

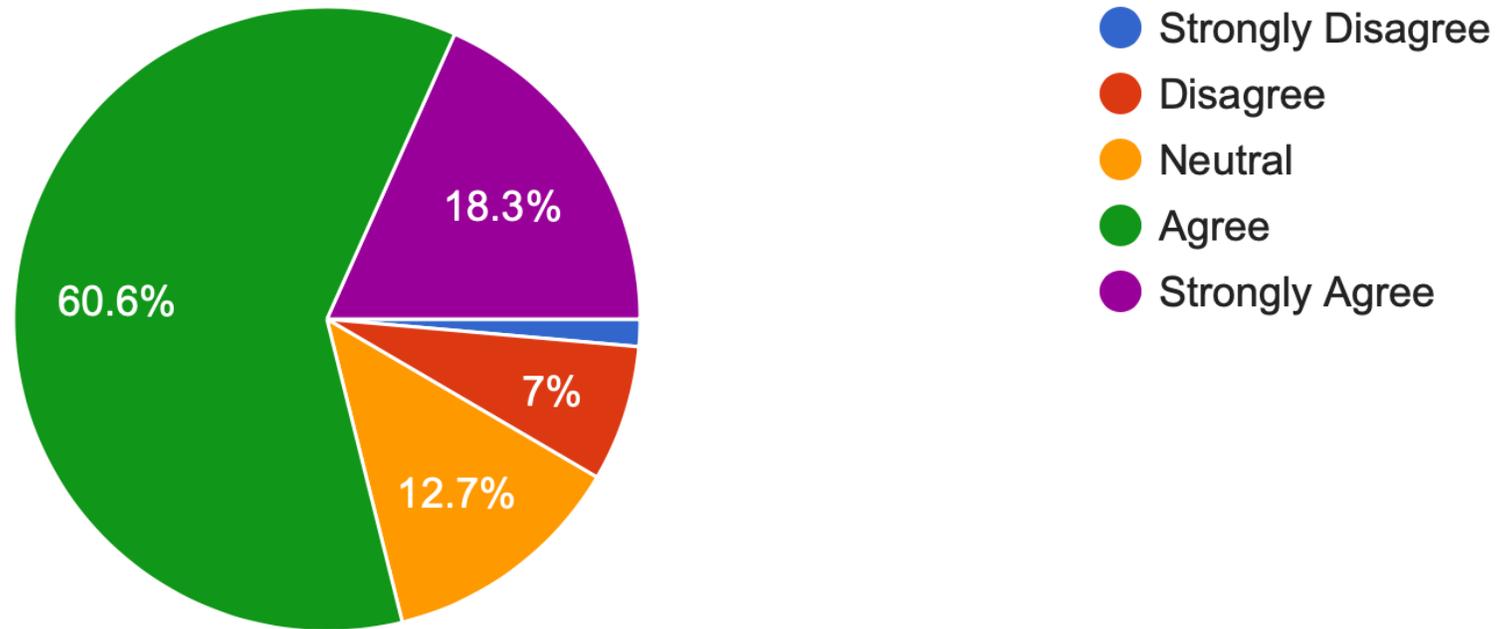
Online Questionnaire

How COVID-19 affected activities (research and others) of CRC as well as the well-being of its members and the CRC projects

