

The 2023 Sri Lanka Economic Crisis mobile phone survey, conducted by the Ministry of Health, was a nationally representative mobile phone survey of 18-44 and older designed to produce comparable data on impacts of the economic crisis on non-communicable diseases and access to care and medicine.

The survey employed a two-phase sample design to produce key indicators for the country stratified by male/female and age. In phase one a sample of an implicit frame of all possible mobile phone numbers was generated via random digit dialing. In phase two, phase one respondents were stratified to distribution. A total of 91,888 mobile phone numbers were dialed, of which 7,368 mobile phone users were screened, and yielded 2,696 interviews. The 6.1%.

	Overall			Men			Women		
<b>Demographic (sample)</b>									
<i>Age</i>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>		<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>		<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>	
18-44	1534	56.9%		769	56.6%		765	57.2%	
45+	1162	43.1%		589	43.4%		573	42.8%	
	2696			1358	50.4%		1338	49.6%	
<b>Diabetes</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>% or mean</b>	<b>(95% CI)</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>% or mean</b>	<b>(95% CI)</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>% or mean</b>	<b>(95% CI)</b>
Diagnosed by doctor or health care professional with raised blood glucose/diabetes	2463	20.6	(19.1 , 22.2)	1232	22.1	(19.9 , 24.4)	1231	19.3	(17.2 , 21.6)
<i>Of those with a diagnosis of raised blood glucose/ diabetes</i>									
Currently taking medication for raised blood glucose/ diabetes	501	69.8	(65.6 , 73.7)	270	72.2	(66.5 , 77.2)	231	67.4	(61.1 , 73.1)
Ever had to stop using raised blood glucose/ diabetes medications because of the economic crisis	478			257			221		
- Yes	210	43.8	(39.4 , 48.3)	117	45.5	(39.5 , 51.7)	93	42.1	(35.8 , 48.8)
- No	94	19.7	(16.4 , 23.6)	49	19.2	(14.8 , 24.6)	45	20.2	(15.4 , 26.1)
- Do not use	174	36.4	(32.2 , 40.9)	91	35.3	(29.6 , 41.3)	83	37.6	(31.5 , 44.2)
<i>Of those taking medication for raised blood glucose/ diabetes</i>									
Received medication for raised blood glucose/ diabetes from a government clinic	346	38.0	(33.0 , 43.3)	194	31.3	(25.1 , 38.2)	152	45.3	(37.6 , 53.4)

Main reason for <b>not</b> receiving raised blood glucose/ diabetes medications from a government clinic	211			131			80		
- Already taking medicines from the private sector	122	57.8	(51.0 , 64.3)	75	57.1	(48.4 , 65.4)	47	58.8	(47.6 , 69.2)
- Medicine was not available in a government clinic pharmacy	33	15.5	(11.2 , 21.1)	23	17.7	(12.0 , 25.3)	10	12.5	(6.8 , 21.8)
- The government clinic pharmacy was overcrowded	35	16.6	(12.1 , 22.3)	21	16.1	(10.7 , 23.5)	14	17.4	(10.5 , 27.5)
- Some other reason	21	10.1	(6.6 , 15.0)	12	9.2	(5.3 , 15.6)	9	11.3	(5.9 , 20.5)
For those who <b>did</b> receive medication from a government clinic, amount of raised blood glucose/ diabetes medication obtained from a government clinic	124			57			67		
- One month	108	86.9	(79.6 , 91.9)	51	89.6	(78.3 , 95.3)	57	85.0	(74.1 , 91.8)
- Two to three weeks	6	4.8	(2.1 , 10.4)	3	5.2	(1.6 , 15.3)	3	4.5	(1.4 , 13.3)
- One week	10	8.3	(4.5 , 14.8)	3	5.2	(1.6 , 15.3)	7	10.5	(5.0 , 20.6)
For those who had to <b>stop using raised blood glucose/diabetes medications because of the economic crisis</b> , what was the main reason	206			113			93		
- Medicine was out of stock	43	21.1	(16.0 , 27.3)	22	19.5	(13.2 , 28.0)	21	22.7	(15.2 , 32.5)
- Medicine was too expensive	120	57.9	(51.0 , 64.5)	70	61.9	(52.6 , 70.5)	50	53.6	(43.4 , 63.6)
- Some other reason	43	21.0	(15.9 , 27.2)	21	18.5	(12.3 , 26.9)	22	23.7	(16.0 , 33.5)
<b>Hypertension</b>									
Diagnosed by doctor or health care professional with raised blood pressure/ hypertension	2449	23.7	(22.1 , 25.3)	1208	24.1	(21.8 , 26.6)	1241	23.3	(21.0 , 25.7)
<i>Of those with a diagnosis of raised blood pressure/ hypertension</i>									
Currently taking medication for raised blood pressure/ hypertension	563	62.9	(58.8 , 66.8)	287	63.9	(58.2 , 69.3)	276	61.9	(56.0 , 67.4)
Ever had to stop using raised blood pressure/ hypertension medications because of the economic crisis	528			267			261		

