



مرکز تريندز للبحوث والاستشارات  
TRENDS RESEARCH & ADVISORY

**Opinion poll**

**Global Economic Recovery in the Post-Covid-19 Era**

## Executive Summary

- Participants from the Middle East made up 44.7 percent of total respondents, while those from other regions constituted 55.3 percent.
- Males showed higher interest in participating in the poll (64.1 percent) compared to females (35.3 percent).
- 54.9 percent of respondents had postgraduate degrees, 40.3 percent Bachelor's degrees, and 4.9 percent diplomas.
- The participation of the '50 years and above' age group was the highest (28.6 percent), followed by the age group of '40-49 years' (24.8 percent), '30-39' (24.3 percent), and '19-29' age group (22.3 percent).

## Poll outcome

- 42.2 percent of the respondents said that the global economy is heading at a moderate pace toward recovery from the Covid-19 crisis.
- 45.6 percent believed that the success of vaccines in defeating new waves or mutations of the virus is one of the most important requirements for the global economy to recover from the crisis.
- 38.8 percent of the respondents said that governments bailing out small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) would accelerate global economic recovery.
- 42.2 percent said the countries' reliance on green investment or projects (such as renewable energy, digital infrastructure etc.) would contribute significantly to global economic recovery.
- 40.3 percent saw a widening gap between major (advanced) economies and the emerging economies as one of the major hurdles facing global economic recovery.
- 49.0 percent of the respondents believed that advanced technology is one of the most important economic sectors that could drive the global economy toward recovery from the Covid-19 crisis.

## **Introduction:**

TRENDS Research & Advisory conducted a survey from April 11-25, 2021, on global economic recovery in the post-Covid-19 era. The survey was intended to understand the Arab and international views on the state of the global economy during the pandemic, the urgent need for recovery, the role that governments can play in this regard, and the main sectors that can lead the recovery.

The survey contained several questions, including: Is the global economy heading toward recovery from the Covid-19 crisis? What are the requirements for the global economy to recover from the crisis? What can governments and the private sector do to accelerate recovery? To what degree can the reliance of countries on green investments or projects (such as renewable energy, digital infrastructure etc.) contribute to the global economic recovery? What are the major challenges to the global economic recovery? What economic sectors can lead the global economy toward recovery from the Covid-19 crisis?

## **Objectives:**

- 1- To understand the community's views on how fast the global economy is heading toward recovery from the Covid-19 crisis.
- 2- To assess the requirements of the global economy in its endeavors to recover from the Covid-19 crisis.
- 3- To comprehend what governments and the private sector can do to accelerate the global economic recovery.
- 4- To explore the community's views on how much the reliance of countries on green investments or projects (e.g., Renewable energy, digital infrastructure etc.) can contribute toward this recovery.
- 5- To indicate the major obstacles facing the recovery.
- 6- To know which economic sectors can lead the global economy toward recovery.

## Methodology



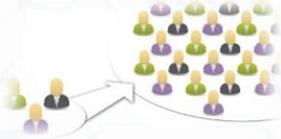
### Questionnaire Design

An electronic questionnaire was prepared to gauge the opinion of the global community on the state of the global economy during the Covid-19 pandemic.



### Survey Sample

The sample was randomly selected from international community members.



### Sample Selection

Due to the preventive measures in place against the spread of Covid-19, the snowball sampling method was used. The sample size was 412 individuals, with an error margin of  $\pm 5.0$  percent.



### Data Collection

With the questionnaire posted on the TRENDS website, an electronic method was used in data collection.



### Data Analysis

SPSS and Excel statistical packages were used to analyze the data and ensure the accuracy of data processing. Tables and graphs were extracted, and a statistical report was prepared.

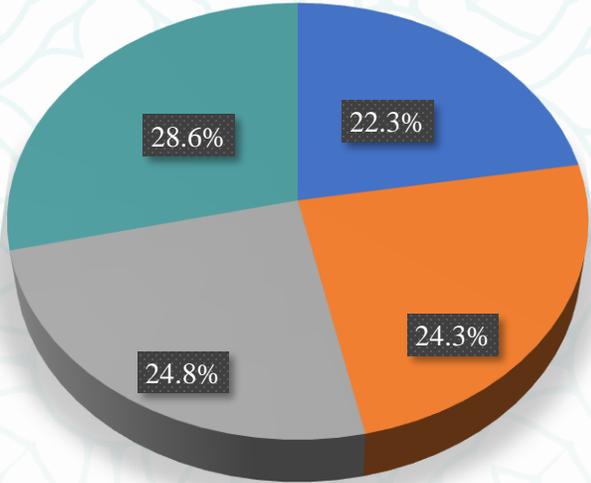


### Survey Duration

Data collection was carried out during the period April 11-25, 2021.

