### PSYCHO-EMOTIONAL STATE OF STUDENTS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC SELF-ISOLATION PERIOD IN THE CONTEXT OF SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS

## ESTADO PSICOEMOCIONAL DOS ALUNOS DURANTE O PERÍODO DE AUTOISOLAMENTO PANDÊMICO DA COVID-19 NO CONTEXTO DOS FATORES SOCIODEMOGRÁFICOS

## ESTADO PSICO-EMOCIONAL DE ESTUDIANTES DURANTE EL PERÍODO DE AUTOAISLAMIENTO PANDÉMICO DEL COVID-19 EN EL CONTEXTO DE FACTORES SOCIO-DEMOGRÁFICOS

Irina V. BELASHEVA<sup>1</sup> Aleksandr E. GAPICH<sup>2</sup> Marine L. YESAYAN<sup>3</sup> Irina N. POLSHAKOVA<sup>4</sup> Evgeniia V. SOLOVEVA<sup>5</sup>

ABSTRACT: Psycho-emotional state of youth in the COVID-19 pandemic can become an indicator of various positive or negative social transformations and trends. The purpose of the study is to determine the influence of socio-demographic factors (gender, age, year of study, the direction of professional training at university, combining study and work, living in a rural area or a city, in a private house or an apartment, with parents or independently) in conditions of self-isolation on assessment of the main components of the psycho-emotional state of the students: well-being, activity, and mood. We used the method of rapid well-being, activity, and mood assessment. The test was conducted online; the relevant materials were posted on eCampus of North Caucasus Federal University educational portal. The research results analysis was based on Kruskal Wallice H-test, the primary frequency analysis, analysis of average scale values and standard deviations for the comparison groups. The study was conducted from 13 of April to 22 of May 2020, and involved 1,173 students aged 17 to 36 years, enrolled in 1-5 years. The study suggests that the psycho-emotional state of students in the selfisolation period depends on their age: the younger the students are, the more likely they are to experience fatigue and decline in well-being, activity, mood. The study provided new data on the features of integrated assessments of students' well-being, activity, and mood in conditions of forced self-isolation due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> North Caucasus Federal University (NCFU), Stavropol – Russia. Associate Professor and Head of the Department, Department of General and Applied Psychology. PhD in Psychological Sciences. ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1289-2224. E-mail: magistratura\_ioisn@mail.ru

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> North Caucasus Federal University (NCFU), Stavropol – Russia. Associate Professor of the Department of Sociology. PhD in Social Sciences. ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9987-8600. E-mail: eversor@mail.ru

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> North Caucasus Federal University (NCFU), Stavropol – Russia. Associate Professor of the Department of General and Applied Psychology. PhD in Psychological Sciences. ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6797-158. E-mail: marine.esayan@mail.ru

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> North Caucasus Federal University (NCFU), Stavropol – Russia. Associate Professor of the Department of General and Applied Psychology. PhD in Psychological Sciences. ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8190-2927. E-mail: iren977@yandex.ru

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> North Caucasus Federal University (NCFU), Stavropol – Russia. Associate Professor of the Department of General and Applied Psychology. PhD in Psychological Sciences. ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0117-6054. E-mail: jeny\_sol@rambler.ru

**KEYWORDS**: Psycho-emotional state. Socio-demographic factors. COVID-19 pandemic. Students. Self-isolation.

**RESUMO**: O estado psicoemocional dos jovens na pandemia COVID-19 pode se tornar um indicador de várias transformações e tendências sociais positivas ou negativas. O objetivo do estudo é verificar a influência de fatores sociodemográficos (sexo, idade, ano de estudo, direção da formação profissional na universidade, conciliar estudo e trabalho, residir em área rural ou na cidade, em residência particular ou um apartamento, com os pais ou independentemente) em condições de autoisolamento na avaliação dos principais componentes do estado psicoemocional dos alunos: bem-estar, atividade e humor. Usamos o método de avaliação rápida de bem-estar, atividade e humor. O teste foi realizado online; os materiais relevantes foram postados no portal educacional eCampus da Universidade Federal do Norte do Cáucaso. A análise dos resultados da pesquisa foi baseada no teste H de Kruskal Wallice, análise de frequência primária, análise dos valores médios da escala e desvios-padrão para os grupos de comparação. O estudo foi realizado de 13 de abril a 22 de maio de 2020, e envolveu 1.173 alunos com idades entre 17 e 36 anos, matriculados em 1-5 anos. O estudo sugere que o estado psicoemocional dos alunos no período de autoisolamento depende da idade: quanto mais jovens são os alunos, maior é a probabilidade de sofrerem de fadiga e declínio no bemestar, atividade, humor. O estudo forneceu novos dados sobre as características das avaliações integradas do bem-estar, atividade e humor dos alunos em condições de autoisolamento forçado devido à pandemia COVID-19.

