆ There is no age difference in avoiding medical treatment due to fear of COVID-19 infection, but it is more prominent among women than men.
- ◆ Experiences of having treatment refused or delayed for illnesses or injuries are more noticeable among younger generations for both men and women.
- ◆ Awareness campaigns to encourage necessary medical visits should be conducted, ensuring no generation feels unfairly treated