

Romanians' Concerns during the COVID-19 Epidemic

National Representative Survey
March - April 2020

confident
decisions

Context and Key Findings

Romanians' Reaction to the
Coronavirus

Romanians' Profile by the Concerns
They Have During the Crisis

Romanians' Profile by Their
Opinion on Economic Activities



Context

- > In confronting the new coronavirus, most countries were put in front of a terrible dilemma – to reduce the risk of infection while paying the price of a compromised economy, or to continue economic activities uninterrupted but risking more casualties.
- > Similarly to many other countries, Romania chose the first option.
- > To find out how Romanians feel about the current period, Mercury Research has conducted a national representative survey on general population 18+.



Key Findings

Main Fears

- > The biggest fear Romanians have is the risk of infection (46%), followed by the concern of losing their income (24%) and not finding food anymore (8%) – in Romania, as in other countries, the beginning of this crisis was marked by massive bulk purchasing of food.

Those who Fear Getting Infected

- > Those who fear getting infected are more likely to be women, older (almost half of them are over 55 y.o.) and not working (almost half of them). These Romanians want to a larger extent for the non-essential economic activities to be interrupted.
- > Those who fear more getting infected than losing their income have a better financial situation: almost two thirds do not have bank instalments and more than half could live over three months only from savings in case they do not have an income anymore.



Key Findings

Those who Fear Losing Their Income

- 29% of those who are currently working are concerned about losing their income, and for 5% of Romanians the fear has materialised because they were fired due to the Covid-19 crisis.
- Those who fear the most of losing their income are more likely to be men, younger (three quarters of them are below 55 y.o.) and active (70% of them are currently working).
- These Romanians want in higher proportion for the non-essential economic activities to continue, because they have bank instalments and they could live only from savings between 1 and 3 months.

Those who Fear Not Finding Food Anymore

- Those who are concerned about not finding food anymore are more likely to be men, older, not working and with a lower education. They want for the non-essential economic activities to continue as before the crisis.



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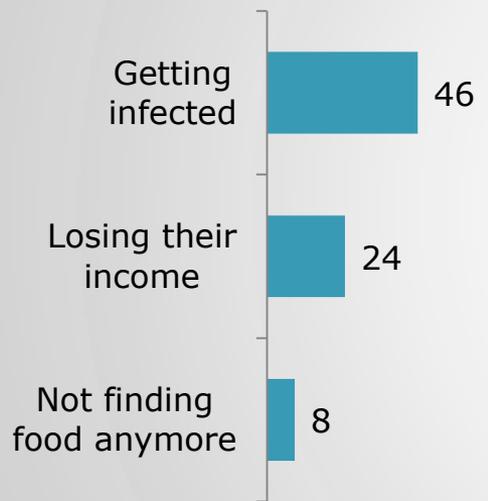
Romanians' Profile by Their
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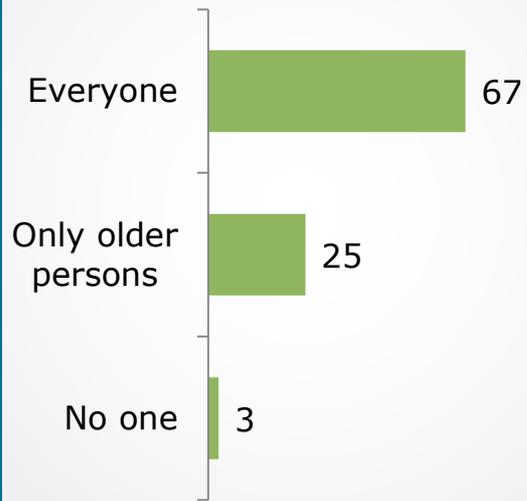
Romanians' Reaction to the Coronavirus Crisis

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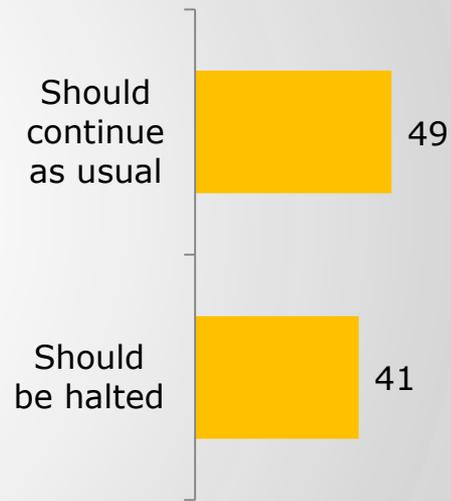
Romanians fear most of...



