

The **Coronavirus CivActs Campaign (CCC)** gathers rumours, concerns and questions from communities across Nepal to eliminate information gaps between the government, media, NGOs and citizens. By providing the public with facts, the CCC ensures a better understanding of needs regarding the coronavirus and debunks rumours before they can do more harm.

Methods of Identifying and Managing Victims of Sexual Violence in Hospitals During the Pandemic

- 01/ Continue the service of the victims for sexual violence in any situation.
- 02/ If any incidents of violence are identified during the treatment at the hospital, immediately inform the One- Stop Crisis Management Center (OCMC).
- 03/ Lodge a complaint with the police for legal assistance.
- 04/ If the victim of sexual violence has to be at the isolation of the hospital, then provide them the needed psychosocial counselling and other support through phone.
- 05/ If the victim is a child who needs special care, then inform the local unit or relevant organizations for support.
- 06/ Take protective measures to express the violence and abuse faced by yourself

Source: <https://mokit.gov.np/categorydetail/shrawan-27-mp-2077-baithak>

Nepal Update



Health worker collecting swab of ambulance drivers within Vyas Municipality for corona test

Photo: Shailendra Mishra

Tested

PCR Tested: 529,427

Positive: 27,241

Active: 9,639

Deaths: 107



Source: <https://covid19.mohp.gov.np/#/>

Rumors & Facts



It is heard that older people do not have fever even when they are infected with COVID-19. Then, how do you know that they are infected?

It is not true that senior citizens do not have fever even when they are infected with COVID-19. The temperature of the senior citizens could be less than 100 degree Fahrenheit even when they have fever because the normal temperature of the senior citizens could be lower than adults. In case of senior citizens, if the temperature appears higher than 100 degrees Fahrenheit even once, if the temperature appears higher than 99 degrees Fahrenheit many times or if the temperature reaches 2 degrees above than the average normal temperature of the individual, it can be suspected as a symptom.

Source: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1K7qNhAkzB2CGvFSIKe8WusjN_edHgCky/view



The government has said that the arrangements should be made to provide service to the patients of targeted groups even during COVID-19 pandemic. Who falls into these target groups?

The patients of targeted groups comprises of the groups identified by the Social Service Unit Establishment and Operation Guidelines, including the extremely/ poor, helpless, those who hold identity card as person with disability, senior citizens (identity card holders), victims of sexual violence, victims of disasters and natural disasters (epidemics, earthquake, flood, landslide, fire, etc.), patients who lost guardians in accidents, marginalized and endangered tribes, indigenous groups etc.

Source: <https://cutt.ly/7d4JXD7>



The public services have completely stopped with the increase in the corona infection cases inside Kathmandu Valley. How do we lodge a complaint relating foreign employment?

If a concerned person has to lodge a complaint, he/she has to submit it along with the evidence at the email address of Department of Foreign Employment info@dofe.gov.np and monitoring@dofe.gov.np. Those who must come to the Board to get the recommendation for the financial assistance provided by the Relief Rescue Branch and submit the application for rescue, the service seeker should come alone following all the health guidelines and get the service.

Source: <https://dofe.gov.np/DetailPage.aspx/id/155/lan/ne-NP>



Has the Karnali Province introduced the provision of restricting entry at night and mandatory PCR report to enter during the day?

The meeting of the Karnali State Disaster Management Center on Thursday decided to restrict national and foreign citizens to enter the province border at night and to make the PCR test report done within three days available to enter at the day. The decision will be effective from 1 Bhadra 2077. Similarly, the meeting has also instructed that the arrangements should be made for the government employees and local representatives entering or going outside Karnali Province with necessary or government works to get PCR test before the movement.

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/cm.karnali/photos/>

To receive our regular updates through WhatsApp

1. Add +27 60 080 6146 to your contact list.
2. Send a message saying **Nepal** to the contact.



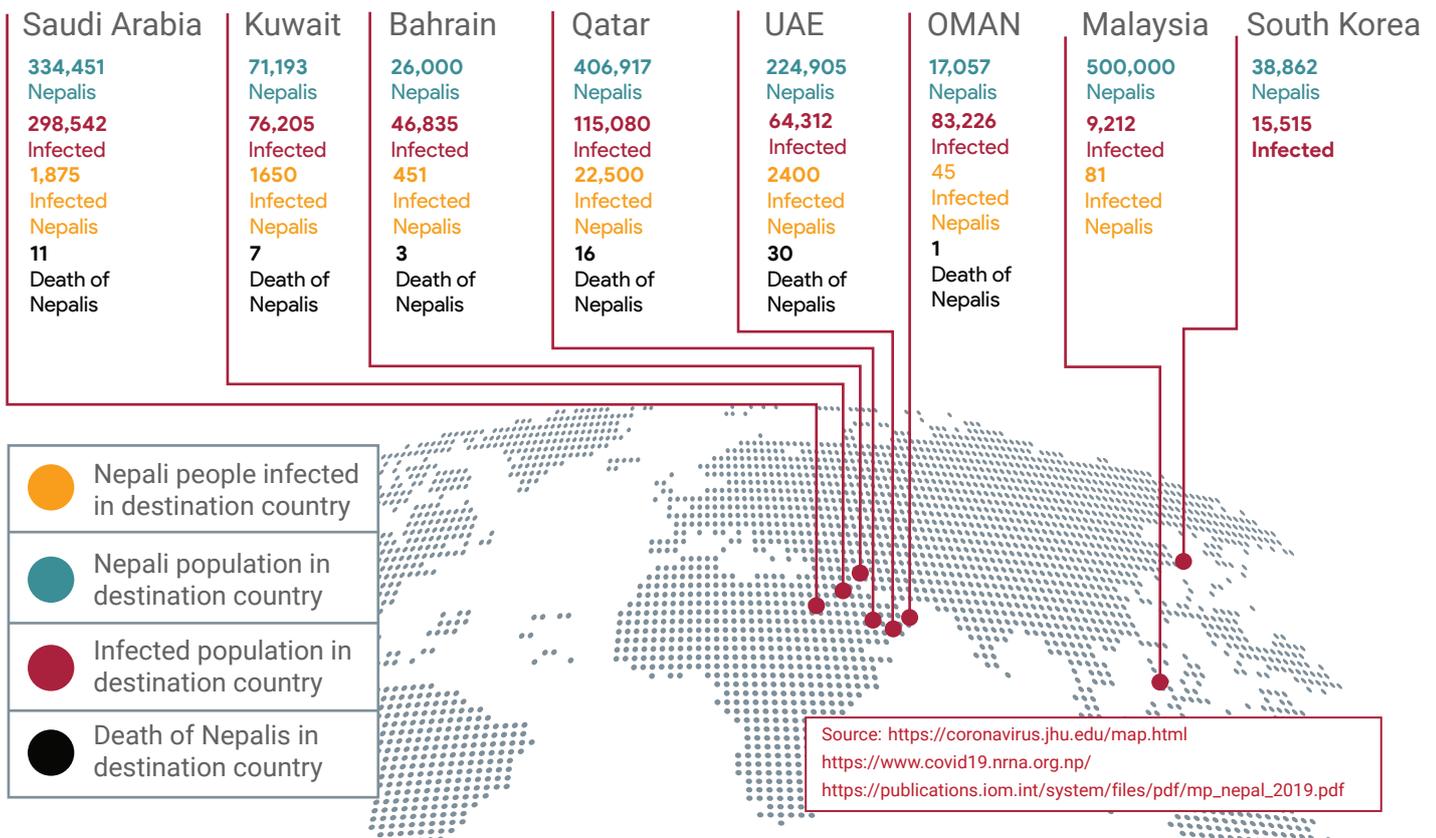
Toll-free **HOTLINE** on
COVID-19

Brought to you by  viamo

DIAL **32100**
from your NTC simcard for accessing
all COVID-19 information for FREE

Open Migration

Migrant workers in major destination countries



ShramikSanjal

Amnesty extended for 3 months in UAE

The UAE had granted a three-month amnesty during the impact of COVID-19. The amnesty has been extended for another three months now. Those with visit visa, tourist visa and residency visa and those whose visa expired before 1 March, 2020 can participate in this.

The period of amnesty will remain until 17 November, 2020. Earlier, its period was upto 18 August 2020.

Those who receive amnesty and have a resident visa can directly go to the airport with a passport and ticket. But those with a visit visa and tourist visa should reach the airport before 48 hours of flight in Dubai and 6 hours before in Sharjah, Abudhabi, Ra-Al Khaimah and get the clearance.

The provision will not be effective for those whose visa expired after 1 March, 2020.

If you have any other concern relating to amnesty, then you can contact the toll free number 800453.

Source: Khaleej Times

You can listen to our facebook live at www.facebook.com/shramik.sanjal every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday evening **UAE time (8: 00 PM), Kuwait (7: 00 PM) and Malaysia (12 Midnight).**

\$ Follow the Money

Total

The budget allocated from Nepal Government and Ministry of Finance in three rounds
Around 1.48B NRS

The total fund in Coronavirus Infection Prevention, Treatment and Control Fund
Around 2.26B NRS

Federal Government

Donors

ADB
250M USD
World Bank
28.7M USD
IMF
130.9M USD
European Union
82M USD

Spent

The total expenditure of Nepal government's activities against Coronavirus

Around 1.8B NRS

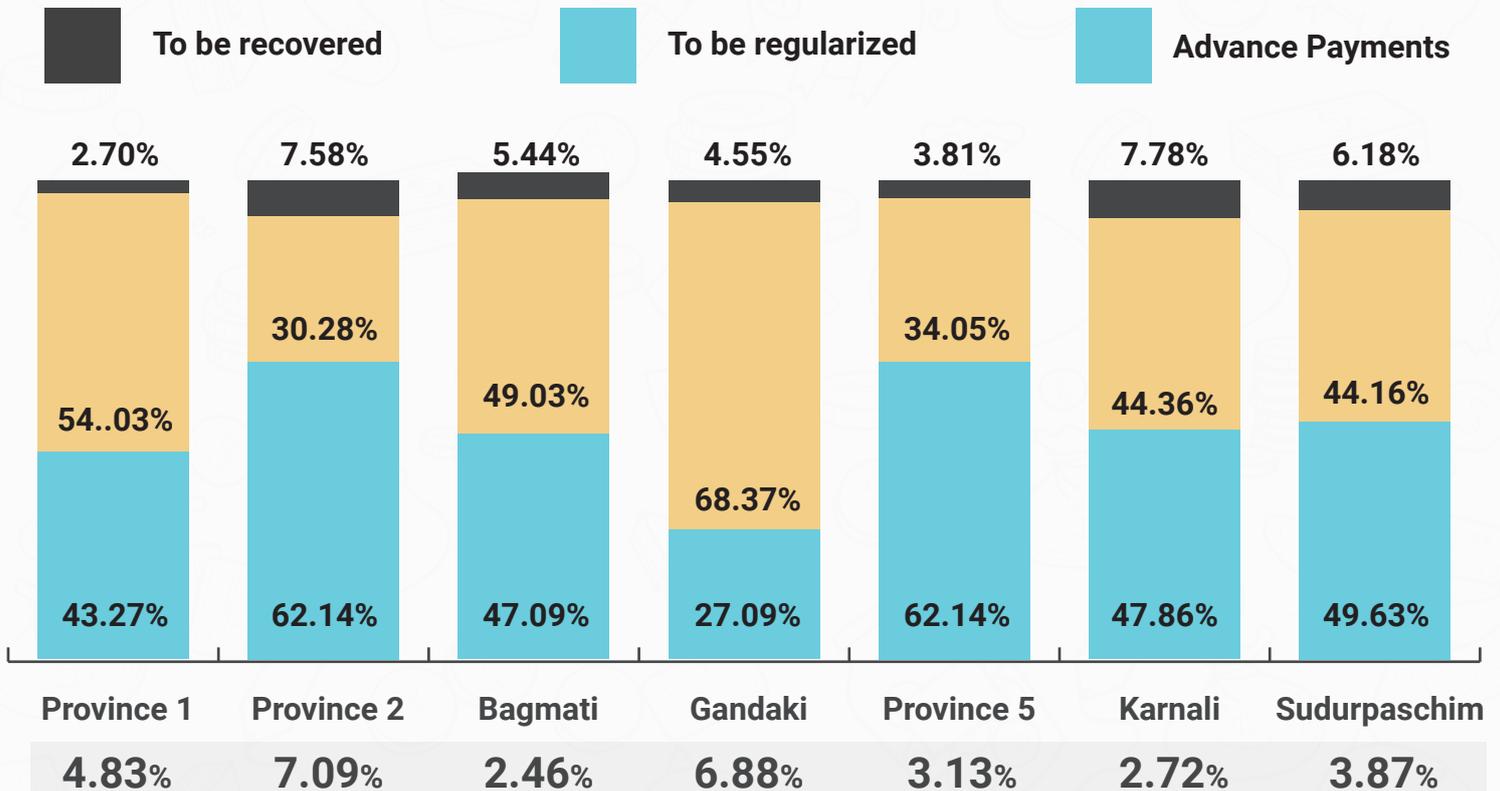
The Ministry of Defence for the purchase of health equipment to prevent and control COVID-19 released

Around 2.34B NRS

Provincial Government

Province Names	Province 1	Province 2	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Province 5	Karnali Province	Sudurpaschim Province
Total Amount	Around 294M NRS	Around 266M NRS	Around 429M NRS	Around 183M NRS	Around 156M NRS	Around 254M NRS	Around 425M NRS
Spent Amount	Around 193M NRS	Around 133M NRS	Around 136M NRS	Around 154M NRS	Around 779M NRS	Around 239M NRS	Around 364M NRS

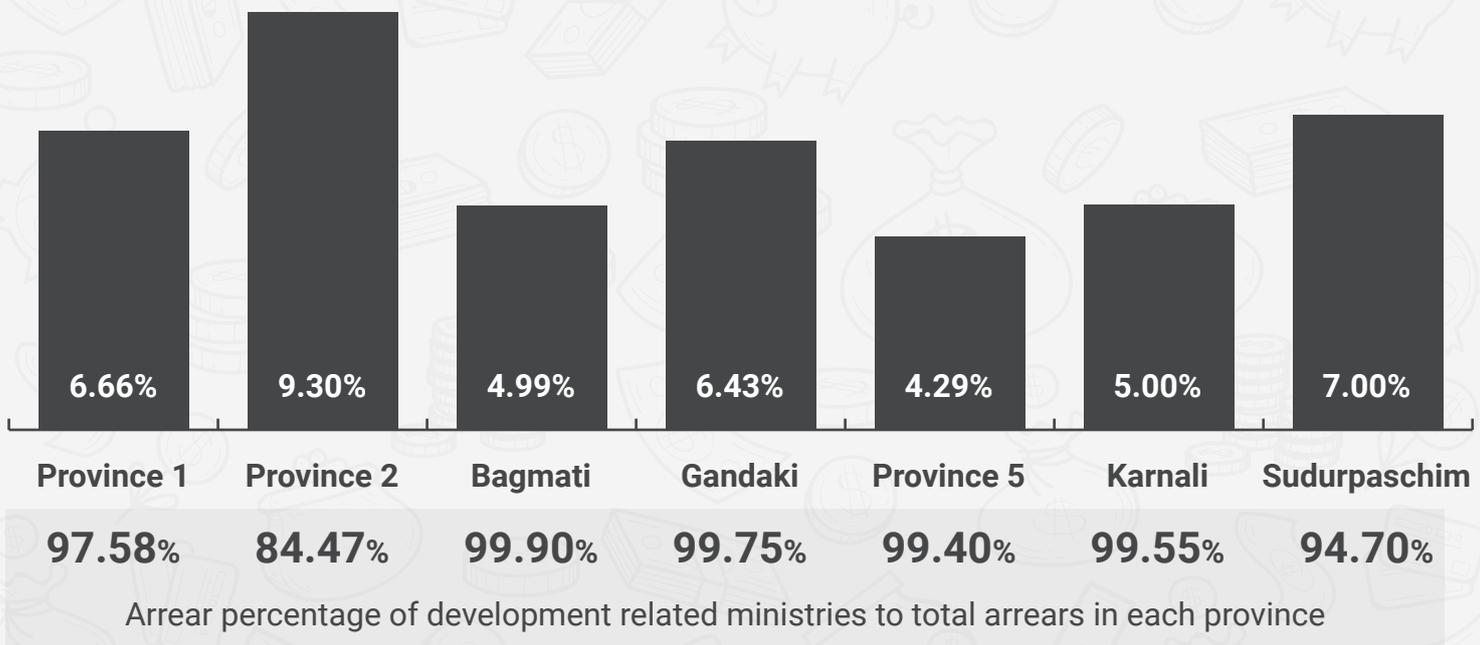
Comparison of Arrear Types in all provinces in Fiscal Year 2075/2076



Arrears Percentage out of the total audited amount for each province

\$ Follow the Money

Total Arrears percentage of ministries related to development in each provinces



Reducing arrears have been a major concern for all governments. Since the implementation of federalism in Nepal, discourses erupted regarding how provincial governments would be different in their management from federal government. Most of the province's elected officials opined that newly formed provinces will not take the ills of the federal government and will work to manage resources efficiently. Although indicators of good management are not only limited to financial management, however, financial management is a strong symptom of overall management. Thus, the arrears amount of each province gives a glimpse of the financial management.

The arrears amount is compared with average arrears of ministries which are related to development- Ministry of physical Infrastructure Development, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Industry, Tourism Forests and Environment and Ministry of Land Management, Agriculture and Cooperative. These ministries dispense functions related to development of the provinces. Their financial capability affects the development status of the province. The development related ministries contribute almost 100% of arrears in most provinces meaning that development functions have been affected in all provinces. Moreover, Province 2, Gandaki and Province 1 have high arrears percentage for development ministries only.

Also, the very high level of advance payments is particularly worrisome. The advance settlements should also be seen as a way of implementing financial accountability. High amounts of arrears identified as advance payments hint towards the working of government officials responsible. All government advances should be settled before the fiscal year runs out. However, in all provinces this is clearly not followed as shown in the above graphs.

Note: This information is not complete. It has been brought together from different sources available. We will keep collecting the data and revise it in the days ahead.



Frontliner's Voices



Aarati Mestar

Sanitation staff, Jaleswor Hospital

"I am a sanitation worker at Jaleswor Hospital. My husband, Laxman Mestar currently cleans the Isolation of COVID-19 hospital. We have children in the house. As both husband and wife work in the sanitation of the hospital, the fear of coronavirus doesn't only remain in the workplace but home as well. So, when I go home after work, I pay more attention to my hygiene at home. I know that the risk will be higher when I do the cleaning on the clothes I wear from home, but the hospital hasn't given separate clothes to wear while cleaning despite requesting several times."

Bharat Thakur

Health Assistant, Jaleswor COVID-19 Hospital

"In the early days, the relatives of the infected individuals would come to the hospital and request to meet those in isolation. We knew that it would be risky to allow them to meet the infected individuals, but we had to spend a lot of time trying to make them understand. They would even come to fight when we informed them that they were not allowed to meet. Gradually, people have begun to understand the facts about coronavirus and subsequently have stopped asking permission to meet their relatives. We ourselves are at risk. But again, we realize who will look after the patients if we also run out of fear. This thought has been motivating us."



Mayanath Silwal

Local Representative, Jwalamukhi - 7, Dhading

"When there was no situation to panic, the locals used to block the road themselves and put fences on the road. But now, corona is at our doorsteps. In Jwalamukhi itself, 33 people have been confirmed of corona infection. At the moment, the locals think that only the government and local representatives should prevent the coronavirus, so it is creating difficulties in management. We understand that corona can be reduced only with the cooperation of local government representatives and the locals, and accordingly we are making efforts in corona response including quarantine management".

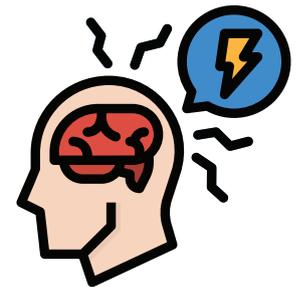
Effects on mental health due to COVID-19



There is rapid spread of Corona Virus all around the world with its greater impact in mental health of the people. Most of the offices, schools, transport, hotels, businesses, factories and other works in Nepal are at a standstill. There is no doubt that the risks posed by COVID's indefinite terror and the impact of the lock down will not only lead to a decline in social, mental, cultural, and political, but also in the country's economy. In the daily work, the lives of the daily wage people are becoming more difficult day by day.

More than 2000 people attempt suicide within the 4 month of lockdown period resulted by COVID-19 pandemic in Nepal. Numerous abuse and domestic violence cases, harassment, rape, corruption, exploitation, discrimination cases including social stigma are covered by media. These types of problems adversely effects on mental health and the need and demand of psychosocial counseling have been increasing. The following mental health and psychosocial related problems has been observed with the people due to the spread of COVID-19 pandemic in Nepal.

1. Excessive fear, anxious or worries
2. Feeling anger, sad or down with mood swing and loneliness
3. Confusion and reduced ability to focused
4. Changes in eating habits
5. Excessive smoking, drinking alcohol or drug use
6. Sleep disturbance, tiredness and low energy
7. Inability to cope with daily problems or stress, delusions, hallucinations
8. Trouble to understand people and relate to situations
9. Excessive hostility or violence
10. Suicidal thoughts



Here, some of the following points are listed that can be done to provide awareness on COVID-19 situation and stress management that arises due to pandemic.