- Yes	197	37.1	(33.1 , 41.4)	106	39.6	(33.9 , 45.6)	91	35.0	(29.4 , 41.0)
- No	114	21.7	(18.4 , 25.4)	55	20.8	(16.3 , 26.1)	59	22.5	(17.8 , 28.0)
- Do not use	217	41.2	(37.0 , 45.5)	106	39.6	(33.9 , 45.7)	111	42.5	(36.7 , 48.7)
<b>Of those taking medication for raised blood pressure/ hypertension</b>									
Received medication for raised blood pressure/ hypertension from a government clinic	343	33.8	(29.0 , 39.1)	180	29.4	(23.2 , 36.5)	163	38.0	(30.9 , 45.8)
Main reason for <b>not</b> receiving raised blood pressure/ hypertension medications from a government clinic	224			124			100		
- Already taking medicines from the private sector	128	57.0	(50.4 , 63.4)	72	57.8	(48.8 , 66.3)	56	56.2	(46.2 , 65.7)
- Medicine was not available in a government clinic pharmacy	33	14.5	(10.5 , 19.8)	20	16.1	(10.6 , 23.7)	13	12.9	(7.6 , 21.1)
- The government clinic pharmacy was overcrowded	30	13.4	(9.5 , 18.6)	18	14.8	(9.5 , 22.4)	12	11.9	(6.9 , 20.0)
- Some other reason	33	15.0	(10.9 , 20.4)	14	11.3	(6.8 , 18.3)	19	19.0	(12.4 , 28.0)
For those who <b>did</b> receive medication from a government clinic, amount of raised blood pressure/ hypertension medication obtained from a government clinic	112			50			62		
- One month	85	76.0	(67.1 , 83.1)	36	71.5	(57.1 , 82.6)	49	79.1	(67.0 , 87.6)
- Two to three weeks	13	11.5	(6.7 , 19.0)	7	14.2	(6.8 , 27.3)	6	9.7	(4.3 , 20.2)
- One week	14	12.5	(7.5 , 20.1)	7	14.3	(6.9 , 27.5)	7	11.2	(5.3 , 21.9)
For those who had to <b>stop using raised blood pressure/hypertension medication because of the economic crisis</b> , what was the main reason	181			96			85		
- Medicine was out of stock	30	16.5	(11.7 , 22.7)	17	17.7	(11.2 , 26.8)	13	15.3	(9.0 , 24.8)
- Medicine was too expensive	112	61.5	(54.1 , 68.4)	64	66.7	(56.6 , 75.5)	48	56.4	(45.5 , 66.6)
- Some other reason	39	22.0	(16.5 , 28.8)	15	15.6	(9.5 , 24.4)	24	28.3	(19.6 , 38.9)
<b>Mental Health</b>									
Days in the last month during which mental health was not good	2007	8.7	(8.3 , 9.1)	1031	9.0	(8.4 , 9.6)	976	8.4	(7.8 , 9.0)



