



**THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON WOMEN'S
AND MEN'S LIVES AND LIVELIHOODS
IN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA:**

Preliminary Results from a Rapid Gender Assessment

On the heels of the pandemic, the UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia conducted [a rapid gender assessment](#) to effectively and accurately evaluate the gendered impacts of COVID-19. The survey, which was conducted between April and May 2020, reveals a troubling situation – in Central Asia, three out of every five women reported a higher risk of not being able to access health services. A decrease in the paid working hours of women was observed across all countries/territories^[1] ranging from 31 per cent in Georgia to 65 per cent in Kosovo^[2]. Decreased earnings for women ranged from 15 per cent in North Macedonia to 52 per cent in Turkey. An alarming proportion of women (60 per cent) reported that it will be difficult to maintain basic expenses, such as rent and utilities, if restrictive measures continue.

[1] This article refers to data on Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova and Turkey

[2] All references to Kosovo on this website should be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

OVER **15%**
OF WOMEN
RESPONDENTS
SAID THEY LOST
THEIR JOBS,
40% FACED
REDUCED PAID
WORKING
HOURS.

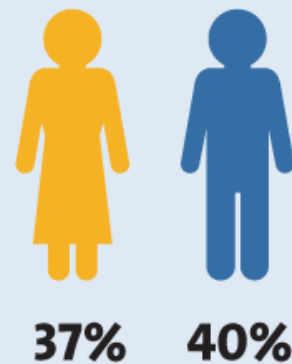
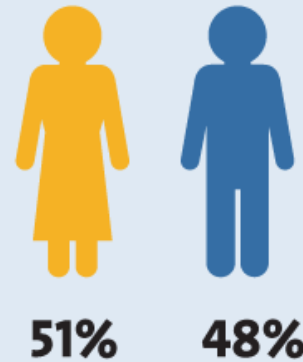


Share of women who had to reduce their working hours ranges from 31% in Georgia to 65% in Kosovo¹

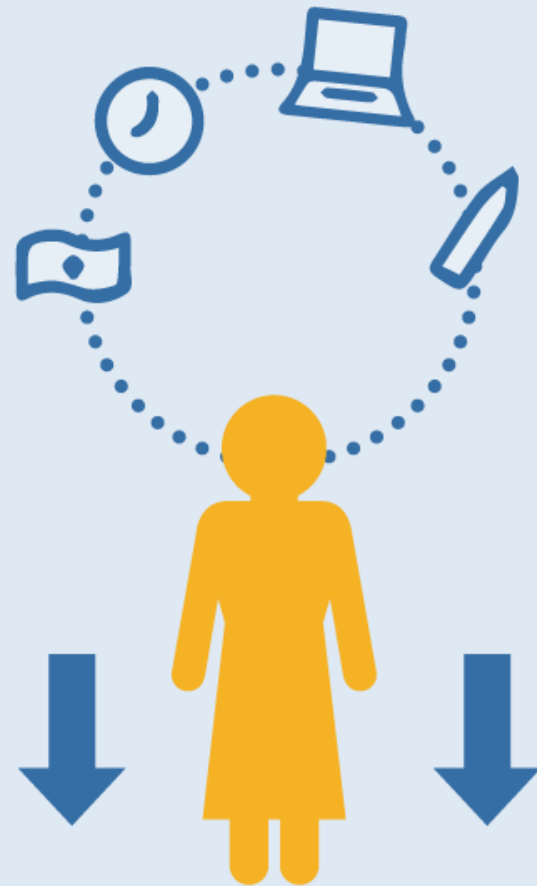
¹ All references to Kosovo should be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