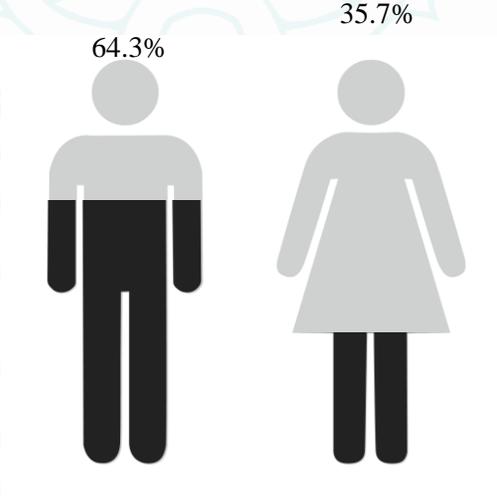
**Sample Distribution:**

**Distribution based on age group**



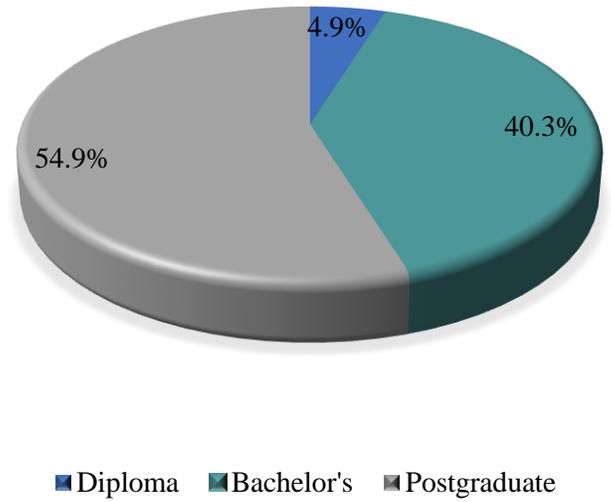
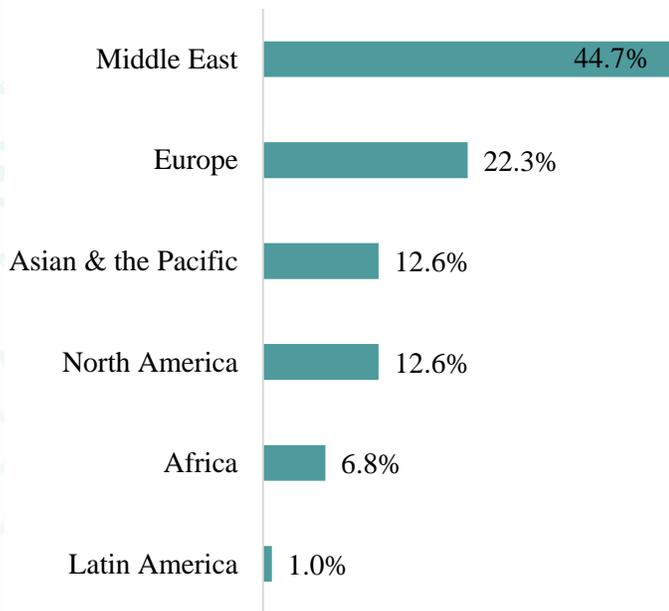
■ 18 – 29 ■ 30 – 39 ■ 40 – 49 ■ 50 and above

**Distribution based on gender**



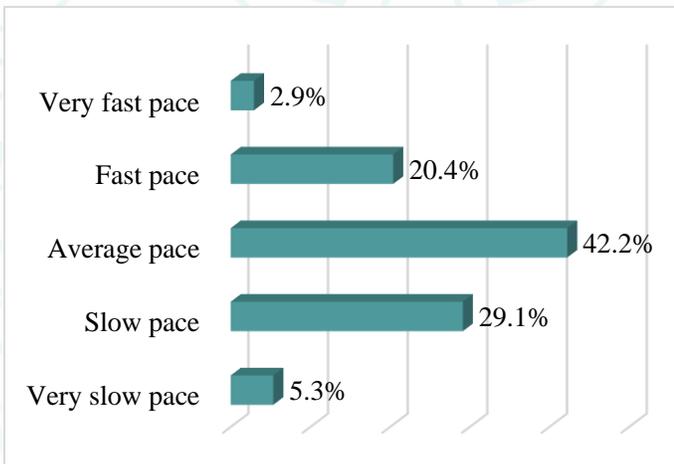
**Distribution based on region**

**Distribution based on educational level**

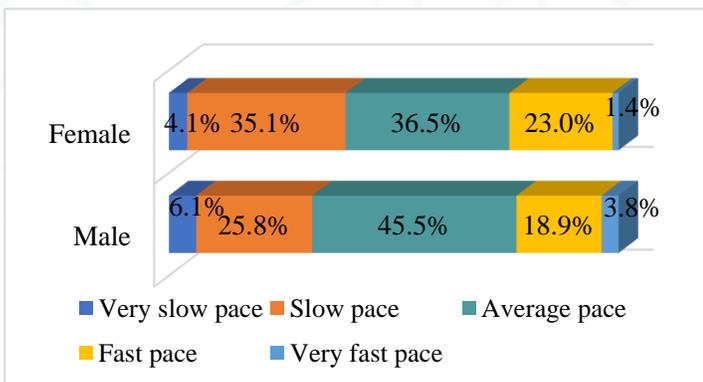


## Main Findings:

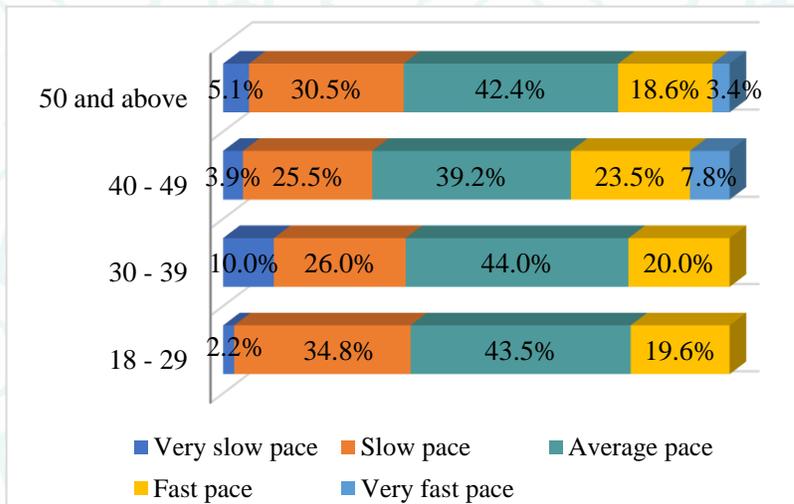
### Question 1: How fast do you think the global economy is recovering from the Covid-19 crisis?