**PALAVRAS-CHAVE**: Estado psicoemocional. Fatores sociodemográficos. Pandemia de COVID-19. Estudantes. Autoisolamento.

**RESUMEN**: El estado psicoemocional de los jóvenes en la pandemia de COVID-19 puede convertirse en un indicador de diversas transformaciones y tendencias sociales positivas o negativas. El propósito del estudio es determinar la influencia de factores sociodemográficos (género, edad, año de estudio, dirección de la formación profesional en la universidad, compaginación de estudio y trabajo, vivir en una zona rural o en una ciudad, en una casa particular). o un apartamento, con los padres o de forma independiente) en condiciones de autoaislamiento al evaluar los principales componentes del estado psicoemocional de los estudiantes: bienestar, actividad y estado de ánimo. Usamos el método de evaluación rápida del bienestar, la actividad y el estado de ánimo. La prueba se realizó en línea; los materiales pertinentes se publicaron en el portal educativo eCampus of North Caucasus Federal University. El análisis de los resultados de la investigación se basó en la prueba H de Kruskal Wallice, el análisis de frecuencia principal, el análisis de los valores de escala promedio y las desviaciones estándar para los grupos de comparación. El estudio se realizó del 13 de abril al 22 de mayo de 2020 e involucró a 1,173 estudiantes de 17 a 36 años, matriculados en 1-5 años. El estudio sugiere que el estado psicoemocional de los estudiantes en el período de autoaislamiento depende de su edad: cuanto más jóvenes son los estudiantes, es más probable que experimenten fatiga y deterioro del bienestar, la actividad y el estado de ánimo. El estudio proporcionó nuevos datos sobre las características de las evaluaciones integradas del bienestar, la actividad y el estado de ánimo de los estudiantes en condiciones de autoaislamiento forzado debido a la pandemia COVID-19.

**PALABRAS CLAVE**: Estado psicoemocional. Factores sociodemográficos. Pandemia COVID-19. Estudiantes. Autoislamiento.

### Introduction

In the context of COVID-19 pandemic, which has led us to physical and social distancing and isolation, transfer of educational institutions, enterprises and services to remote work, there have occurred changes in ordinary life of every person. We are faced with a new reality: the threats to life and health, uncertainty, compounded by invisibility of the source of stress; restrictions of movement and social isolation had an impact on psychological state of many people. Their problems and deep, existential fears were actualized. Especially sharp changes in the format of life activity are experienced by the young people focused on free expression of their activity. In closed educational institutions their lives become less orderly and devoid of incentives of educational environment. There are fewer opportunities to spend time in direct contact with friends and get "live" social support.

The pandemic consequences are dangerous psychological effects that can become a greater threat to safety, life and health than the disease itself (DONTSOV *et al.*, 2019). The conditions of formation and functioning of these psychological effects among the youth should be researched. They need a special socio-psychological analysis based on the study of the impact of COVID-19 pandemic (we treat the COVID-19 pandemic as a stress factor/trigger) on the change of emotional state of students in the context of several socio-demographic factors such as age, gender, conditions and place of residence, marital status, involvement in work and etc.

## **Literature Review**

We conducted an analysis of research on the following problems:

-mental and psychological health, negative psycho-emotional consequences, psychological crisis intervention in the context of COVID-19 pandemic;

-features of development, organization and regulation of mental states in different situations;

-the influence of certain socio-demographic factors on characteristics of neuropsychiatric response and well-being.