MAIN SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COVID-19

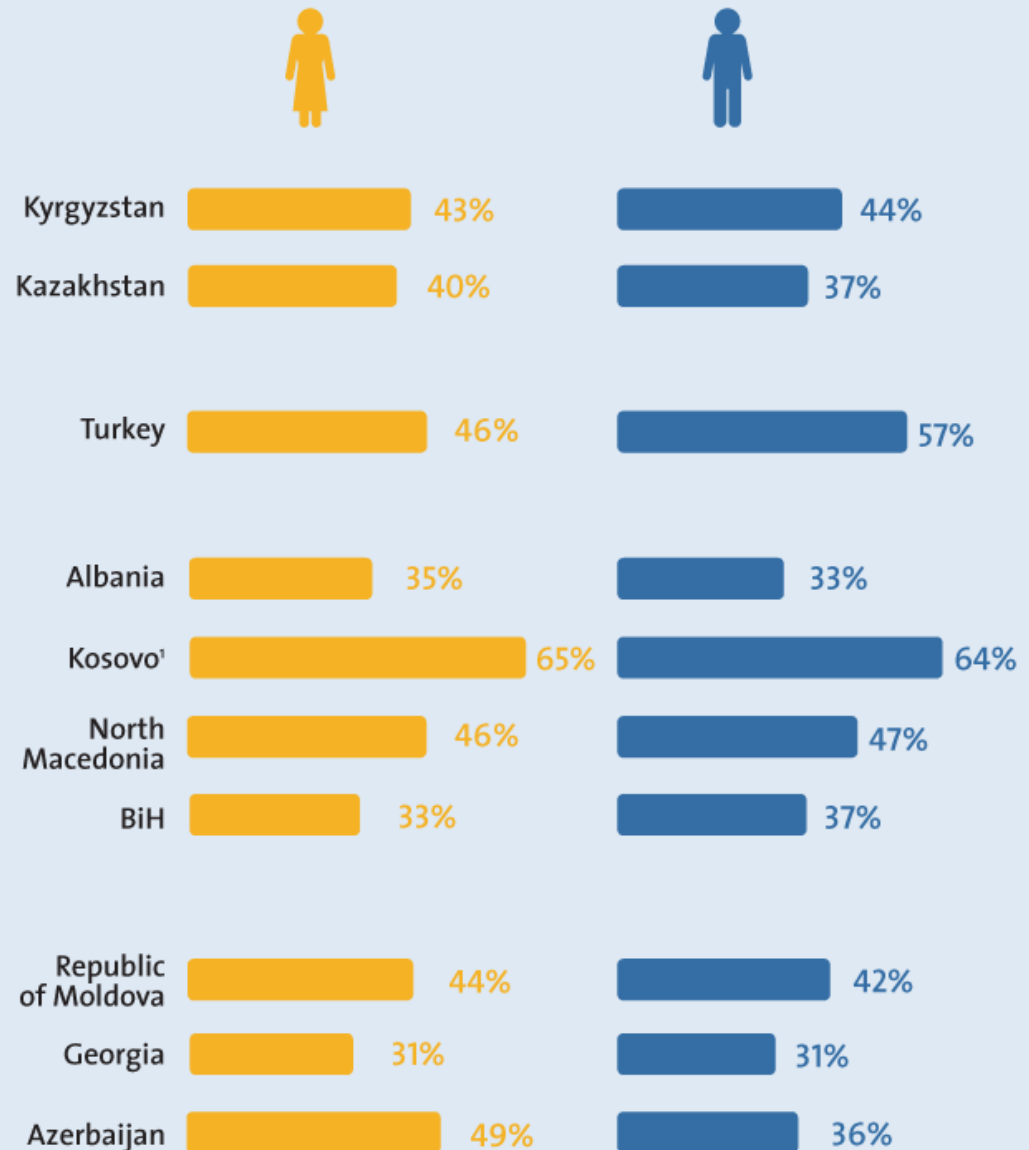
On average, **15%** of the population mentioned that the information received was confusing or contradictory.



THE OUTBREAK
HAS PARTICULARLY
IMPACTED SELF-
EMPLOYED WOMEN:
**25% LOST THEIR
JOBS** (COMPARED
TO 21% OF SELF-
EMPLOYED MEN),
49% SAW REDUCED
WORKING HOURS.



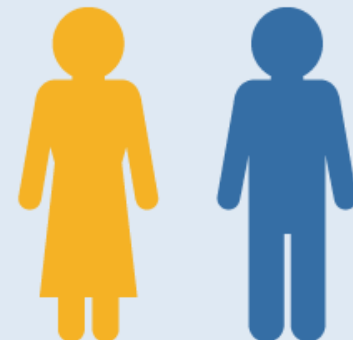
WOMEN AND MEN ARE NOT EQUALLY IMPACTED BY DECREASE IN WORKING HOURS.



¹ All references to Kosovo should be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

