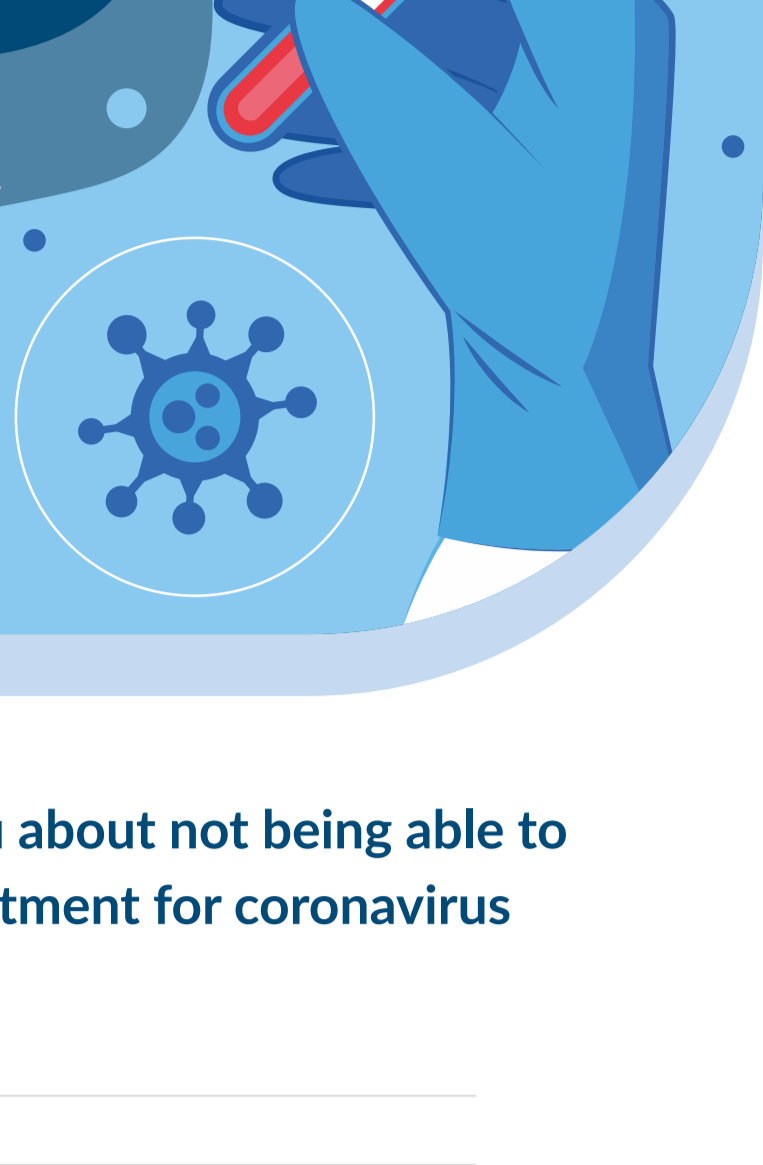


COVID-19 POLL

67.5% of Indians expressed worry about not being able to afford testing or treatment for Coronavirus