For those who had to <b>stop using any emotional, concentration, behavior or mental health disorder medication because of the economic crisis</b> , what was the main reason	51			26			25		
- <i>Medicine was out of stock</i>	12	23.6	(13.7 , 37.5)	7	27.5	(13.2 , 48.6)	5	19.9	(8.1 , 41.1)
- <i>Medicine was too expensive</i>	28	54.6	(40.6 , 67.9)	15	57.2	(37.1 , 75.2)	13	52.1	(32.2 , 71.4)
- <i>Some other reason</i>	11	21.8	(12.3 , 35.7)	4	15.3	(5.5 , 35.7)	7	28.0	(13.4 , 49.4)
<b>Economic Crisis and Medical Care</b>									
Did not see a doctor when needing medical care in the past year because they could not afford it	2662	52.3	(50.4 , 54.2)	1338	49.5	(46.8 , 52.2)	1324	54.9	(52.2 , 57.6)
Had difficulty accessing medicines during the past year because of the economic crisis	2654	57.6	(55.7 , 59.5)	1326	57.2	(54.5 , 59.8)	1328	58.1	(55.4 , 60.7)
Main difficulty in accessing medicines in the past 12 months among those who <b>had</b> difficulty	1497			740			757		
- <i>Medicine was too expensive</i>	1110	74.2	(71.9 , 76.4)	530	71.4	(68.0 , 74.6)	580	76.6	(73.5 , 79.5)
- <i>Medicine was out of stock</i>	195	13.0	(11.4 , 14.8)	104	14.2	(11.8 , 16.9)	91	12.0	(9.9 , 14.5)
- <i>A lack of fuel or long queues for fuel</i>	56	3.7	(2.9 , 4.8)	35	4.8	(3.4 , 6.6)	21	2.8	(1.8 , 4.2)
- <i>Protests or curfews</i>	12	0.8	(0.5 , 1.4)	6	0.8	(0.4 , 1.8)	6	0.8	(0.4 , 1.8)
- <i>Some other reason</i>	124	8.3	(7.0 , 9.8)	65	8.8	(7.0 , 11.1)	59	7.8	(6.1 , 10.0)
Had difficulty receiving routine medical care in the past 12 months because of the economic crisis	2569	52.5	(50.5 , 54.4)	1282	51.5	(48.8 , 54.2)	1287	53.3	(50.6 , 56.1)
Main difficulty in receiving routine medical care in the past 12 months among those who <b>had</b> difficulty	1296			630			666		
- <i>Medical care was too expensive</i>	1037	80.1	(77.8 , 82.2)	489	77.5	(74.0 , 80.6)	548	82.3	(79.2 , 85.0)
- <i>It was too difficult to see the provider</i>	58	4.5	(3.5 , 5.8)	30	4.8	(3.4 , 6.8)	28	4.2	(2.9 , 6.0)
- <i>A lack of fuel or long queues for fuel</i>	79	6.0	(4.9 , 7.5)	46	7.4	(5.6 , 9.7)	33	4.9	(3.5 , 6.9)
- <i>Protests or curfews</i>	17	1.3	(0.8 , 2.1)	8	1.3	(0.7 , 2.6)	9	1.3	(0.7 , 2.6)
- <i>Some other reason</i>	105	8.1	(6.7 , 9.7)	57	9.0	(7.0 , 11.6)	48	7.2	(5.5 , 9.5)

Needed mental health services for issues such as stress, depression, and problems with emotions in the past 12 months because of the economic crisis	2428	28.1	(26.3 , 29.9)	1202	27.4	(25.0 , 30.0)	1226	28.6	(26.2 , 31.2)
Used mental health services in the past 12 months because of the economic crisis among those who <b>needed</b> mental health services	659	22.2	(19.2 , 25.6)	318	20.7	(16.6 , 25.6)	341	23.5	(19.3 , 28.3)

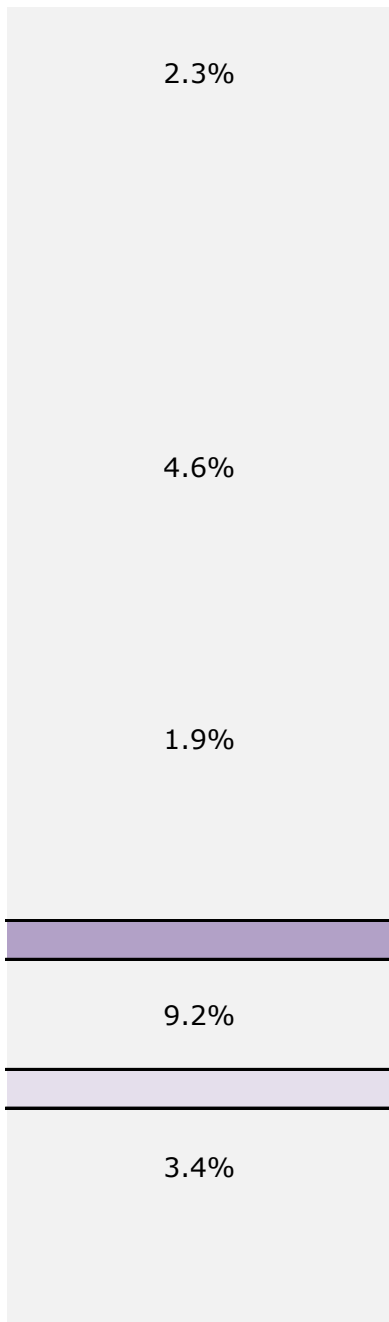
\*Item nonresponse is calculated as:  $1 - I_x / (I - V_x)$ , where  $I_x$  equals the number of valid responses for question  $x$ ,  $I$  equals the total number of respondents in the survey, and  $V_x$  equals the respondents with a valid previous question prevented them from being asked question  $x$ .