71 Responses

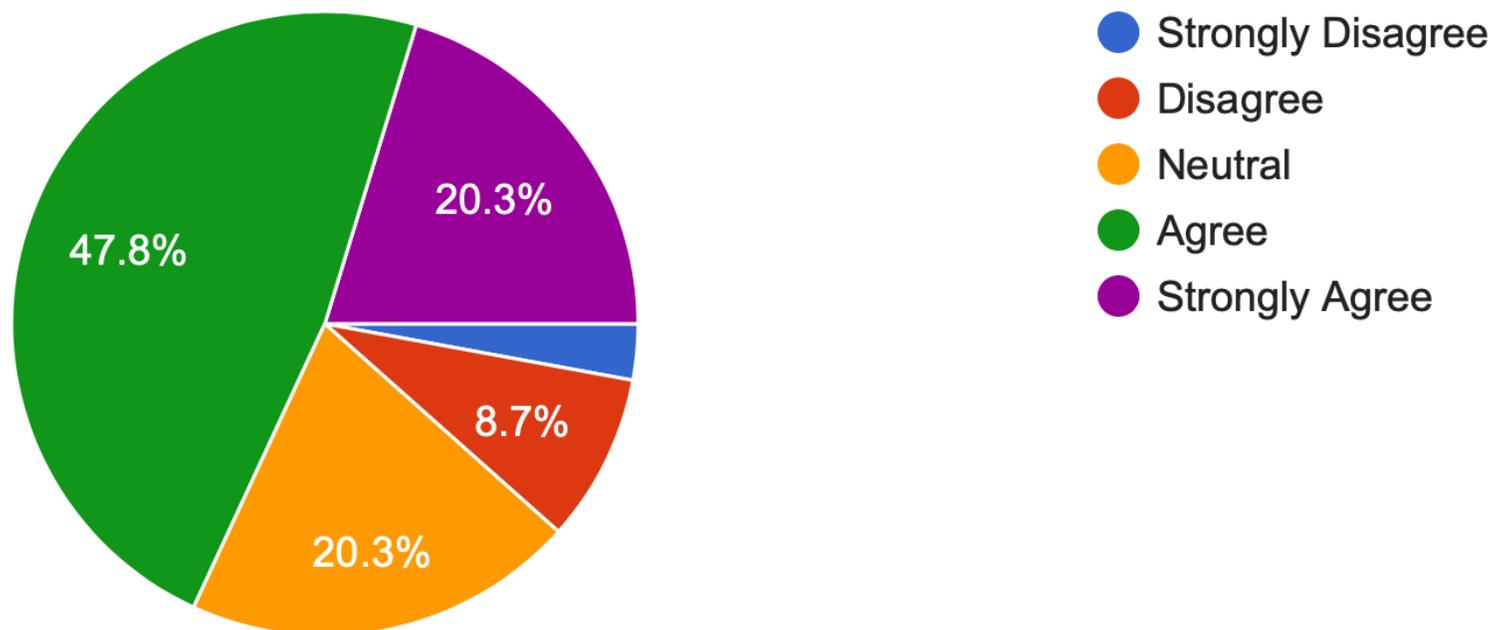
1. Do you think your overall well-being has been negatively affected by COVID-19:

71 responses



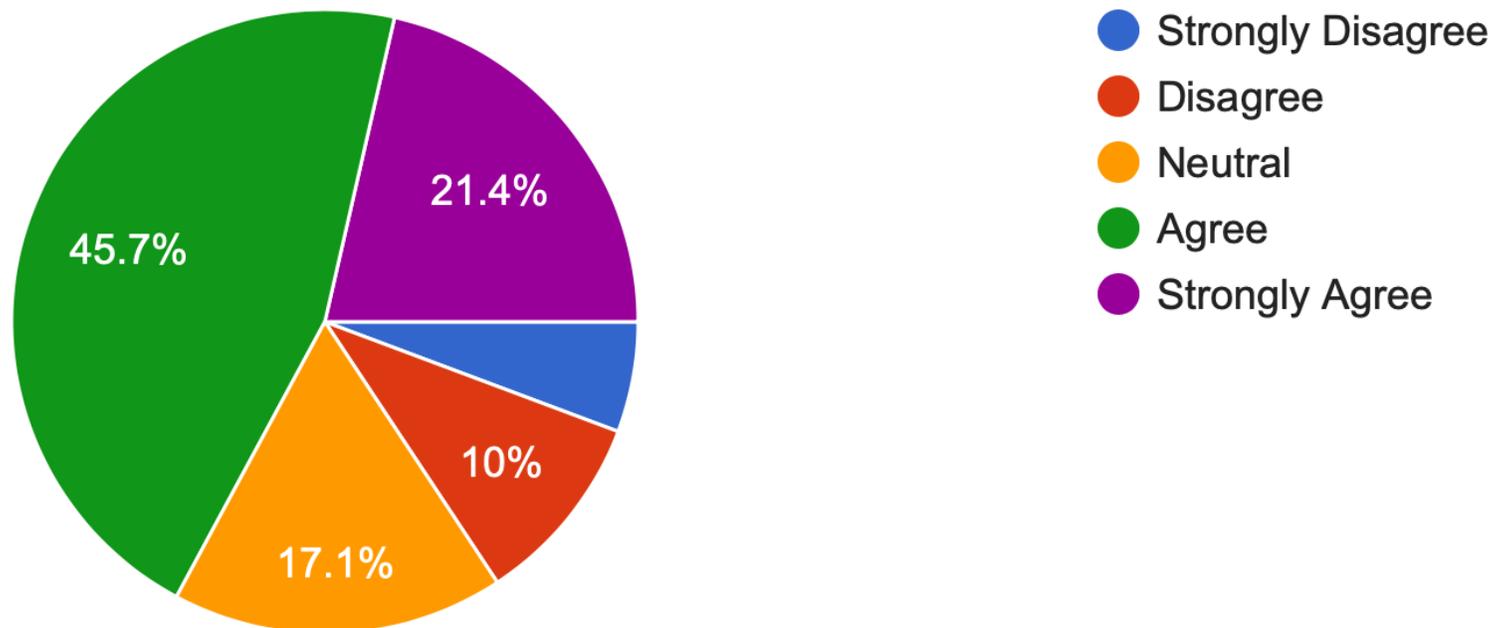
2. Do you think that research projects of the CRC that you were part of, were affected by the pandemic?