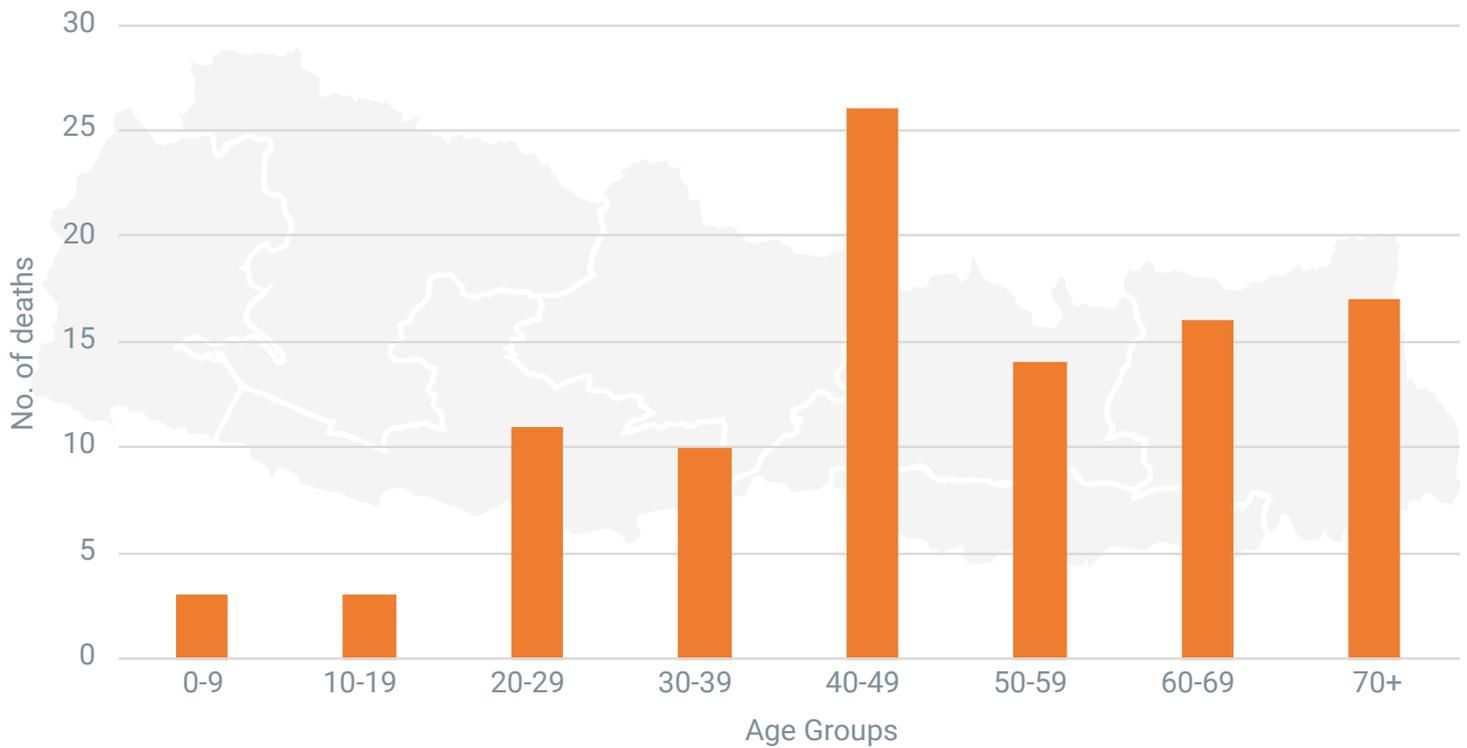


1. Flow the accurate information
2. Take the lead role for need assessment
3. Guide for preparing daily work plan and stay safe at home
4. To cooperate and spend more time with family members
5. Mobilize youth for data collection, and situation update
6. Conduct virtual program on safety and awareness information
7. To provide tele-counselling and psychosocial support
8. To take care of the family and people, listen to them, and consult with psychia

Kusum KC, Writer is public health student

Higher death rates in older people through COVID-19 in the first 100 deaths in Nepal

Age Wise Distribution of the First 100 Deaths by COVID-19 in Nepal



The above graph shows the age wise distribution of the first 100 deaths by COVID-19 in Nepal. Highest number of deaths have been reported in the age group 40-49 years even when the majority of cases are found to be under 40. Lowest deaths have been reported among those below the age of 20. Many of those who died had underlying health conditions. Data shows that adults and people in old age have more mortality because of COVID-19 and people need to be more careful around them.

Source: HEOC, MoHP, SitRep

DISCLAIMER

The sources of rumors, information, and issues presented here are collected from a variety of organizations, government agencies, international organizations, news articles, social media, and Community Frontliners in all 7 provinces of Nepal, as well as the CivActs team based on their conversations with over 2000 people in August 2020. The issues highlighted are chosen based on prevalence, relevance, and its potential impact on society. The information presented here is correct at the time of the issue.



Coronavirus CivActs Campaign is brought to you by Accountability Lab Nepal.



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