In the studies of Kolosnitsyna and Sitdikov (2012) the socio-demographic determinants of psycho-emotional state are treated as a set of dynamic parameters that determine the quality of life and affect socio-psychological well-being of the population. It acts at the individual level

and on the scale of society, forming behavioral norms and stereotypes. Among these parameters, the authors include: age, gender, education, communication intensity, behavior of the immediate environment, family factors, income level and working conditions.

In the studies of Eliseeva, Sidorina and Pepelyaeva (2014), Shirokova and Zinyakova (2006) and Gurvich (1999) age, gender, conditions and place of residence are treated as sociodemographic factors. Gurvich (1999) identifies at least three explanatory models of gender differences in the context of neuropsychiatric health of the population. According to the psychophysiological model, the functional features of a woman body are related to greater predisposition to neuropsychiatric diseases. The model of multiple roles focuses on the role overload of women in modern society (as a factor of neuropsychiatric pathology). The model of social-role stereotypes described in the studies of Aleshina and Lektorskaya (1989) is based on culturally determined norms of behavior that prescribe a woman to seek medical help and pharmaceutical support (and it occurs), while the male stereotype corresponds to aggression and excessive alcohol consumption. They also identified a gender-mediated stable relationship between mental health and marital status (ALESHINA; LEKTORSKAYA, 1989).

Zharikov (1990) describes the influence of age on health and psycho-emotional functional states through the social environment in the form of a life cycle, a regular change in the phases of life during age-related transitions (psycho-social transitions) of an individual. He analyzed studies on the influence of involvement in work on psychological well-being and identified two areas: the study of the impact of unemployment on neuropsychiatric state (more often manifested by mild and quickly compensating disorders) and the study of the impact of forced retirement on mental health (more often not accompanied by pathological effects).

Many researchers (FARRELL; SHIELDS, 2002; GURVICH, 1999; LEONARD; MUDAR, 2003) highlight the special role of family factors in mental health disorders (FARRELL; SHIELDS, 2002; GURVICH, 1999; LEONARD; MUDAR, 2003). Education as a factor of healthy behavior is studied in the works of Denisova (2010), Cutler and Lleras-Money (2010).

Thus, studies confirm the influence of socio-demographic factors on parameters of mental health, well-being, formation and dynamics of psycho-emotional states.

From the point of view of Leonova (1984), the state is a qualitatively peculiar response of functional systems of different levels to external and internal influences that arise when performing activities that are significant for us. Different states are characterized by certain shifts in the course of the main mental processes, changes in emotional and volitional spheres, accompanying complexes of clearly expressed subjective experiences. Prokhorov (2011) proposed the model of structural and functional organization of mental state regulation, based on generalization of studies of relationships between the structures of consciousness and mental states. He identifies the following elements of the model: mental (subjective) experience, semantic structures, reflection, experiences, mental representations, target characteristics, situations, cultural space, lifestyle, regulatory actions, feedback, time factors. Prokhorov (2011) states, that regulation of mental state is affected by the lifestyle through a set of relevant situations, which is an important point in the context of setting objectives of our study.

In the studies of Prokhorov and Fakhrutdinova (2008), they show that the need for regulation of one's own state arises, as a rule, in the case of inadequacy of this state to life circumstances and situations.

According to Dikaya (2003), mental self-regulation of functional states should be treated as a specific type of subject's activity which is characterized by certain relationships with professional activity. Its development determines formation of adaptive personal properties of the subject that ensure efficiency, reliability and other characteristics of professional activity.

The conceptual positions of self-regulation of functional states (LEONOVA, 1984) (structural-integrative approach) are based on activity paradigm. Self-regulation is considered at the levels of operational and technical support of activity (operation); changes in the target structure of activity (action); changes in the dominant motivational orientation of the subject of work (activity as a whole). Accordingly, each level is characterized by specifics of self-regulation. Leonova (1984) states, that this scheme is convenient for analyzing mechanisms of activity regulation ("situation — loads — conditions — current adaptive adjustments") within each of these hierarchical levels.