Romanians want that isolation applies to...



Non-essential economic activities



Respondents who did not want or could not give an answer are not shown



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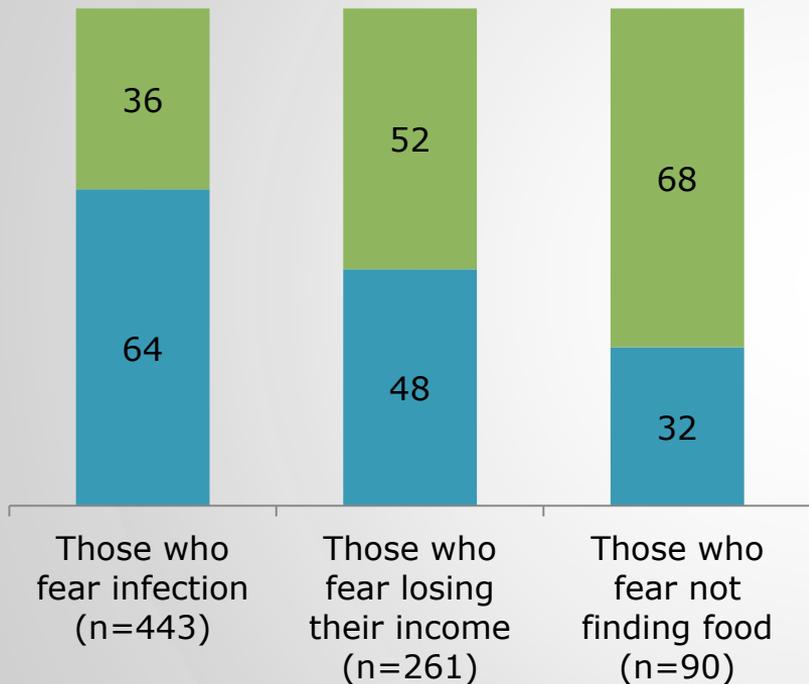


Romanians' Profile by Their Concerns During the Crisis

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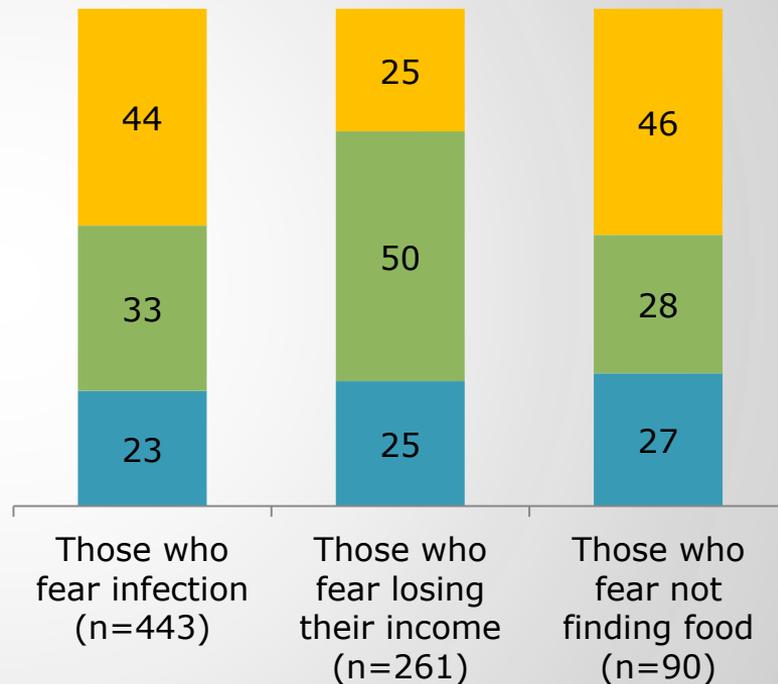
Gender

■ Women ■ Men



Age

■ 18-34 y.o. ■ 35-54 y.o. ■ 55+ y.o.