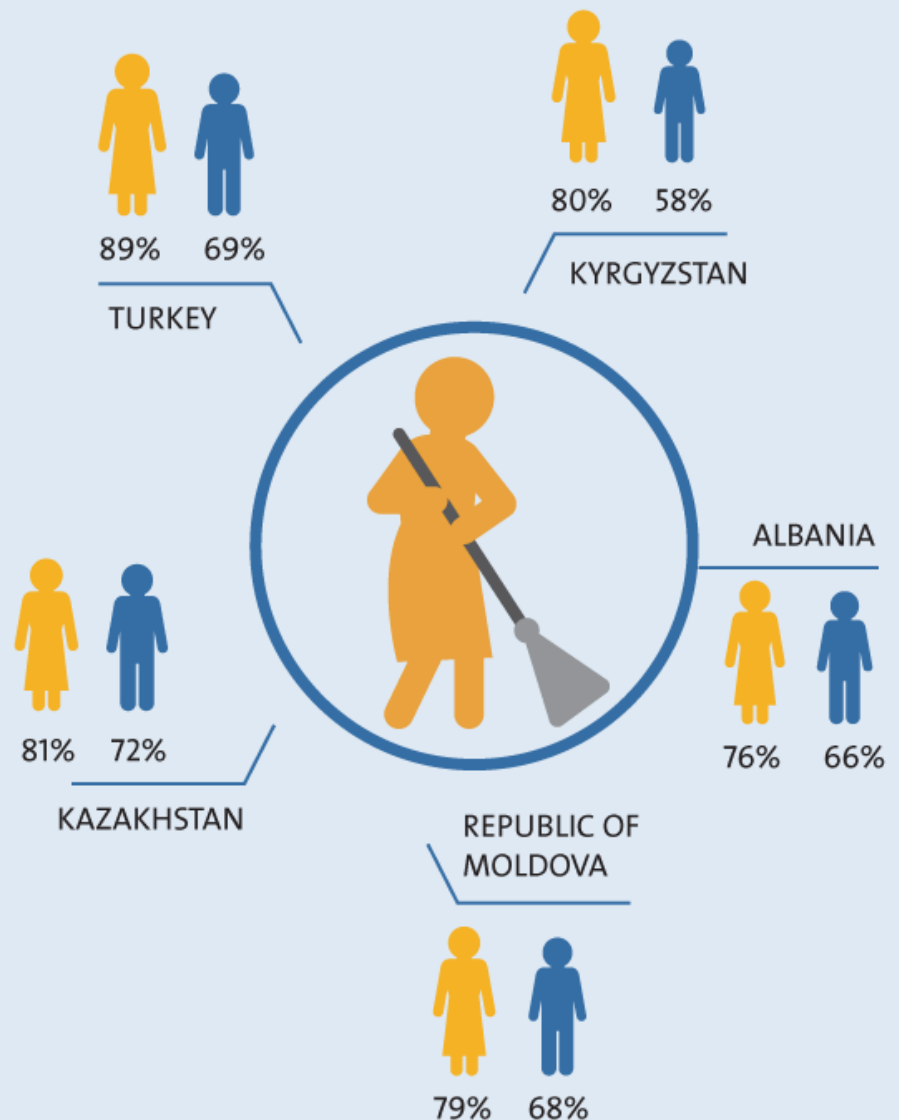
**GOVERNMENT SUPPORT
WAS WELL BELOW
10% IN ALL COUNTRIES,
EXCLUDING KYRGYZSTAN
AND TURKEY, WHERE IT
WAS SLIGHTLY OVER 20%.**

**AROUND 1% OF
RESPONDENTS IN KOSOVO¹
AND NORTH MACEDONIA
RECEIVE IN-KIND
GOVERNMENT SUPPORT.**



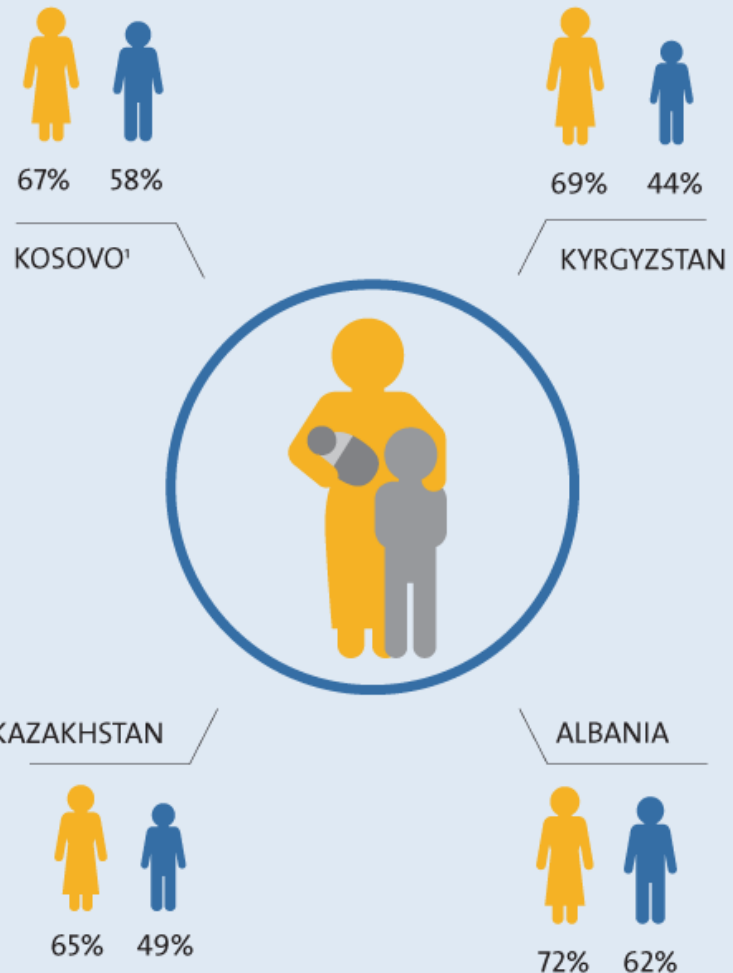
¹ All references to Kosovo should be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