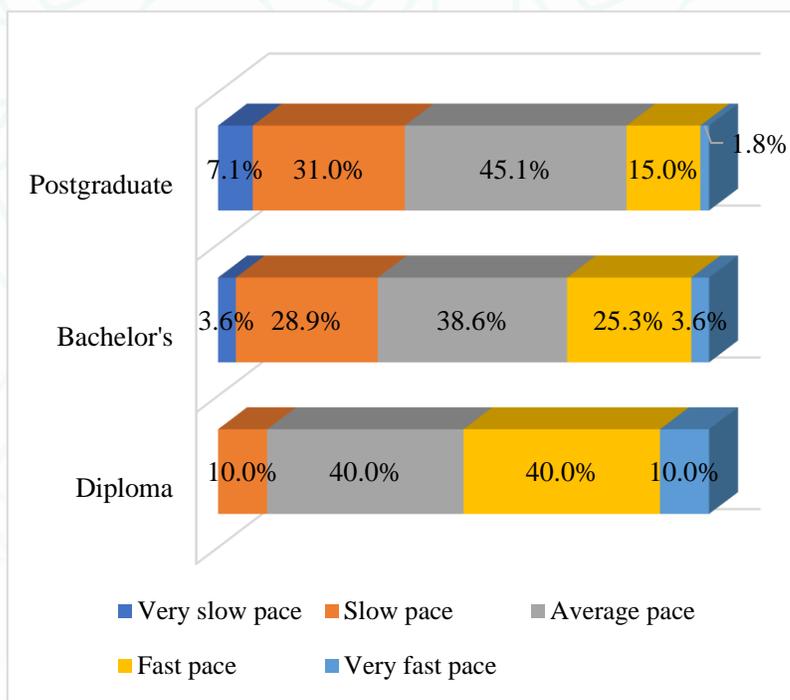
We asked this question to know the respondents' opinion about the pace of global economic recovery from the Covid-19 crisis. 42.2 percent of the respondents said the global economy is heading toward recovery at a moderate pace, compared to 29.1 percent who said it is heading toward recovery at a slow pace.



In terms of gender, 45.5 percent of male and 36.5 percent of female respondents believed that the global economy is heading toward recovery at an average pace. In comparison, 35.1 percent of females and 25.8 percent of male respondents thought it is heading toward recovery at a slow pace.



All the groups (with percentages ranging between 39.2 and 44.0 percent) agreed that the global economy is heading toward recovery from the Covid-19 crisis at an average pace.

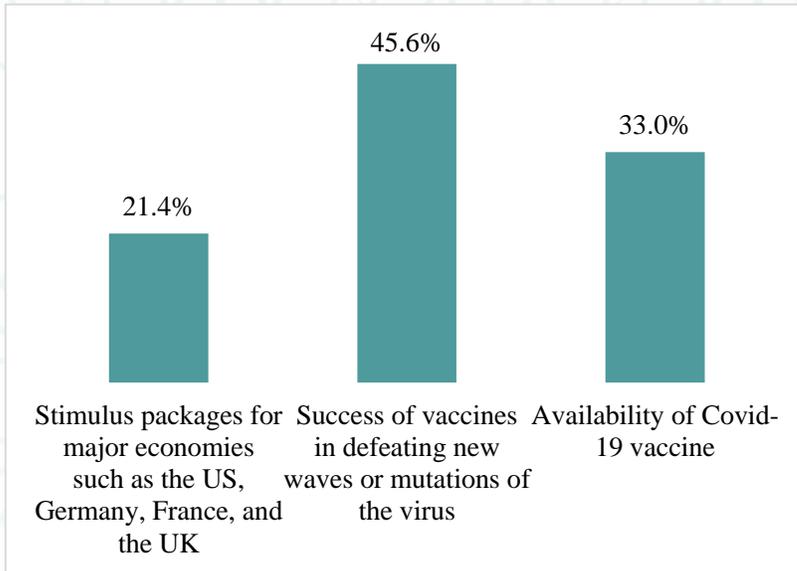


In terms of educational level, 45.1 percent of postgraduate degree holders said the global economy is recovering at an average pace, while 31.0 percent said it is recovering at a slow pace.

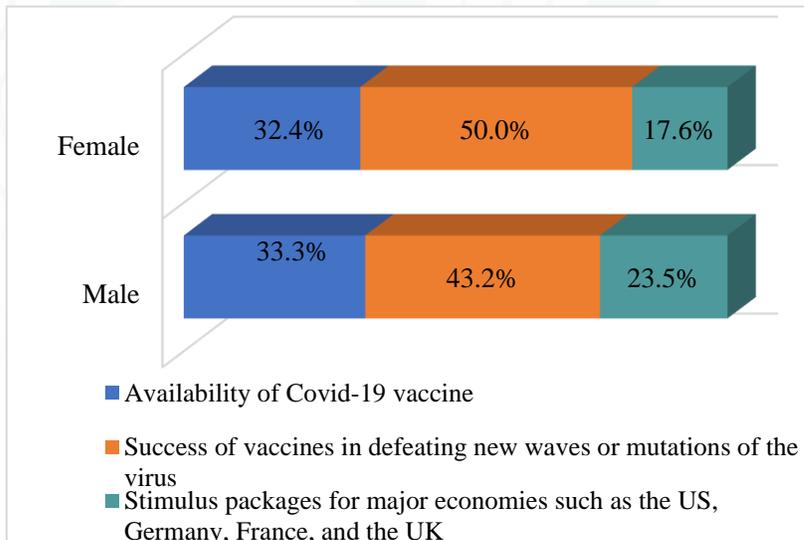
Meanwhile, 38.6 percent of Bachelor's degree holders said the global economy is heading toward recovery at an average pace, and 28.9 percent said it is heading at a slow pace.

On the other hand, 40.0 percent of Diploma holders believed that the world economy is recovering at a fast pace, while 40.0 percent said it is recovering at an average pace.

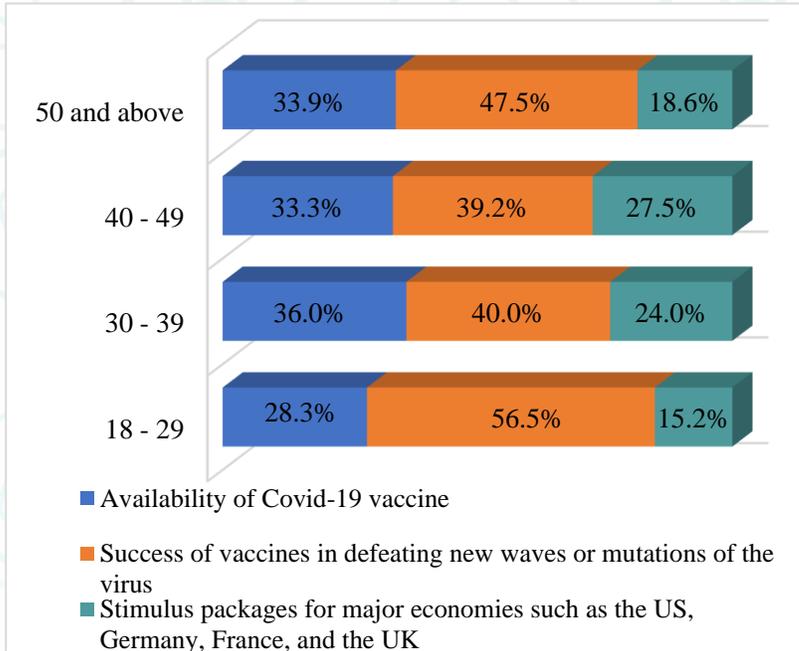
## Question 2: What are the requirements for the global economy to recover from the Covid-19 crisis?



