

# Impact of Pandemic Covid-19 on Study and Work Platform

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### Abstract

The pandemic (COVID-19) has wreaked havoc in our lives. It has impacted everyone's life in some or the other ways. The present study was under taken to find out the impact of covid-19 on work and study. This study was done during the lockdown period and the data of 116 respondents was collected through online form submissions. A self prepared questionnaire was used to collect the data. Maximum respondents (68.1%) belonged to the age group of 18-30 years. In total sample 42.2% were students and same percentage of respondents were in private jobs. Data shows lockdown impacts on study and work platform. 47.4 per cent respondents never worked from home before lockdown, 42.3 percent respondents felt increased workload. WhatsApp (69.8%) was the most commonly used software by the respondents to connect with their company, colleagues, and students followed by Zoom Meeting (56%) and conference voice calls (47.4%).

**Keywords:** Covid 19, Pandemic, Study, Work platform.

### Introduction

The outbreak of covid -19 is a global pandemic and on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2020 the government of India declared Covid-19 as "notified disaster" following this on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Prime Minister ordered a nationwide lockdown for 21 days as a preventive measure against covid-19 and was extended till 31<sup>st</sup> May in phases. Almost one third to half of the global population was under some form of lockdown<sup>1</sup>. While we face these unprecedented times we need to work towards a common goal i.e. to minimize the impact of pandemic on our lives and to maintain balance of our community. During the period of lockdown Indian IT industry made their employees "Work from Home"<sup>2</sup> and Educational Institutes started on line classes. Before lockdown only few of people use to do the work from home according to their comfort and working norms, but the pandemic has changed a lot of things. Most of them aren't part of usual work from home routine.<sup>3</sup> As lockdown implemented people proceed to work from home this have an unexpected impact on their working and learning style. Therefore the present study to find out the Impact of Pandemic Covid -19, on work and study platform was taken. It is also intended to measure the adjustment made by people about the crisis and how they are maintaining their working and learning.

### Objective

To find out the Impact of Pandemic Covid-19on Study and Work Platform.

### Methodology

This study was done during the lockdown period. Data of 116 respondents was collected on line. Who lived in their home due to Covid-19 lockdown and was working and studying on line. An easy web based link was created in Google survey to reply the questionnaire and was forwarded via WhatsApp application. Understanding of the Questionnaire was checked by administration pilot study to 12 people.

**Findings and Discussion****Table: 01. Distribution of the respondents across demographic variables**

Sl. No.	Demographic variables	Category	frequency	Percentage
1	Gender	Male	59	50.9
		female	57	49.1
2	Age	18-30 years	79	68.1
		30-40- years	16	13.8
		40-50 years	6	52.1
		50 and above	15	12.9
3	Marital status	Unmarried	87	75
		Married	29	25
4	Family type	Joint family	34	29.3
		Nuclear family	82	70.7
5	Family size ( according to No. of members)	2-4	61	52.5
		5-6	39	33.6
		7-10	9	7.7
		More than 10	7	6.0
6	Occupation	Business	4	3.4
		Self employed	6	5.2
		Government Job	8	6.9
		Private	49	42.2
		students	49	42.2
7	Educational Qualification	Illiterate	-	-
		Upto8th	1	.9
		intermediate	3	2.6
		undergraduate	36	31.0
		Post graduate	52	44.8
		doctorate	8	6.9
		Other professional courses	6	5.1
8	Nature of Job	Full time	64	55.1
		Part time	3	2.5
		Students	49	42.2
9	Annual income	Below – 2 Lakhs	6	5.2
		2-4 Lakhs	15	12.9
		4-6 Lakhs	12	10.3
		6-8 Lakhs	7	6.0
		8-10 Lakhs	4	3.4
		Above10 Lakhs	23	19.8
		Students N.A	49	42.2

Table-1, depicts number of the respondents according to their gender were approximately same i.e. 50.9 per cent and 49.1 percent of male and female respectively. Majority (68.1%) of the respondents were in the age group of 18-30 years, followed by 30-40 years (13.8 %), above 50 years (12.9%). Most of the respondents belonged to nuclear families (70.7%) and 29.3 per cent respondents belonged to joint families. 75 per cent were unmarried and 25 per cent were married. According to the number of family members 61 per cent respondents had 2-4 members in their family, followed by 39 per cent had 5-6 members, further it depicts that 42.2per cent were

students and the same number of respondents were in private jobs, 6.9 percent were in government jobs and the percentage of self employed and business was 3.4 per cent and 5.2 per cent respectively. According to educational qualification most of the respondents were post graduate (44.8%) followed by undergraduate (31.03%) and other professional courses (13.7%), doctorate (6.9%) and 2.6% were in intermediate. 54.3 per cent respondents were in full time job, 19.8 percent were getting the salary more than ten lakhs per annum followed by 12.9 percent were in the 2-4 lakhs category. and 10.3 per cent were getting the salary 4-6 lakhs.

**Table no.2. Distribution of the respondents according to their opinion regarding impact of Covid- 19 on their working and learning**

Sl.No	Statement	Options	Frequency	Percentage
1	Before lockdown did you ever work from home	Frequently	14	12.1
		Some time	18	15.5
		Rarely	29	25
		Never	55	47.4
2	Do you hold any administrative post	Yes	8	7.1
		No	59	50.8
		N.A.	49	42.2
3	How are you staying connected to your company and colleagues/Students/ Teachers? (Select all that apply). <i>Multiple response*</i> (percentage May exceed 100)	Conference voice call	55	47.41
		WhatsApp	81	69.8
		Zoom/ Google Meet	65	56.1
		Happy hour	8	6.9
		Other	23	19.8
4	How many hours does your organization expect you to work from home?	Less than 4	22	18.8
		4-6	39	33.6
		6-8	24	19.8
		More than 8	31	26.7
5	Has your productivity increased or decreased because of increased digitalization?	Increase of	39	35.5
		Decreased	34	30.9
		Remained Same	37	33.6
6	How has been your workload while working from home?	Increase of	49	42.2
		Decreased	34	29.3
		Remained same	33	28.4
7	Do you have adequate support to Work /study online?	Yes	84	72.4
		No	32	27.5
8	Is your home environment suitable for your work?	Yes	85	73.2
		No	31	26.7
9	Are you able to set a daily routine at home?	Yes	63	54.4
		No	53	45.6

10	Is your work setup offers an acceptable level of comfort?	Yes	78	67.4
		No	37	31.8
11	My children and others do or do not impact my work space	Do Impact	39	33.6
		Do not Impact	55	47.4
		N.A.	22	18.9
12	Do you miss in person interactions with colleagues and co workers or online zoom sort of meeting are similar	Yes	93	80
		No	23	20
		Its similar		
13	Are you looking forward to go back to campus or office?	Yes	100	86.2
		No	16	13.7
14	Would you like to prefer entire thing things get switched on line?	Yes	37	31.6
		No	78	68.4

It is apparent from the table-2, that 47.4 per cent of the respondents were never work from home before lockdown followed by rarely (25%), sometime (15.5%), only 12.1percent worked frequently. 42.2 percent of respondents felt that their work load increased during this period on the other hand 29.3 %and 28.4% were feeling decreased workload or remained same workload respectively. A survey was conducted by The Hindu with intends to assess impact of COVID -19 lockdown revealed the same findings that 49 per cent respondents worked from home first time and 59 per cent respondents were feeling increased workload<sup>4</sup>. The data from the given table makes it clear that whatsapp is the most popular App among the respondents (69.8%) were used to connect themselves with their colleagues and companies followed by zoom and Google meet (56.1%), conference voice calls (47.4%). Maximum number of the respondents 33.6% were working 4-6 hours, followed by more than 8 hours (26.7%), 6-8 hours (19.8%), and least were in the category of less than 4 hours. Most of the respondents felt that they are getting adequate on-line support (72.4%), their home environment is suitable (73.2%), able to set daily routine (54.4%), and acceptable level of comfort (67.4%) and their children and other family members do not impact work space (47.4%). But along with that 80% of respondents felt that they are missing personal interaction and 86.2% were looking forward to go back to the office, these findings are similar with the recent study conducted by Kumar,M. and Devedi,S.(2020)<sup>5</sup> that half of the respondents (52%) agreed to feel socially isolated due to lockdown as they are bounded to stay inside their home and not allowed to go outside or meet people and study conducted by Peijie Chen.et al<sup>6</sup> suggested that prolonged home stay can change the behavior that lead to inactivity.

#### Conclusion

Finding shows that pandemic has altered the way of working and learning. People became aware

and habitual to new technologies in order to cope from these challenging times. Although people during the lockdown working from home and are able to set a routine and felt safe but they were missing personal interaction with their colleagues.

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