Some authors (COOPER; MARSHALL, 1978; LEONOVA, 1984; SELYE, 1976; ZINCHENKO, 1974) study the states as formed reactions determined by a complex of reasons that determine the specificity of a state in a particular situation (Introduction to Ergonomics, 1974; Cooper & Marshall, 1978; Selye, 1976). Thus, for fatigue conditions, the factors of load duration, the type of load and its organization over time are of primary importance (CAMERON, 1974; ROSENBLAT, 1975). Development of states of emotional tension is mainly determined by the increased significance of performed activity, its responsibility and complexity, the degree of readiness and other socio-psychological factors (COOPER; MARSHALL, 1978; NAYENKO, 1976).

Thus, our analysis (of research on conditions of formation, dynamics and regulation of mental states) allows to treat the situation of the COVID-19 outbreak and the self-isolation associated with it as a powerful factor in changing the psycho-emotional state of a person.

An analysis of psychological and socio-psychological studies of response and state of the population in the context of COVID-19 pandemic showed that at the initial stage of COVID-19 outbreak in China, more than half of the respondents rated their mental state in the range from moderate to severe, and about a third of the respondents reported moderate to severe depression and anxiety (CHEN *et al.*, 2020; LI *et al.*, 2020; LI *et al.*, 2020; LI; YANG; LIU, 2020; LIU *et al.*, 2020). No significant effects of gender, age, marriage, work experience, occupation, education level, and economic income on anxiety and depression were found in this study.

The analysis of publications on the topic of anxiety, worry and experiencing uncertainty in conditions of COVID-19 showed that population of different countries has a significant increase in the level of anxiety, depression, confusion, and hopelessness, while the level of anxiety causes disorganization of behavior, panic, suicidal thoughts, and other destructive effects, so it becomes dangerous in itself (KHARLAMENKOVA *et al.*, 2020). Some scientists have noted the impact of increase in the number of media reports on morbidity, new cases of the disease and information about deaths on public anxiety (LIMA *et al.*, 2019; WENJUN *et al.*, 2020).

Rasskazova, Leontiev and Lebedeva (2020), Emelin and Thostov (2020), Thostov and Rasskazova (2020), Thostov *et al.* (2020) found that purposeful control of information flow and untested variants of protective behavior can reduce anxiety in a pandemic situation while maintaining psychological protective actions, the effectiveness of which is proven. When anxiety is associated with an acute and imminent risk of infection, concentration on emotions and their acceptance are not associated with deterioration in subjective well-being. Attempts to cope with anxiety in the context of a pandemic through mental withdrawal from the problem, the use of sedative drugs or denial are associated with a lower level of life satisfaction.

The study of healthcare professionals working with coronavirus patients found signs of anxiety and depression in most of them (DAS, 2020; KANG *et al.*, 2020; TIAN *et al.*, 2020). Stress and negative emotions experienced by medical personnel have been characterized as trigger events leading to errors and delays in providing care to infected patients (SON; LEE; KIM, 2019). At the same time, prevalence of anxiety is higher among non-medical employees (20.7%) than among medical personnel (10.8%) (BENJAMIN *et al.*, 2020).

Yeen and Ning (2020) conducted a web-based survey on emotional and mental health from February 3 to 17, 2020, which revealed that the age and time spent thinking about the outbreak are potential risk factors for psychological problems in the population (JIANG *et al.*, 2020).

An online survey of the population conducted by Karpova and Nikolaeva (2000) in social networks revealed that commitment to self-isolation is not related to the respondents' belonging to the health risk group. Despite the found association between belonging to the risk group and the fear of coronavirus infection, psycho-emotional disorders are more often diagnosed in the "health group" (45%, and 26% – in the risk group). The most vulnerable part of the population was the most active one, as that situation was frustrating its usual needs (KARPOVA; NIKOLAEVA, 2020).

The scientific review conducted by Brooks *et al.* (2020) determined that if people are informed about what and why is going on, how long it will last and allowed to do their meaningful activities during quarantine, provided with clear communication and basic supplies (such as food, water, and medical supplies), the negative impact of quarantine on psychoemotional state of population is significantly reduced.

They studied the impact of working from home during forced self-isolation in India that resulted in an increase in working hours and stress levels, significant changes in professional functions and decrease in productivity. But independent creative initiatives aimed either at professional career growth or at solving long-overdue organizational issues were also found (JAISWAL; ARUN, 2020). In Iran they also studied the impact of social capital and its support on mental health of the population in a pandemic situation (the positive effect was proved) (ZANDIFAR; BADRFAM, 2020).