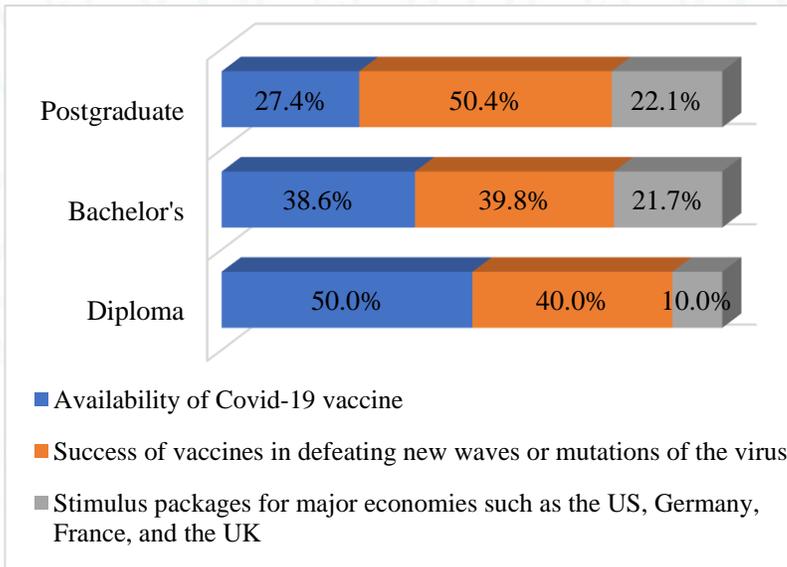
While answering this question, 45.6 percent considered the success of vaccines in defeating new waves or mutations of the virus as one of the most important requirements for the global economy to recover from the Covid-19 crisis. On the other hand, 33.0 percent of them considered that availability of Covid-19 vaccines to all people was one of the most important requirements.



In terms of gender, 50.0 percent of females and 43.2 percent of males believed that one of the most important requirements for the global economic recovery from the Covid-19 crisis is the success of vaccines in defeating new waves or mutations of the virus.

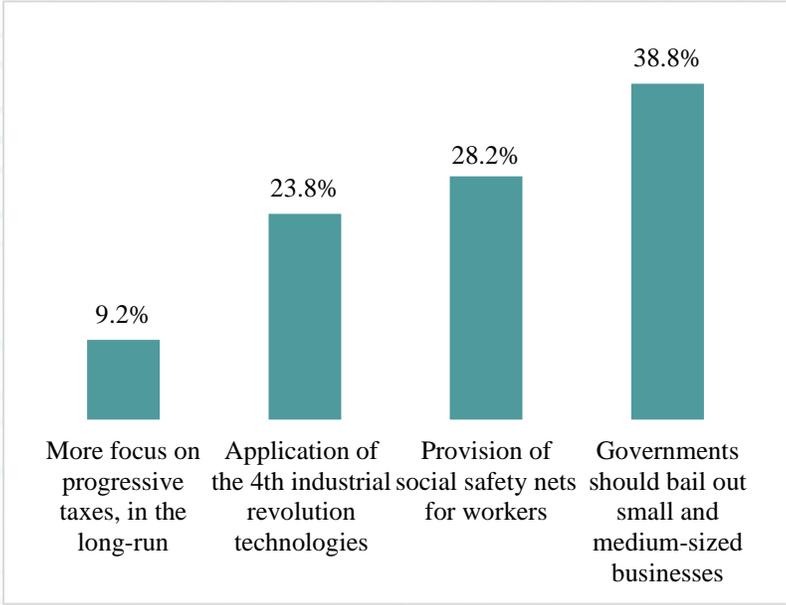


Among age groups, almost everyone agreed that the success of vaccines in defeating new waves or mutations of the virus is one of the most important requirements for global economic recovery. The age group of 18-29 years registered the highest percentage in this (56.5 percent), followed by 50 and above (47.5 percent), 30-39 (40.0 percent), and 40-49 (39.2 percent).



Classified on educational levels, 50.4 percent of Postgraduate degree holders and 39.8 percent of Bachelor's degree holders considered the vaccines defeating the new waves or mutations of the virus as one of the most important requirements for the global economy to recover. However, 50.0 percent of the Diploma holders considered the availability of vaccines to all people as one of the most important requirements.

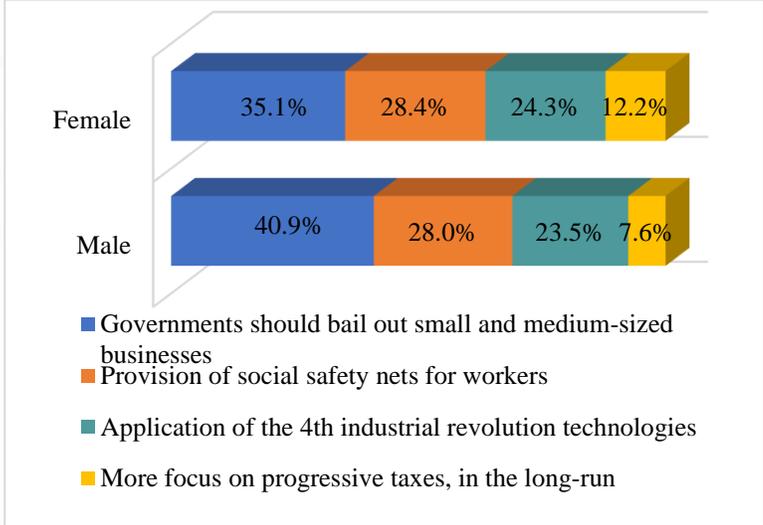
**Question 3: What should the governments and private sector do to accelerate the global economic recovery from the Covid-19 crisis?**