On average, **70% OF WOMEN** spent more time on at least one unpaid **DOMESTIC WORK** chore, such as cleaning, cooking, laundry, which is significantly higher than for **MEN (59%)**.



Countries with the highest increase in time devoted to at least one unpaid domestic chore

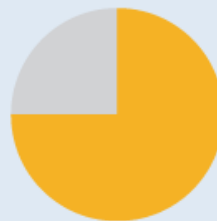
**AROUND 50%
OF WOMEN
REPORTED
INCREASED TIME
SPENT ON AT
LEAST ONE CARE
ACTIVITY FOR
CHILDREN AND/
OR ELDERLY
FAMILY MEMBERS.**



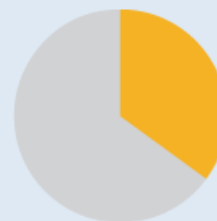
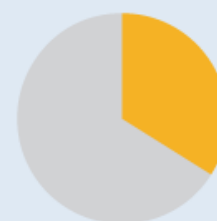
Countries with the highest share of women spending more time on care, but also the greatest gender gaps

¹ All references to Kosovo should be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

NEARLY **HALF**
OF **WOMEN**
AND A
QUARTER OF
MEN ARE NOW
WORKING
FROM HOME.



Kyrgyzstan

North
Macedonia

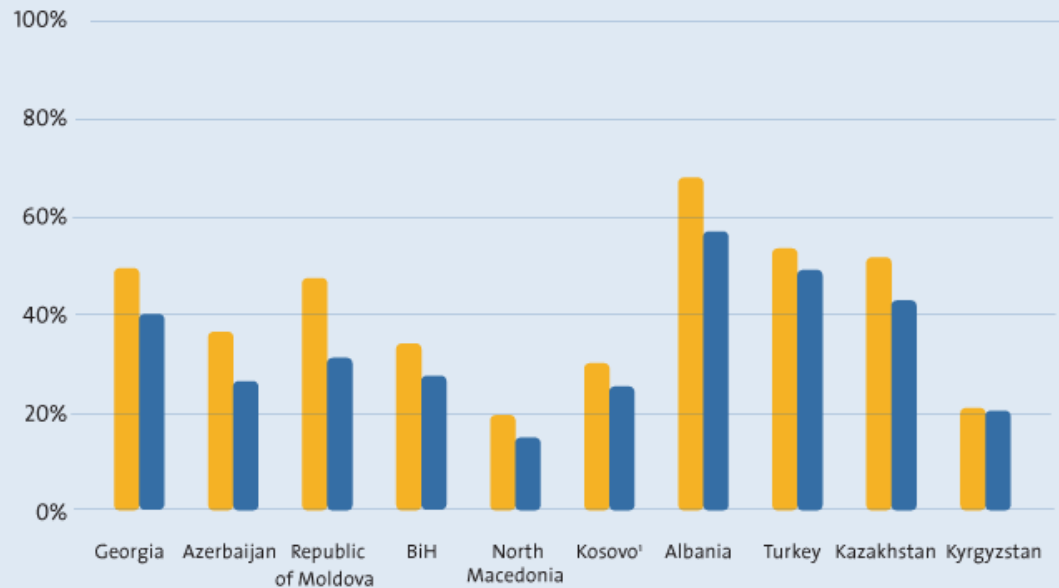
BiH



Turkey

In Kyrgyzstan, **three-quarters of women** work from home, while in North Macedonia, BiH and Turkey, the proportions are much lower, at **35%, 34% and 18%** respectively.

WOMEN'S PSYCHOLOGICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH WAS MORE AFFECTED SINCE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19.



Proportion of respondents who reported emotional stress since the spread of COVID-19

¹ All references to Kosovo should be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).



60% of women reported difficulties in maintaining basic expenses, such as **FOOD SUPPLIES OR PAYING FOR RENT AND UTILITIES.**



If restrictive measures continue, women in **7 OUT OF 10** countries/territories will have greater **DIFFICULTIES PAYING FOR BASIC EXPENSES** than men, particularly in Albania, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova.