

## **Interdisciplinary International Conference on Sustainable Development & Environmental Issues**

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### **ABSTRACT:**

COVID 19 has changed the life of people in all ages markedly. This has left deep impact in the minds of people at varied levels in different age groups and varied socio economic strata too. The study was conducted to find out the impact of COVID 19 on socio economic status of the individuals.

**Methods:** Twenty samples were part of this study. Mixed method design was used for the study. Semi structured questionnaire was used to collect the quantitative data. Qualitative was telephonic interview on 2 research questions. Non probability convenient sampling techniques were used for quantitative and simple random sampling technique for qualitative.

**Result:** The data for quantitative was interpreted by frequency percentage and qualitative was put in theme and then further categorized.

**Conclusion:** 4 themes emerged from the qualitative data which were further categorized and coded.

**KEY WORDS:** impact, socio economic

### **INTRODUCTION:**

The outbreak of COVID-19 has caused concerns globally. This epidemic has also changed the people's life style; caused extensive job losses and threatened the sustenance of millions of people; as businesses have shut down to control the spread of virus. COVID-19 does not affect everyone in the same way. To understand the consequences and to predict how this pandemic

affects differently with various socioeconomic groups is not easy and good data is the key to it

**STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:**

A study to assess the impact of COVID 19 on socioeconomic status of individuals from Mumbai

**RESEARCH QUESTIONS:**

- 1. What are the socio economic factors that are affected?**
- 2. What will be the after effect in the environment post pandemic?**

**METHODOLOGY:**

**STUDY DESIGN**

Mixed Method design

Quantitative: Demographic data & Change in Lifestyle

Qualitative: Socio economic theme, Categories related to the theme

**SETTING**

The study was conducted online on individual in Mumbai.

**POPULATION:**

All Individual

**SAMPLE**

Individuals residing in Mumbai

**SAMPLE SIZE**

20

**SAMPLING TECHNIQUE**

Quantitative: Non Probability Convenience sampling

Qualitative: Simple random sampling

**TOOLS**

Survey, Research question

**TECHNIQUE**

Self-reporting

**FINDINGS RELATED TO DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES:**

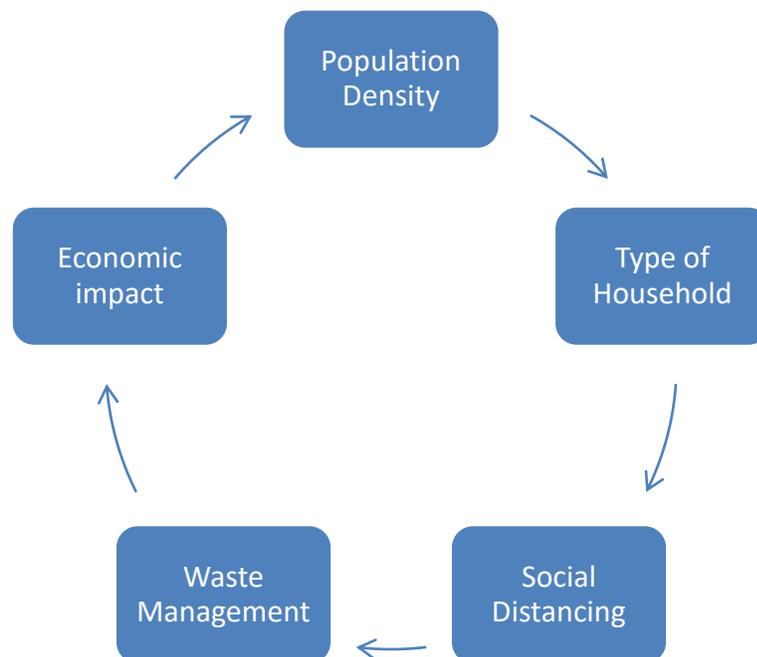
In all 20 individuals were included in this study. Among the samples 46% were male and 54% were females. In all 53% belonged to age group of 31 to 50 years and 20% belonged to age group of 51 years and above. About 39% had bachelor degree and above, 38% with junior college and 23% of the samples were below higher schools.

**FINDINGS RELATED TO CHANGES IN LIFESTYLE:**

In all 12 % felt weak and tired easily, 4.5% felt pain in neck and back. Emotional status 12% felt that they were more anxious and worried now than prior, 5 % were afraid for no reason at all. In all 18% felt that they may go crazy due to this lockdown, 58% felt that their sleep pattern has changes and they sleep daytime now instead of nights. Around 64% felt that they are breathing fresh air now. 52% felt that they are now living sedentary life style 29% said they were constipated.