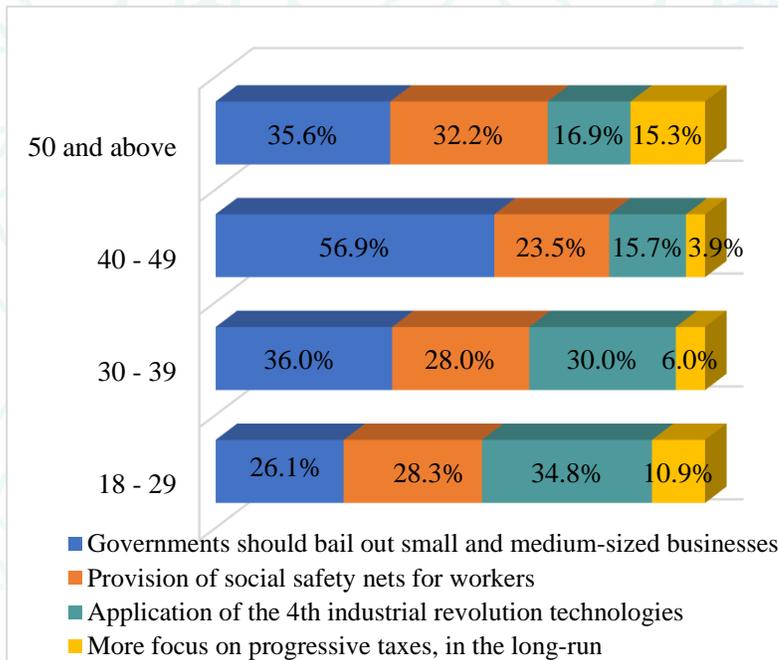
In response to what governments and the private sector should do to accelerate the global economic recovery, 38.8 percent of total respondents suggested that governments bail out small and medium-sized businesses. In comparison, 28.2 percent indicated that governments should provide social safety nets for workers and limited income earners.

Meanwhile, 23.8 percent believed that governments and the private sector should apply the 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution

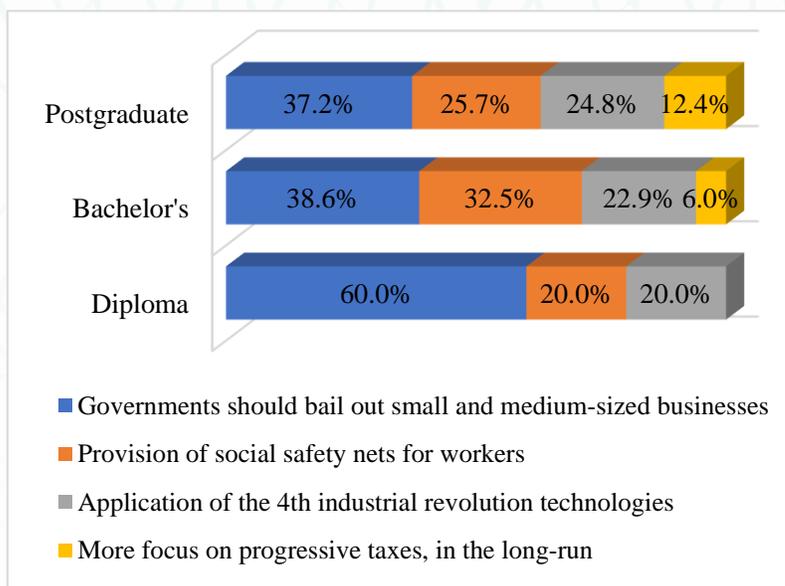
technologies such as artificial intelligence, blockchain, big data, and biotechnology, among others, to accelerate the process of economic recovery. However, only 9.2 percent suggested that governments should focus on more progressive taxes.



In terms of gender, 40.9 percent of males and 35.1 percent of females agreed that governments should bail out small and medium-sized businesses to accelerate the recovery process.

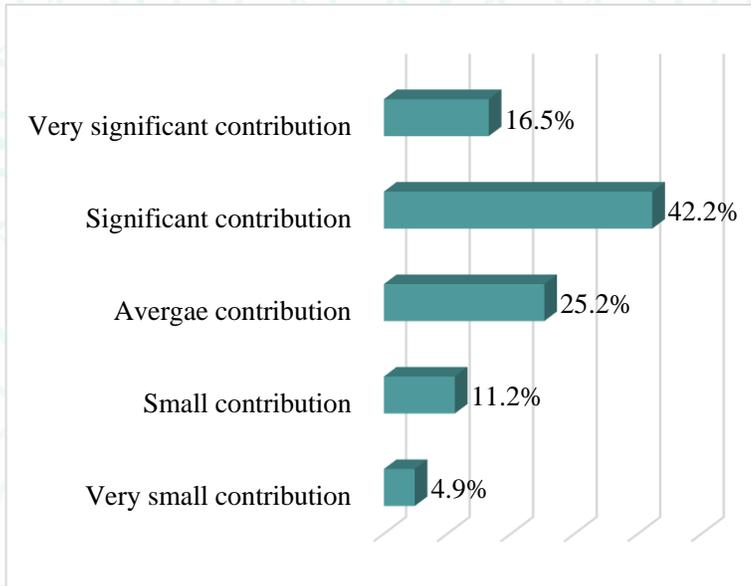


Respondents in the 30-39 years category, 40-49 years, and 50 and above agreed that governments should bail out small and medium-sized businesses to accelerate the recovery. The age group of 40-49 showed the highest percentage (56.9 percent). However, 34.8 percent in the age group of 18-29 years suggested that governments should apply the 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution technologies.

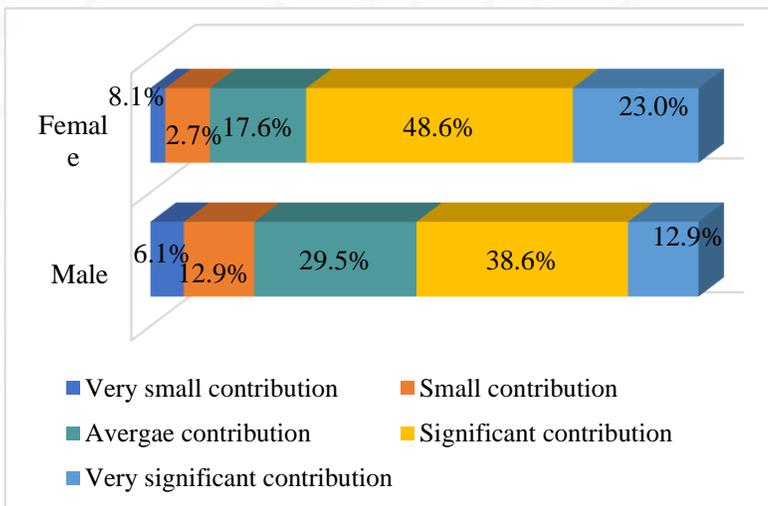


Based on educational level, the results showed that 60.0 percent of Diploma holders, 38.6 percent of Bachelor's degree holders, and 37.2 percent of Postgraduate degree holders believed that governments should bail out small and medium-sized businesses to speed up the global economic recovery.

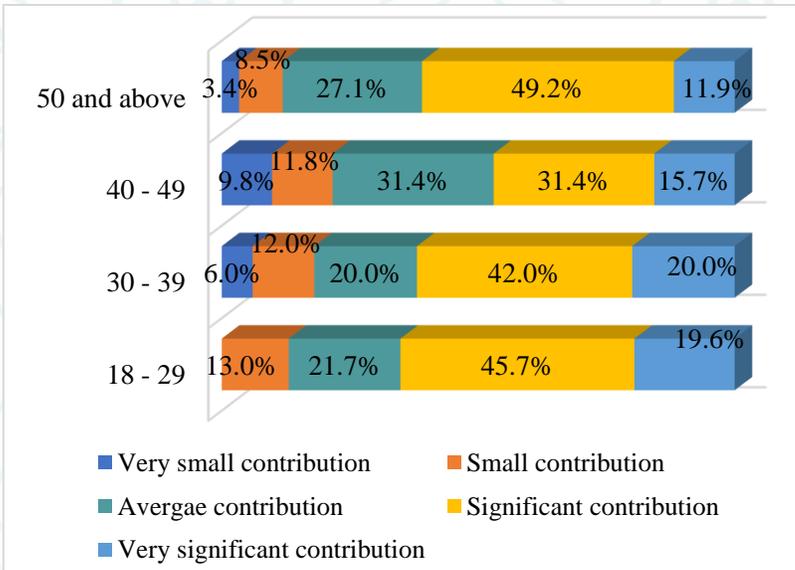
#### Question 4: To what extent could the reliance of countries on green investments or projects contribute to the global economic recovery?



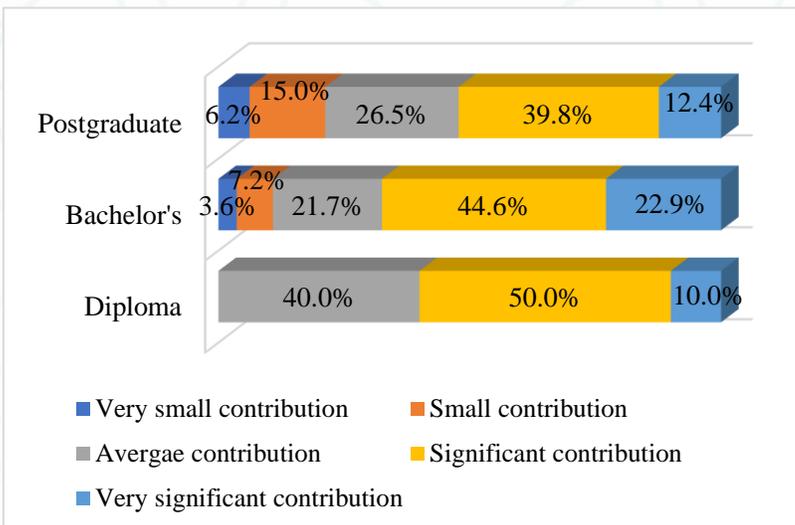
This question was asked to understand the respondents' views on whether the reliance of countries on green investments or projects (such as renewable energy, digital infrastructure etc.) could contribute to the global economic recovery. As many as 42.2 percent of them believed that it would have a significant contribution, while 25.2 percent said it would have an average contribution to global economic recovery.



On the gender scale, 48.6 percent of females and 38.6 percent of males believed that countries' reliance on green investments of projects would significantly contribute to the global economic recovery.

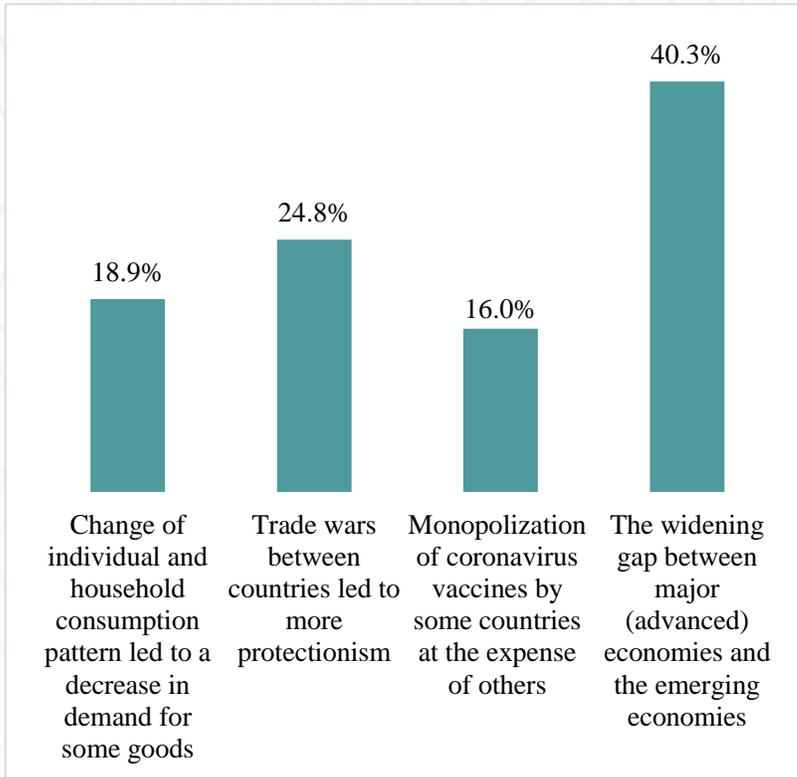


Respondents of all age groups agreed that countries' reliance on green investments of projects would have a significant contribution to the global economic recovery. Their agreement on this idea ranged from 31.4 percent and 49.2 percent.



In terms of educational levels, among Diploma holders, most respondents agreed that countries' reliance on green investments would make a significant contribution, with 50.0 percent of them agreeing, followed by Bachelor's degree holders (44.6 percent) and Postgraduate degree holders (39.8 percent).

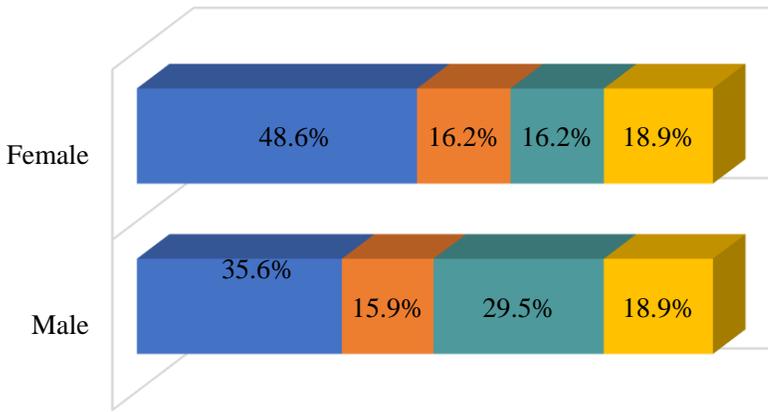
## Question 5: What are the major challenges facing the global economic recovery?



In answering the question about the major challenges facing the global economic recovery, 40.3 percent of total respondents said that the widening gap between major (advanced) economies and the emerging economies is one of the major challenges.

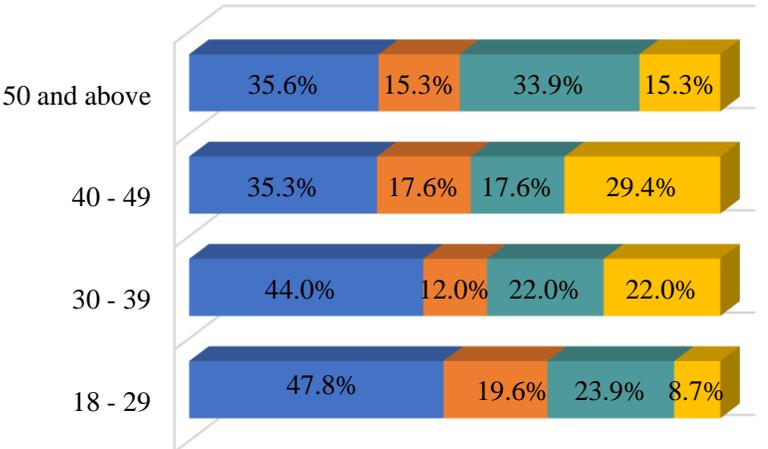
However, 24.8 percent said trade wars, between China and the USA, for instance, have increased protectionism and are one of the major hurdles.

Meanwhile, 18.9 percent said the change of individual and household consumption pattern led to a decrease in demand for some goods. 16.0 percent said the monopolization of coronavirus vaccines by some countries at the expense of others is one of the most important challenges.



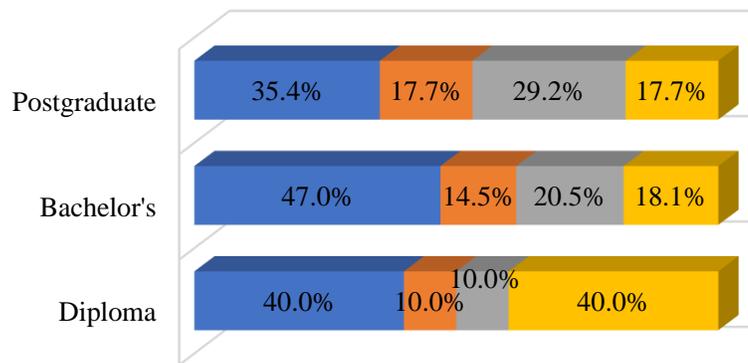
- The widening gap between major (advanced) economies and the emerging economies
- Monopolization of coronavirus vaccines by some countries at the expense of others
- Trade wars between countries led to more protectionism
- Change of individual and household consumption pattern led to a decrease in demand for some goods

In terms of gender, 48.6 percent of females and 35.6 percent of males believed that one of the major challenges to the global economic recovery is the widening gap between major (advanced) economies and emerging economies. A total of 29.5 percent of males and 16.2 percent of females considered trade wars between countries as one of the major challenges to the recovery, while 18.9 percent of both males and females said the change of individual and household consumption pattern led to a decrease in demand for some goods, which they considered as one of the major challenges.



- The widening gap between major (advanced) economies and the emerging economies
- Monopolization of coronavirus vaccines by some countries at the expense of others
- Trade wars between countries led to more protectionism
- Change of individual and household consumption pattern led to a decrease in demand for some goods