Question: What do you fear the most?

The question had predefined answers. Respondents could choose only one answer. Respondents who did not want or could not give an answer are not shown

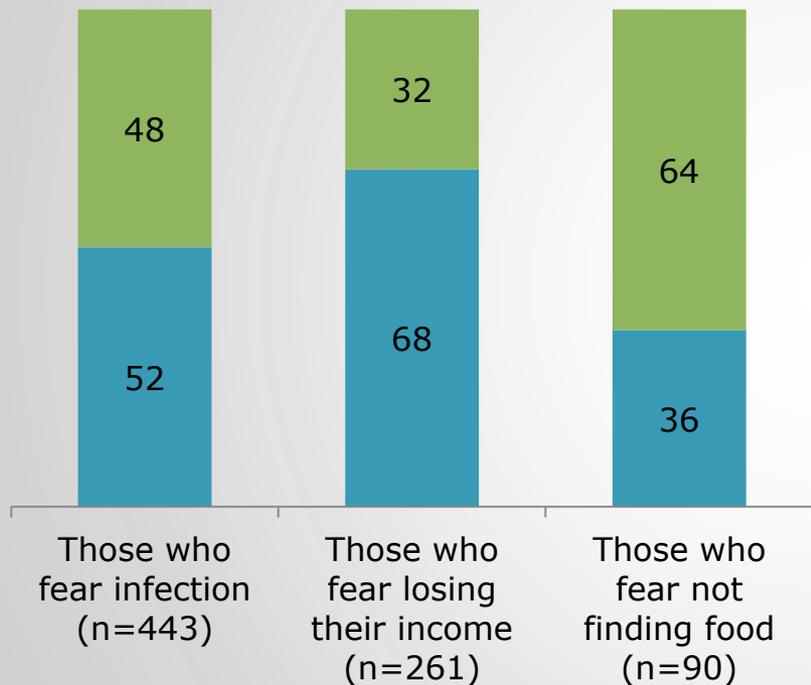


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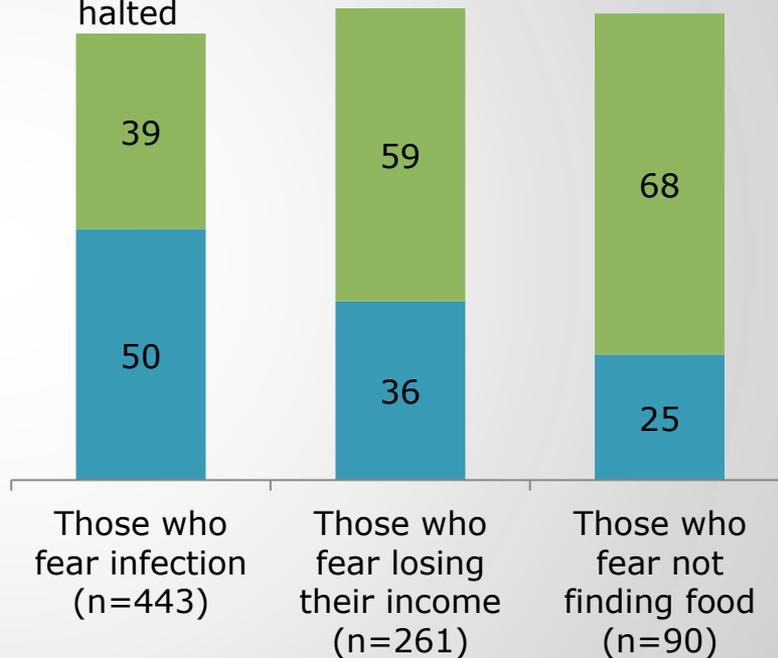
Status

■ Working ■ Not working



Halting activities

■ Non-essential economic activities to continue as usual
■ Non-essential economic activities to be halted