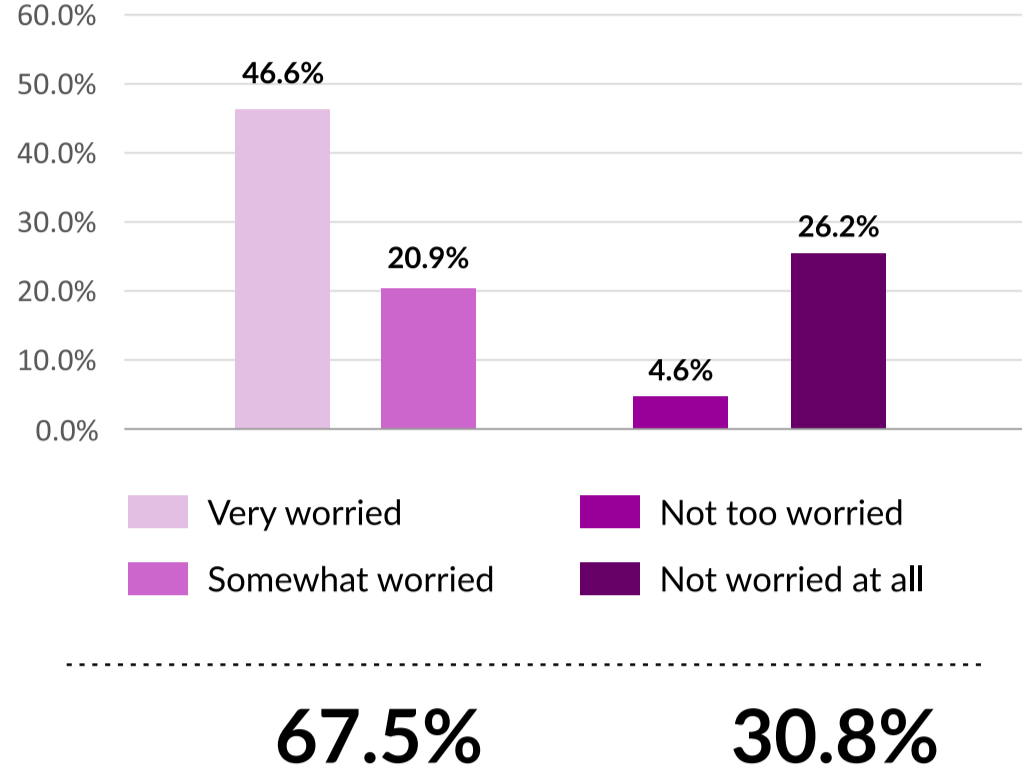
The Team CVoter Corona Tracker Economy Battery (Wave 3) survey conducted from 18th to 23rd May 2020 asked respondents about their view of the effect of the Coronavirus crisis and lockdown on their economic condition. The survey included questions on respondents' viewpoint on the implementation of the lockdown, the relief package announced by the government as well as fear of not being able to afford medical care, food and job loss.

Overall, around 67.5% of respondents expressed worry about not being able to afford testing or treatment for Coronavirus if needed. In today's infographic, Team Polstrat breaks down which demographic groups express the most worry about not being able to afford treatment.



Q

How worried are you about not being able to afford testing or treatment for coronavirus if you need it?



Overall worried: 67.5% Overall not worried: 30.8%

Key Findings



Almost half of the respondents are "very worried" about not being able to afford testing or treatment for the Coronavirus. For a nation of 1.35 billion people, this translates to roughly around 63 crore people being very worried about being able to afford treatment and an additional 28 crore people being "somewhat worried" about the same.

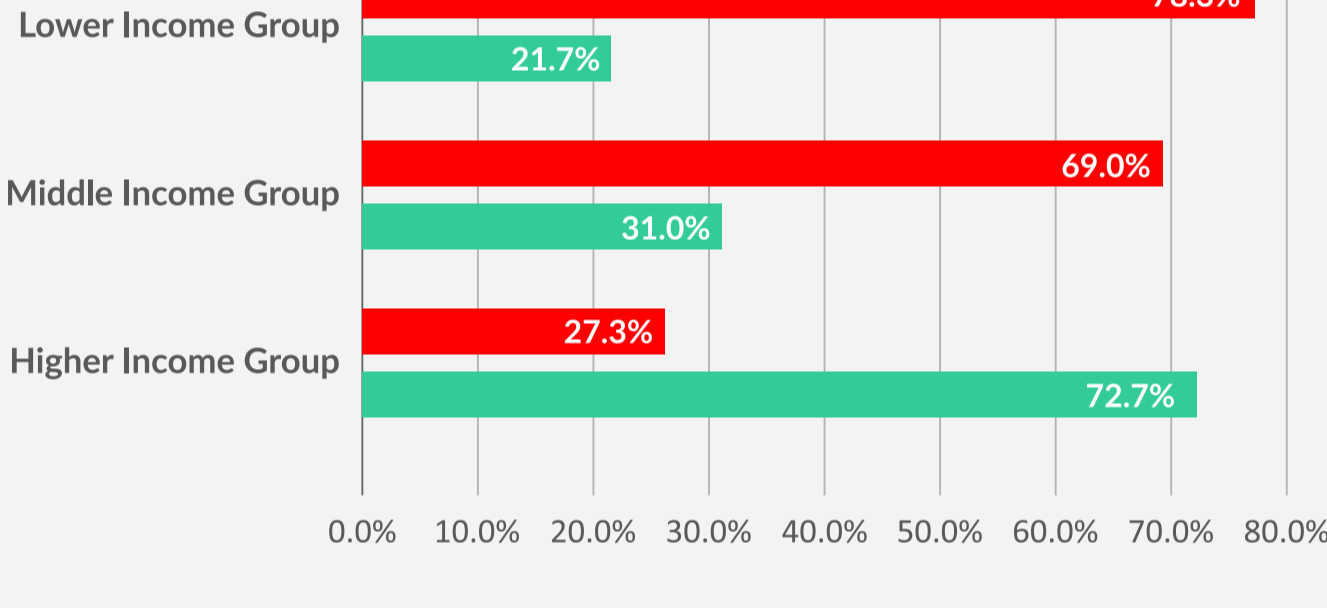


At the same time, 26.2% of respondents stated that they were not worried at all about not being able to afford testing and treatment. In April, the government as a part of the Ayushman Bharat scheme announced free testing and treatment of COVID-19 in eligible hospitals.