Zinchenko *et al.* (2020) conducted an online survey of self-organization and life in isolation. It showed that the majority of respondents rated their level of self-organization as average (67.6%) or high (17.3%). The ability to cope with and accept uncertainty depends primarily on flexibility, perseverance, planning goals and modeling conditions, overcoming the difficulties of self-organization (depended on the same indicators with additional contributions to reliability and programming of actions). It is noteworthy that young people experienced more difficulties in organizing their lives in conditions of self-isolation and showed a significantly lower level of self-regulation than elderly people.

The study of psychological state of youth is of particular interest in situation of forced self-isolation, since the restriction of freedom of movement and quarantine measures have become factors of possible increase in psychopathological symptoms themselves. In COVID-

19 pandemic, which has a high stress potential due to the threat to health and life, the level of their destructive impact significantly increases. Cross-cultural studies of young people (students) from Russia and Israel in self-isolation during the period of coronavirus spread have shown that there are no significant differences in the level of resilience of young people living in Russia and Israel. The residents of Israel do not have much higher components of "involvement", "control" or the overall level of resilience and significantly higher component of "risk acceptance" (VINICHUK, 2020). In Bangladesh, they studied prevalence of situational depression and anxiety among university students, which was 74.1% and 61.9%, respectively (HOSSAIN *et al.*, 2019). Wenjun *et al.* (2020) conducted a mental health study of 7,143 Changzhi Medical College students during the COVID-19 outbreak. The results showed that living in urban areas with parents and stable family income were stabilizing factors for the students with anxiety conditions (QIU *et al.*, 2020; WENJUN *et al.*, 2020).

The socio-demographic factors act as conditions for states and psycho-social reactions of youth to isolation and security threats (risk of infection). Determining the psycho-emotional state of students in coronavirus pandemic is the most constructive from the point of view of analyzing the influence of socio-demographic factors (gender, age, year of study, direction of professional training at a university, combining study and work, living in a rural area or in a city, in a private house or in an apartment, with parents or independently) - that was the purpose of our research (VODENKO *et al.*, 2018).

## **Materials and Methods**

The assessment of students' psycho-emotional state was carried out by the method of rapid diagnostics of well — being, activity and mood (abbreviated as WAM) (DOSKIN; LAVRENTIEVA; MIROSHNIKOV, 1973), reflecting mobility, speed and pace of functions, degree of fatigue and emotional state.

The survey included the following parameters: gender, age, year of study, direction of training, combining study and work, living in a rural area or in a city, in a private house or in an apartment, with parents or independently.

The analysis of research results was based on Kruskal Wallice H-test, the primary frequency analysis, analysis of average scale values and standard deviations for the comparison groups. The relevant materials were posted on the educational portal "eCampus of NCFU " (North Caucasus Federal University).

The study was conducted in the period from 13 of April to 22 of May, 2020, when the Stavropol Territory of the Russian Federation had a strict regime of self-isolation (Resolution of the Governor of the Stavropol Territory of 26 March 2020, n. 119).

The study involved 1,173 students aged 17 to 36 years, studying in 1-5 years. Their training areas were as follows: the Institute of Humanities, the Institute of Life Science, the Institute of Law, the Institute of Economics and Management, the Institute of Education and Social Sciences, the Institute of Oil and Gas, the Institute of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, the Institute of Mathematics and Information Technologies, the Engineering Institute of the North Caucasus Federal University. The socio-demographic characteristics of the sample are presented in Table 1.

gender	male	491
	female	682
accommodation	village	323
	city	850
	apartment building	685
	private house	488
	independent	381
	with parents	792
combining study with work	yes	472
	no	701
year of study	1	335
	2	372
	3	262
	4	182
	5	21
areas of study	Humanitarian and Social Sciences	309
	Technical and Natural Sciences	864

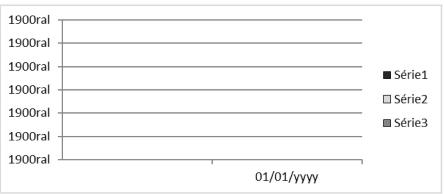
Table 1 – Socio-demographic Characteristics of Respondents

Source: Prepared by the authors

#### **Results and Discussion**

The frequency analysis of low, medium and high indicators of integral assessments of functional psycho-emotional state of the sample showed a high incidence of poor health, reduced activity and mood among students in self-isolation (Figure 1). At the same time, students often have reduced activity indicators, which are manifested by low efficiency of activity, a decrease in the need for interaction with the external environment, predominance of external initiation of mental activity, predominance of passivity in all spheres of life.

## Figure 1 – Frequency analysis of indicators of functional psycho-emotional state of students in conditions of self-isolation



Source: Prepared by the authors

Analysis of the results of diagnostics of well-being, activity and mood were distributed by age of the students: group 1 - students under 18 years, group 2 - 19-21 years, group 3 - 22years and older. There were statistically significant differences (Kruskal-Wallis H-criterion) between the groups on all three of the discussed indicators (Table 2).

Table 2 – The Values of Kruskal-Wallis H-test for Indicators of Well-being, Activity and
Mood in 3 Student Groups of Different Age

	Null hypothesis	Criteria	Value	Decision			
1	The distribution of Well-being is the same for the categories age_cat.	Kruskal-Wallis criterion for independent samples	.000	The null hypothesis is rejected			
2	The distribution of activity is the same for the categories age_cat.	Kruskal-Wallis criterion for independent samples	.000	The null hypothesis is rejected			
3	The distribution of mood is the same for the categories age_cat.	Kruskal-Wallis criterion for independent samples	.000	The null hypothesis is rejected			
The asymptotic values are derived. The significance level is .05.							

Source: Prepared by the authors

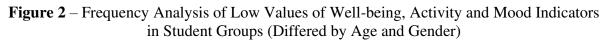
Since Kruskal-Wallis H-test is designed to identify differences between the groups, but does not determine direction of these differences, we conducted a comparative analysis of the average values, standard deviation and root-mean-square error of the average indicators of wellbeing, activity, and mood in 3 student groups that differ in age (Table 3). Attention is drawn to the increase in the average values of indicators of well-being and mood among the students from the younger age group to the older one. The average values of activity index in groups 2 and 3 (19-21 years old and over 22 years old, respectively) are almost equal and higher than in group 1 (students under 18).

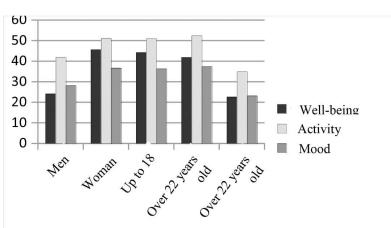
Indicator	Age	Ν	Average value	Gender	Ν	Average value
Well-being	up to 18	180	4.33	F	682	4.36
	19-21	664	4.45			
	over 22	329	5.06	М	491	4.93
Activity	up to 18	180	4.02	F	682	4.05
	19-21	664	4.06	]		
	over 22	329	4.56	М	491	4.39
Mood	up to 18	180	4.42	F	682	4.54
	19-21	664	4.54	]		
	over 22	329	5.01	М	491	4.81

**Table 3** – Average Values of Well-being, Activity and Mood Indicators of the Students,Depending on their Age and Gender

Source: Prepared by the authors

Frequency analysis of low values of integral assessments of functional emotional state in the three compared groups revealed that in the first group (under 18) there are more common low values of well-being index; in the second group (19-21 years) - low values of activity and mood; in the third group (over 22 years) low values of the discussed indicators are less common (Figure 2).





#### Source: Prepared by the authors

Thus, the age of students in self-isolation due to the spread of coronavirus infection affects their psycho-emotional state: the younger are the students, the more likely they are to have decreased indicators of well-being, activity and mood; students over 22 years of age have a more stable psycho-emotional state in current conditions.

Analysis of the values of Kruskal-Wallis H-test for indicators of well-being, activity and mood, depending on gender of students, revealed significant differences in the discussed indicators between woman and men (Table 4).