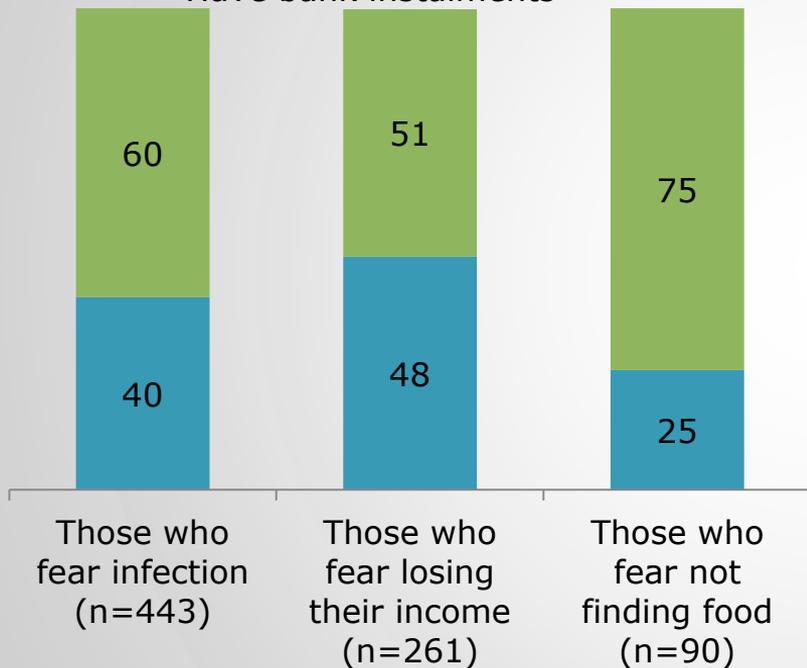
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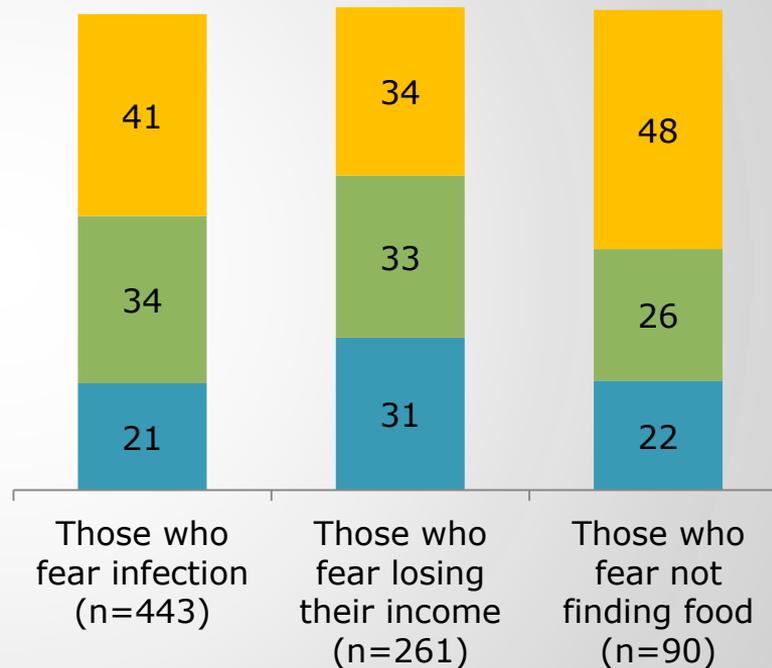
Bank instalments