69 responses



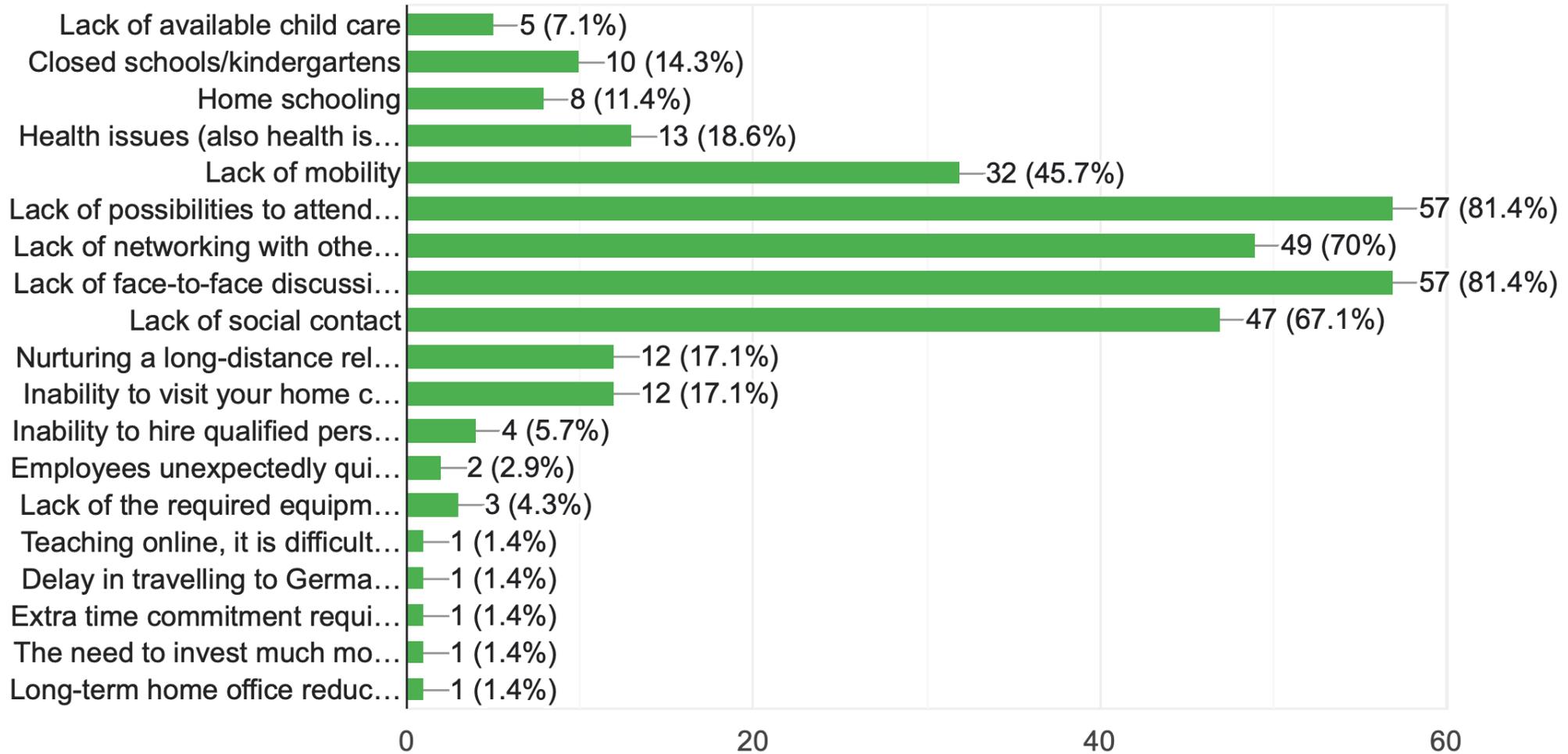
3. Do you think that the development of your academic career (includes research output, visibility, timely progression to next career stages) has been affected by the pandemic?