**Table 4** – Values of the Kruskal-Wallis H-test for Indicators of Well-being, Activity and<br/>Mood, (Depending on Gender of the Students)

N⁰	Null hypothesis	Criteria	Value	Decision				
1	The Well-being distribution is the same for the Gender categories.	Kruskal-Wallis criterion for independent samples	.000	The null hypothesis is rejected				
2	The Activity distribution is the same for the Gender categories.	Kruskal-Wallis criterion for independent samples	.000	The null hypothesis is rejected				
3	3       The Mood distribution is the same for the Gender categories.       Kruskal-Wallis criterion for independent samples       .001       The null hypothesis is rejected							
	The asymptotic values are derived The significance level is .05							

Source: Prepared by the authors

In comparative analysis of mean values, standard deviations and standard error of the mean parameters of well-being, activity and mood there were revealed higher values of the discussed indicators of men emotional states (Table 3).

The results of frequency analysis show a higher occurrence of the lowest ratings of wellbeing, activity and mood in women when compared to men (Figure 2).

Thus, woman are more sensitive to the situation of forced self-isolation and restrictions associated with it, as well as to the threat of COVID-19 infection. In their subjective state there are more often observed: fatigue, physical discomfort, decreased physical and mental performance, inhibition of mental and mnemic activity, difficulties in concentration and switching attention, decreased activation of behavior and activity, predominance of negative emotions, apathy, sadness, excessive sensitivity and tearfulness, reduced mood background, asthenic intemperance in manifestation of emotions.

**Table 5** – Values of Kruskal-Wallis H-test for Indicators of Well-being, Activity and Mood,<br/>Depending on the Field of Professional Training

	Null hypothes	is	Criteria			Value	Decis	sion		
1	The Well-being	g distribution is the same	Kruskal-Wallis	criterion	for	.005	The	null	hypothesis	is
	for the Inst. cat	egories.	independent sam	ples			reject	ed		

2	The Activity distribution is the same for the Inst. categories.	Kruskal-Wallis criterion for independent samples	or .368	The null accepted	hypothesis	is		
3	The Mood distribution is the same for the Inst. categories	Kruskal-Wallis criterion fo	or .273	The null accepted	hypothesis	is		
The	The asymptotic values are derived. The significance level is .05							

Source: Prepared by the authors

Our analysis of the differences in manifestations of well-being, activity and mood of the students who have chosen Humanities and social Sciences, and students who have chosen Natural or Technical Sciences, confirmed the significance of differences only for the estimated well-being (Table 5). At the same time, the average values of well-being ratings for the students studying in Natural Science and Technical areas are higher than for the students studying in Humanities and Social areas (Table 6).

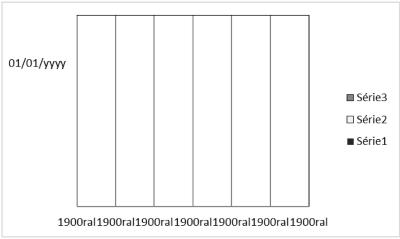
**Table 6** – Average Values of Indicators of Well-being, Activity and Mood in StudentsStudying in Different Years and Areas of Professional Training (combining / not combining<br/>study and work)

Parameters	Areas of training	Average value	Year	Average value	Study and work	Average value	
	Humanitarian and	4.42	1	4.39	combines	4.80	
	Social Sciences	4.42	2	4.66	combines	4.80	
Well-being	Natural		3	4.59			
	Science and	4.66	4	4.87	does not combine	4.47	
	Technology		5	4.80			
	Humanitarian and	4.15	1	4.09	combines	4.44	
	Social Sciences	4.15	2	4.22	comomes	4.44	
Activity	Natural		3	4.23			
	Science and	4.21	4	4.29	does not combine	4.03	
	Technology		5	4.13			
	Humanitarian and	4.50	1	4.49	combines	4.83	
	Social Sciences	4.59	2	4.74	combines	4.85	
Mood	Natural		3	4.67			
	Science and	4.68	4	4.72	does not combine	4.53	
	Technology		5	4.89			

Source: Prepared by the authors

The incidence of low well-being scores is higher among the students studying in Humanities and Social Sciences (Figure 3).

# Figure 3 – Frequency Analysis of Low Values of Well-being, Activity and Mood Indicators of Students Studying in Different Years and Areas\*



HAS: Humanities and Social Sciences; NaTS: Natural and Technical Sciences Source: Prepared by the authors

The analysis of differences in the manifestations of well-being, activity and mood among students studying in different years also showed significant differences only in wellbeing assessment (Table 7).