Roughly, 20,000 hospitals have been enlisted solely to treat Coronavirus patients under the scheme.

Who is most worried about not being able to afford testing and treatment for Coronavirus?

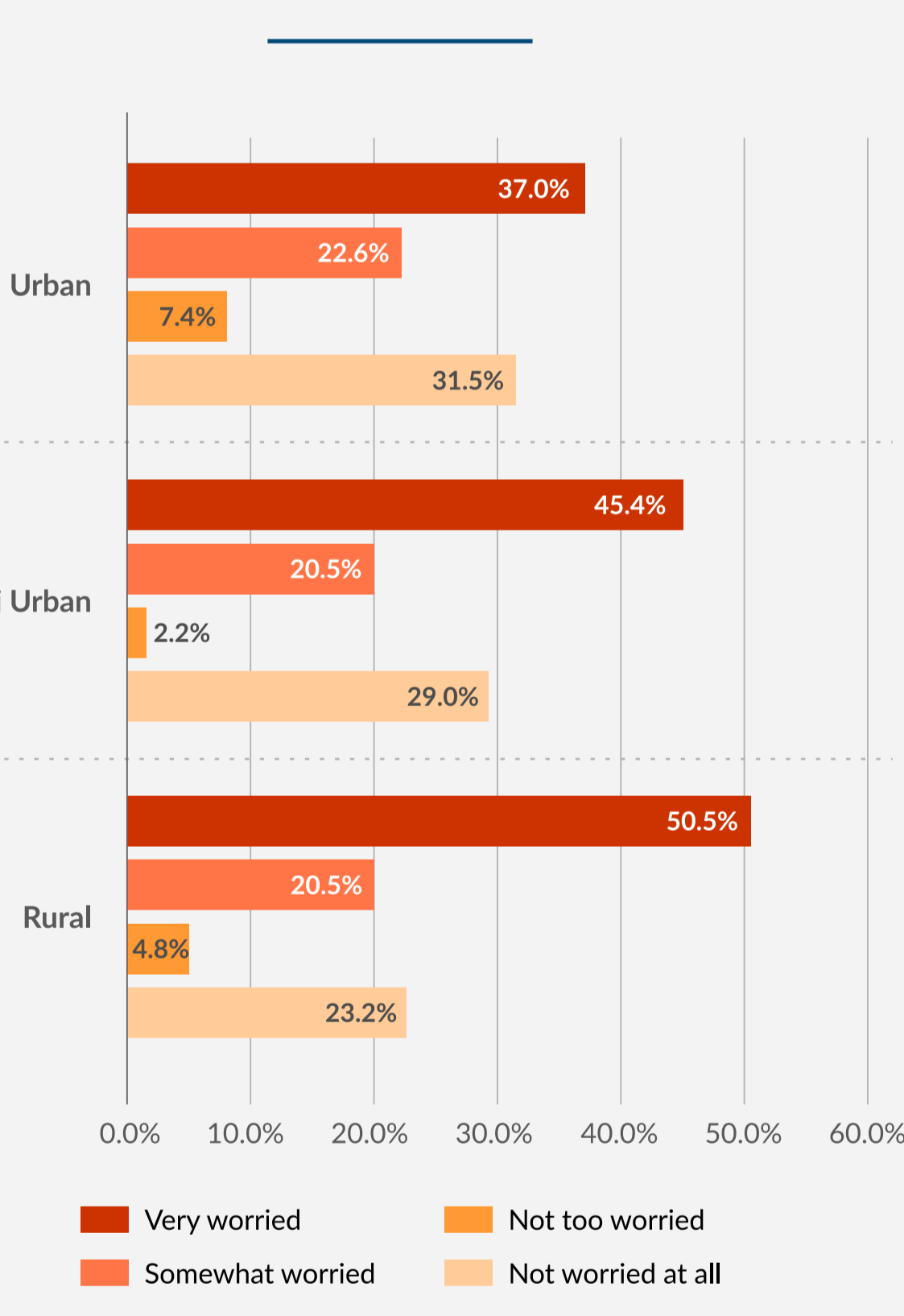
How worried are you about not being able to afford testing or treatment for coronavirus if you need it?