70 responses



4. Which aspects were affecting your professional development / professional activities during the pandemic the most (multiple choice possible):

70 responses



5. If there are other things that affected you during the pandemic, please mention them here:

10 responses

- Mental stress caused by the major crisis our society was going through. Inability to visit close family members at high-risk concerning Covid (age, pre-existing conditions) due to fear of picking up virus on the train and infecting them.
- online teaching and meetings require more time
- Managing extra Covid-related organizational issues for the Department, as elected chair of the Physics Department at Siegen 2019-2021
- None
- Works/Projects get delayed, academic career gets disturbed, leading to more stress etc. etc.
- sport facilities were closed
- Non-stop screen time.
- no technical support from KIT for remote teaching (only professors were equipped with tablets!)
- my life can not come to Germany easily.
- It was mainly the lack of social contact with people in and outside of the group which led to reduced motivation and efficiency on projects. And this led to less research output I believe.

6. Suppose that the situation will repeat itself in the future (new variant of COVID, new restrictions on public life etc.) Is there anything that the CRC should be doing differently to address the above-mentioned issue as compared to what has been done during the past pandemic? Please comment.

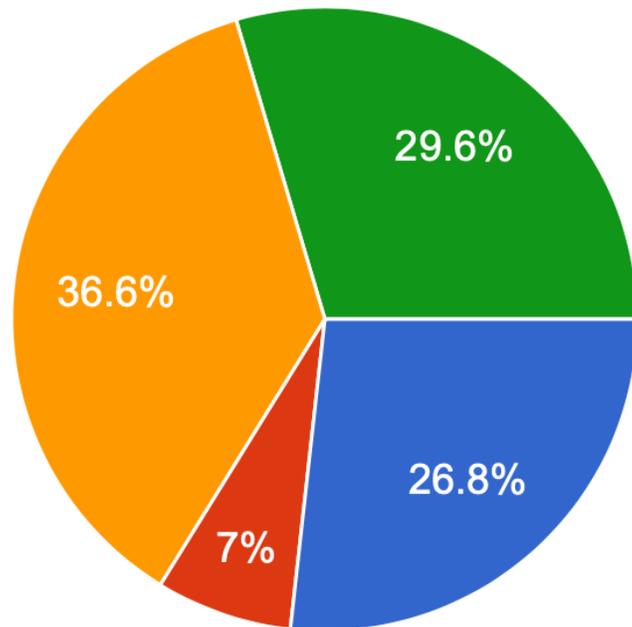
19 responses

- Check the mental well being of members on a regular basis during such crises, potentially through anonymous questionnaires or through a one-on-one private conversations with an appointed member.
- Unfortunately, I don't think there is much that can be done as most things would require additional Zoom meetings, and I think we're all fed up with those.
- I see the main problem not in the support provided by the CRC, but in the lack of time for research given the effort required for online teaching and extra administrative issues at the University during the pandemic.
- I do not think that the CRC can do much about it. The problems must be solved on a political level (e.g. better organization/support of home-schooling, higher relevance of in-presence education and research at universities ...)
- In the case of new restrictions, some kind of joint outdoor activity like a group hike (so far as the restrictions allow for it) could serve as an alternative to purely online meetings and seminars and help fortifying the connections and interactions between the CRC members. (In my opinion, the lack of social interactions between us scientists has affected us negatively, something that even a great abundance of online seminars and events is not able to replace.)
- Additional colloquia and other digital events with social aspects
- It was fine with CRC. In case, CRC will have not much room for maneuvering anyway. It must follow the rules imposed by the authorities.
- none

- Childcare and family friendliness measures can certainly be better tailored to the practical needs during a pandemic. This task the CRC cannot solve alone, but only with the help of and in collaboration with DFG.
- Encourage (online) social activities between members of the CRC
- Organise small (online) workshops, specifically addressed to Young Scientists. Encourage PhD students and Postdocs from different institutions to meet (virtually) and discuss scientific topics in a friendly and relaxed environment. Encourage social (virtual) events among CRC members from different institutions. Organise seminars/talk to help young scientist to face psychological issues driven by the pandemic. Encourage young members of the CRC to talk about the pandemic and the aspects that affect their career.
- No.
- Contracts for PhD/Postdoc or any other temporary fixed-term worker has to be AUTOMATICALLY extended (in case it affects the work again), not just for the senior fixed-term 5-year postdocs but also for others, since it affects everyone, more or less in a similar fashion, and I don't see why only a fraction of us treated differently!
- CRC did well - not much can be really done beyond governmental rules
- Increase the occasions for informal/social discussions virtually
- Perhaps stronger encourage all CRC members to be open about problems that they face.
- provide necessary technical equipment for remote teaching so that more time is left for research
- Organise more meetings online and make them as interactive as possible, because standard zoom conferences are not enough, you need to be able to talk to people in smaller groups.
- Try to still allow in-person meeting if possible

7. Your role within the CRC:

71 responses



- Principal investigator
- Permanent research staff
- Postdoc
- PhD student