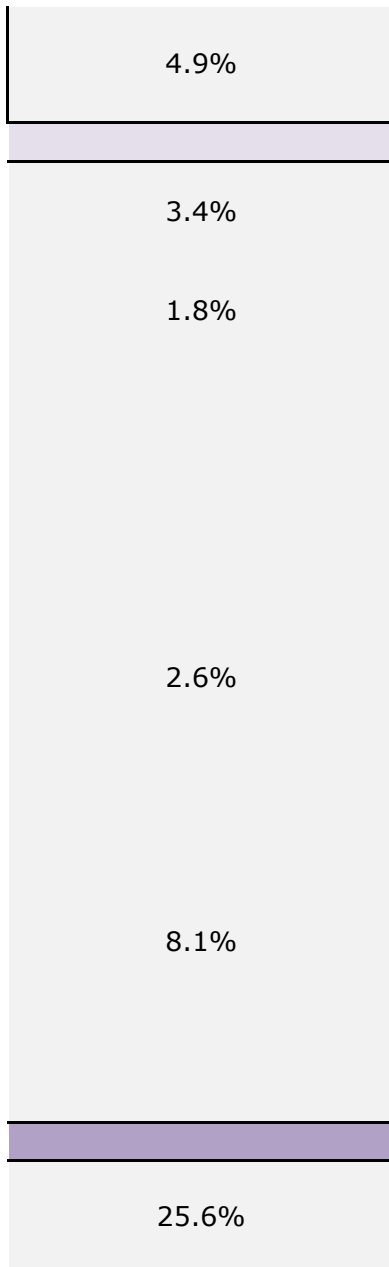
† Indicates an estimate based on an unweighted sample size of less than 25 and has been suppressed.

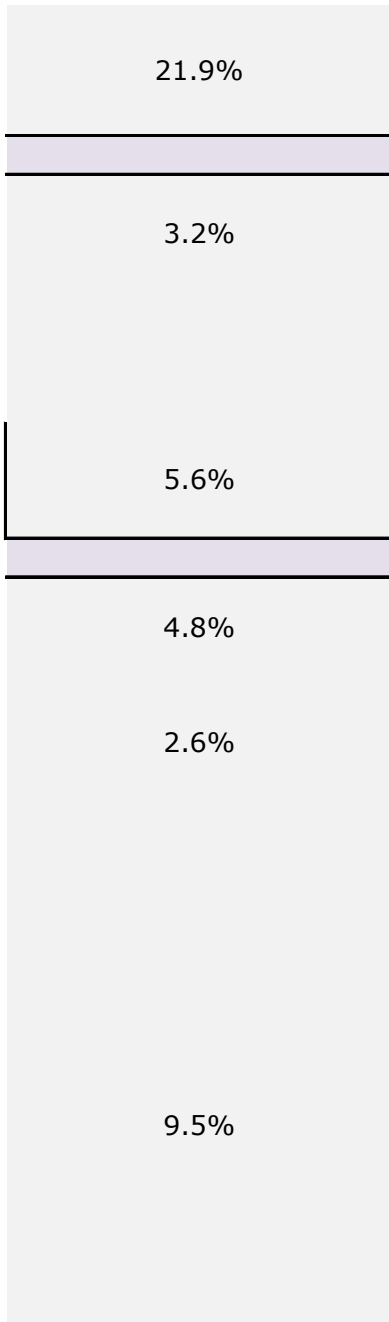
men and women aged 18 years

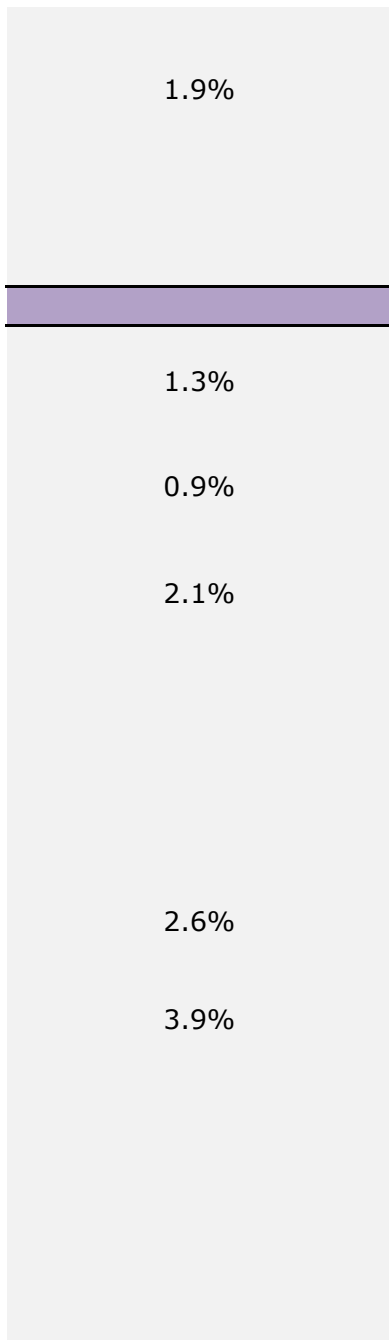
f mobile phone numbers from  
the general population  
e overall response rate was

Item Non-response*
NA
8.6%
2.3%
4.6%
1.4%









5.1%

3.2%

skip for question x (i.e. an answer to a