- Do not have bank instalments
- Have bank instalments



How much they could live on savings in case of not having any income

- At most a month
- 2-3 months
- 4+ months



Question: What do you fear the most?
 The question had predefined answers. Respondents could choose only one answer.
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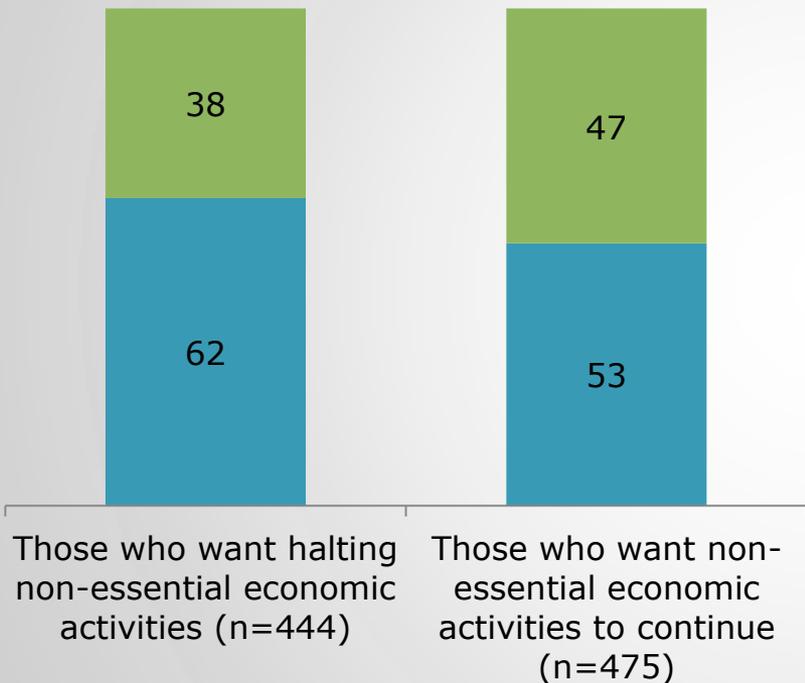


Romanians' Profile by Their Opinion on Economic Activities

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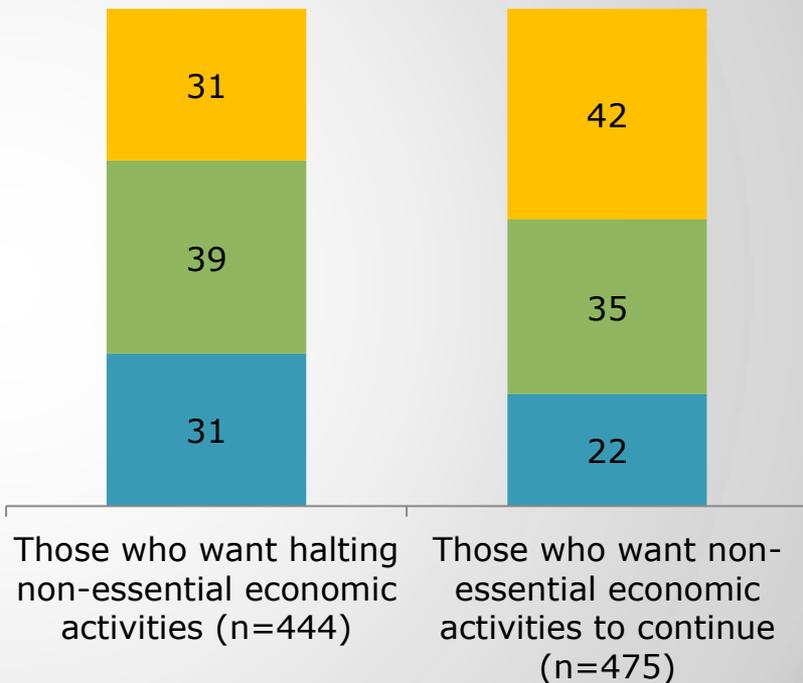
Status

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Age

■ 18-34 y.o. ■ 35-54 y.o. ■ 55+ y.o.



Question: Do you believe it is better to stop non-essential economic activities or to continue them as usual?

Respondents who did not want or could not give an answer are not shown



Methodology

Respondents profile:

- > General adult population of Romania;

Data collection method:

- > Telephone interviews - CATI (Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews);

Sampling method:

- > Randomly generated telephone numbers from all the number ranges provided by ANCOM (National Authority for Administration and Regulation in Communications);

Total sample size:

- > A total of 1007 interviews were conducted;

Data collection period:

- > 25th March – 03rd April 2020;

Weighting method:

- > The sample is weighted according to gender, age, location size, region, household size and occupation, according to the latest data published by INSSE (National Institute of Statistics).



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