There is a stark difference between those in higher and lower income and education groups and their worry about being able to afford treatment and testing for Coronavirus.



72.2% of respondents in lower education groups and 78.3% of those in lower-income groups are worried about not being able to afford testing and treatment. This figure is almost flipped when we look at the higher income group, with only 27.3% of respondents stating they are worried about not being able to afford testing and treatment.



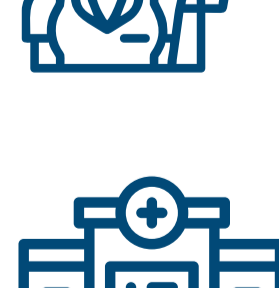
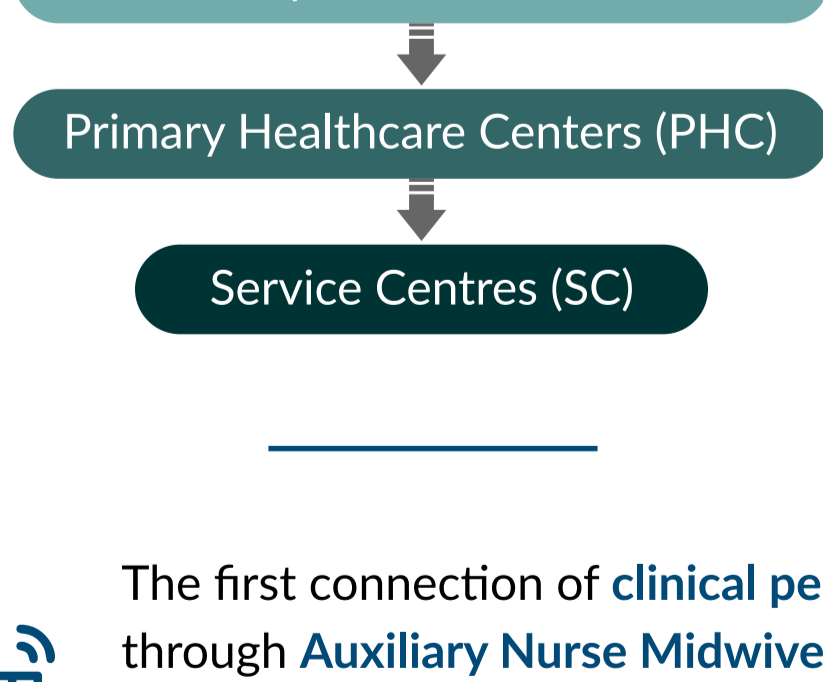
Overall, respondents in rural India are much more worried (71%) than in urban areas (59.6%) about being able to afford Coronavirus treatment and testing.



Testing and treatment are free in all government and Ayushman Bharat empanelled hospitals, but access to healthcare is much harder in rural areas.

Access to Healthcare in Rural India

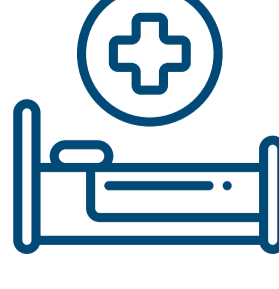
India has a tiered healthcare system at a rural and semi-urban level



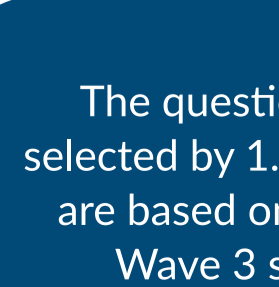
The first connection of clinical personnel is through Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs) who work in Service Centres. In poor states such as UP and Bihar, 10% of Service Centres do not even have ANMs.



In rural areas, people often have to travel from 10 km to over 100 km to find the nearest medical facility and there is an acute shortage of ambulances in such areas.



Additionally, when it comes to PHCs around 8% do not have clinical staff, 39% do not have lab technicians and 18% of them do not even have a pharmacist.



Several state and district hospitals do not have adequate ICU beds, specialists or other clearances.

The question had a "Don't Know/Can't Say" option which was selected by 1.6% of respondents. All survey findings and projections are based on the Team CVoter Corona Tracker Economy Battery Wave 3 survey carried out in May 2020 among 18+ adults statewide, including every major demographic.

The data is weighted to the known demographic profile of every state, including age group, social group, income, region, gender and education levels. (Sample Size: 1474)