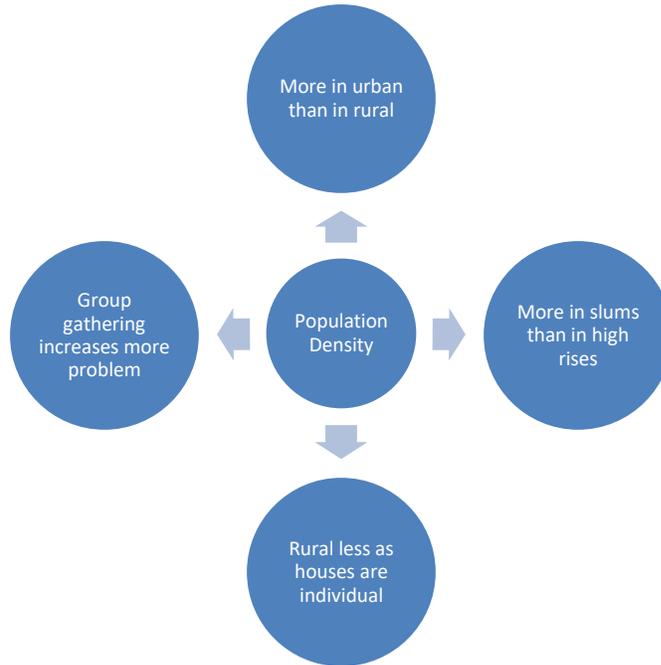
**FINDINGS RELATED TO SOCIOECONOMIC FACTOR THEME:**

**5 major themes were identified in the qualitative method:**



**Theme 1**

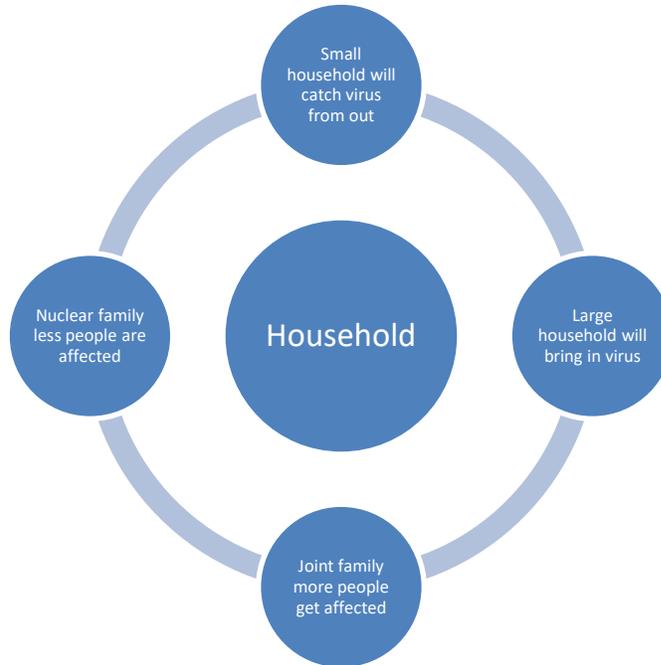
**Population Density:**



As Mumbai is cosmopolitan and there are lots of slums with common toilet the subcategories involved statements that cases are more in slums as houses are small and in close proximity. If any 1 person is positive maximum people will be affected as houses are small and difficult to maintain social distance or quarantine self.

**Theme 2:**

**Household**



Statements in household included that joint family had more positive cases as 1 gets all household are positive which in turn raises the socioeconomic burdened.

### **Theme 3:**

#### **Social Distancing:**

- Working from home available in some offices
  - Seen only in high socioeconomic status
  - Health care workers, essential services compulsory to work
- Stay at home
  - Small houses it is difficult
  - Climatic condition
  - No outside space
- Gatherings
  - Market places, hospitals still a nightmare
  - Home worship, gatherings home visits a must

From this it was seen that work from home has affected the lower income group especially the migrants' lower jobs, private offices as the employees are either told to take break or leave the job and in turn increasing the economic burden.

### **Theme 4:**

**Waste Management:**

- Disposal of mask, plastic shield
- Handling waste by workers
- Remains affecting pets, animals, birds

All this will increase the lockdown by increasing the rate of COVID 19 cases hence more the lockdown more the socio economic impacts.

**Theme 5:**

**Economic Loss:**

- Loss of job
- Future uncertainty
- Children future
- Loan, Deposit, Stock market

This highlighted that due to the lockdown increase the socio economic burden has increased due to financial market fall and close. The future is uncertain for all individuals as what is the future, will we get COVID positive after lockdown opens

**Theme 6:**

**Positive Impact**

- Pollution free
- Less disease
- Communication enhancement

Out of all this lockdown it was emerged that economic burden is reduced as people are breathing fresh air so less co morbid diseases. There is lot of communication in between family members hence stress is less.

**DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION:**

- In China, just two months of reduced pollution has saved the lives of 4000 children under the age of 5 and 73000 adults over the age of 70.
- Human beings are part of nature and all activity that impacts the environment also impacts us.
- Perhaps, this is not a question of whether the virus is “good” or “bad” for the climate, but instead if we can create a functional economic system that supports people without

threatening the life of Earth.

- It is safe to say that no one wanted carbon emissions to be reduced this way. COVID-19 has a dark cost to our lives, healthcare systems, and mental health of people around the world.
- Nevertheless, it has also shown that communities can make a difference when they take care of each other, and this could be an invaluable lesson when we face climate change.

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