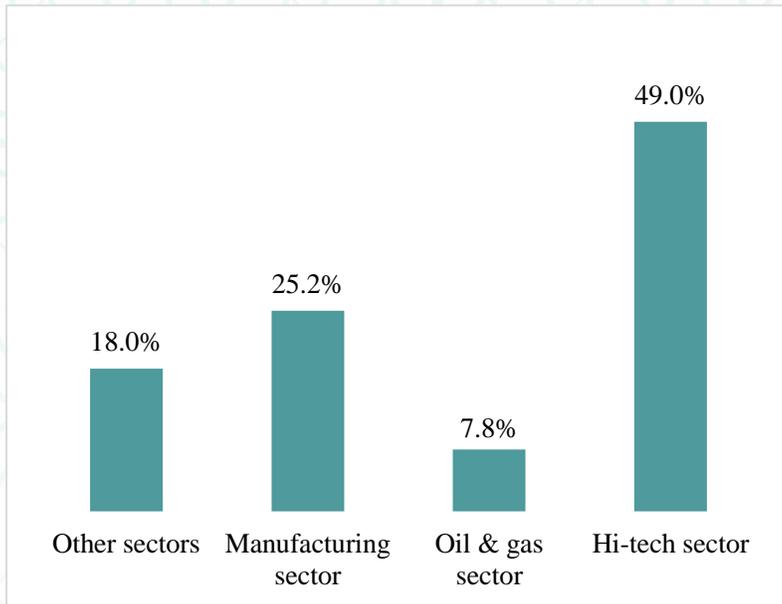
The results showed that all age groups agreed that the widening gap between major (advanced) economies and the emerging economies represents a major challenge to the global economic recovery. Nearly half (47.8 percent) in the age group of 18-29 years agreed on that, followed by 30-39 years (44.0 percent), 50 and above (35.6 percent), and 40-49 (35.3 percent).



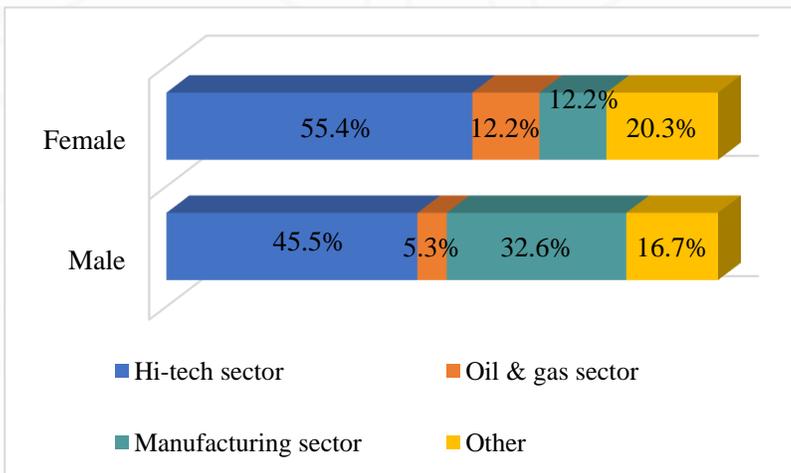
- The widening gap between major (advanced) economies and the emerging economies
- Monopolization of coronavirus vaccines by some countries at the expense
- Trade wars between countries led to more protectionism
- Change of individual and household consumption pattern led to a decrease in demand for some goods

On the educational scale of respondents, 47.0 percent of Bachelor's degree holders, 40.0 percent of Diploma holders, and 35.4 percent of Postgraduate degree holders considered the widening gap between major (advanced) economies and the emerging economies a major challenge to the global economic recovery.

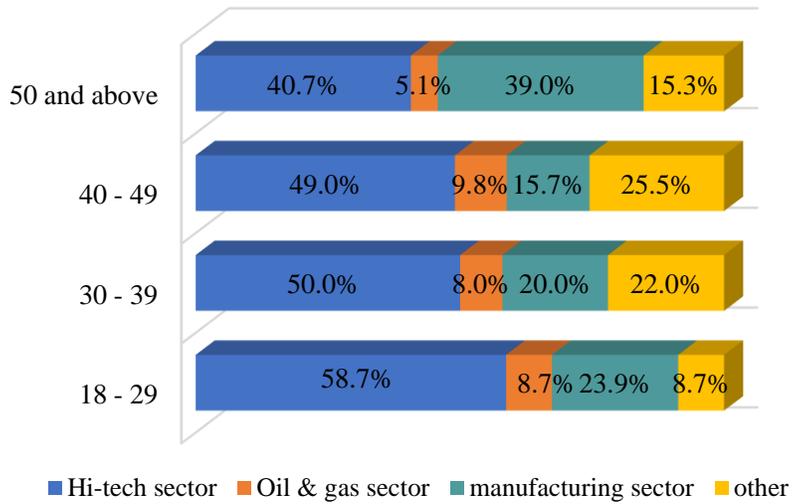
**Question 6: What economic sectors can lead the global economy toward recovery from the Covid-19 crisis?**



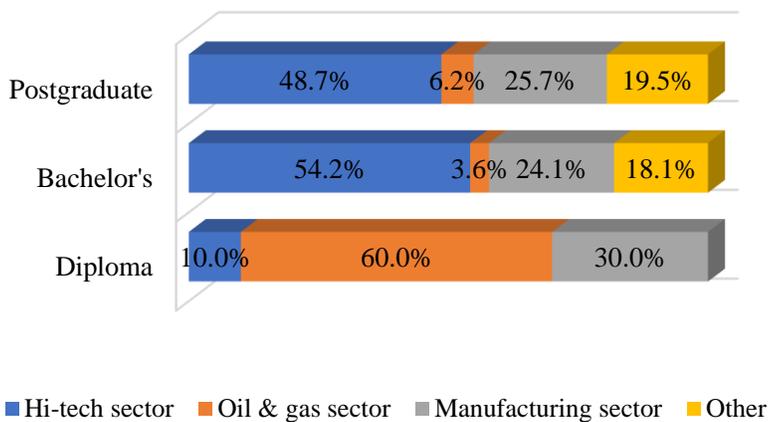
On which economic sectors can lead the global economy toward recovery from the Covid-19 crisis, 49.0 percent of the respondents named the hi-tech sector, 25.2 percent said the manufacturing sector. In comparison, 18.0 percent said the recovery would be led by sectors other than hi-tech, manufacturing, and oil and gas sectors.



In terms of gender, more than half of the female respondents and 45.5 percent of the male respondents believed that the hi-tech sector would lead the global economy toward recovery.



Between 40.7 percent and 58.7 percent of all age groups said the hi-tech sector would lead the global economy toward recovery.



More than half of Diploma holders (60.0 percent) thought that the oil and gas sector would lead the global economy toward recovery from the Covid-19 crisis. However, 54.2 percent of Bachelor's degree holders and 48.7 percent of Postgraduate degree holders believed that the hi-tech sector would lead the global economy toward recovery.