<b>Table 7</b> – Values of Kruskal-Wallis H-test for Indicators of Well-being, Activity and Mood,
Depending on the Year of Study

Well-being distribution is the same for the Year categories	independent samples	.009	The null hypothesis is rejected
e Activity distribution is the same for the Year categories.	Kruskal-Wallis criterion for independent samples	.593	The null hypothesis is accepted
Mood distribution is the same for the Year categories	Kruskal-Wallis criterion for independent samples	.235	The null hypothesis is accepted
;	the Year categories	the Year categories independent samples	

Source: Prepared by the authors

The analysis of the average values of well-being ratings in different years (Table 6) determined that undergraduate students (4-5 years) are more likely to assess their well-being as physically and psychologically comfortable. At the same time, the low well-being scores are more common in  $1^{st}$  and  $3^{rd}$  year (Figure 3).

The study revealed the influence of ability to combine study with work on functional psycho-emotional state of students during the period of self-isolation due to COVID-19 (Table 8).

# **Table 8** – Values of kruskal-wallis h-test for indicators of well-being, activity and mood (students who combine/not combine study with work)

	Null hypothesis	Criteria	Value	Decision			
1	The Well-being distribution is the same for the Combine Study with Work categories	Kruskal-Wallis criterion for independent samples	.000	The null hypothesis is rejected			
2	The Activity distribution is the same for the Combine Study with Work categories	Kruskal-Wallis criterion for independent samples	.000	The null hypothesis is rejected			
3	3The Mood distribution is the same for the Combine Study with Work categoriesKruskal-Wallis criterion for independent samples.000The null hypothesis is rejected						
	The asymptotic values are derived the significance level is .05						

Source: Prepared by the authors

Working students assess their well-being, activity and mood higher than the students who do not combine study with work (table 6).

Some factors such as accommodation (apartment building or private house), living in a village or in a city, with parents or not, have no significant effect on functional emotional state of self-isolated students under the influence of restrictive measures.

## Conclusion

The analysis of mental and emotional state diagnosis results showed that the students in conditions of social isolation, experience a more intense decrease in activity (compared to the well-being and mood), manifested by a reduced need for interaction with the environment, predominance of "external" initiation of mental activity, prevalence of inactivity in all spheres of life.

The study showed that the younger are the students, the more they are likely to have reduced indicators of well-being, activity, mood and fatigue, i.e., they are more susceptible to the stress factors of isolation and the threat of infection. Students over the age of 22 have a more stable psycho-emotional state in the current conditions. Lower values of integral indicator of well-being, typical for junior students, further confirm the significance of the age factor.

The study found that women are psychologically more vulnerable to the COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictive measures (compared to men). They are more likely to assess their well-being as unsatisfactory and give negative emotional reactions to conditions of self-isolation and the threat of possible infection.

It is also quite reliable to conclude that assessment of well-being of students studying in Natural and Technical Sciences areas is higher than one of students studying Humanities and Social Sciences. The choice of the future profession and corresponding direction of study somehow reflects certain personal predispositions. Humanities and Social Sciences are more focused on interpersonal communication, for which conditions of self-isolation act as restrictive. Consequently, self-isolation will be perceived more acutely, reducing the well-being of students in the relevant areas of training.

The study revealed higher scores of well-being, activity and mood among the students who combine study with work but did not find significant relationships between functional psycho-emotional state of the subjects in a situation of isolation and possible COVID-19 infection and such socio-demographic factors as place and living conditions.

Thus, inclusion of socio-demographic factors in analysis of psycho-emotional state of students in conditions of coronavirus pandemic self-isolation allows us to determine the features of emotional response and experiences of young people more accurately in current situation, identifying the factors that increase or decrease neuropsychiatric resistance of young people in relation to the restrictions and threat of infection.

The results determine additional research tasks on the influence of perceptual measures of prevention and control of COVID-19 on psycho-emotional state, the role of socio-economic factors in development of negative emotional states, developing programs and technologies to reduce the destructive impact of the pandemic on psychological well-being of students.

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