Taiwan as Asian Capital Mask:
Are People Wear It for The Purpose of Pollution Avoidance? or Is It Only for Fashion?

BACKGROUND

Nowadays in Taiwan, we find that

more and more people wear the surgical mask while they are walking on the road or driving scooter.

Furthermore, the reasons for wearing masks have shown differences in recent years.

For instance, some people started to regard masks as "decorations",

Question: Do people wear it for the purpose of pollution avoidance? or is it only for fashion?

AIM

This survey investigated the reason why Taiwanese demand for surgical masks is very high and keep increasing year by year.
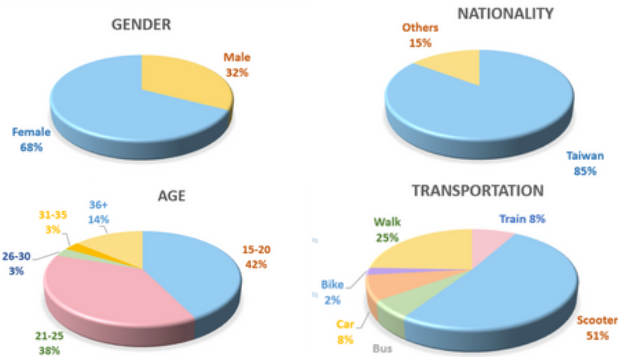
HYPOTHESIS

(1) Taiwanese wear surgical masks is for pollution/disease avoidance
(2) The frequency of surgical masks usage is quite high, therefore, it has become the part of Taiwanese lifestyle.

METHODOLOGY

Gathering the data through Google Form Online Survey Application. The respondent that are surveyed are of all ages, all genders. Sample size is 101 respondents.

RESULT AND ANALYSIS

- From 101 respondents, 68% of them are female, and 33% are male.
- 85% of the respondents are Taiwanese, and other 15% of them are from other countries.
- In the proportion of age, 42% are 15–20 years old, 38% are 21–25 years old, and 20% are older than 26 years old.
- 51% of the respondents are cyclists, 25% of them usually go to school or working place on foot, and the others usually take trains or bus, drive cars, and ride bikes, for 8%, 6%, 8%, and 2%, respectively.

- 92% of the respondents wear surgical masks are to avoid contagious disease.
- 44% of the respondents wear surgical mask without any specific reasons. E.g. less of confidence, doesn't wear make-up
- 95% of the respondents wear surgical mask because of the awful quality of air condition.
- 77% of the respondents are disagree that it looks more fashionable while wearing masks.

CONCLUSION

According to the survey result, we can know most of the Taiwanese wear masks is because of the awful air condition. Moreover, climate change and pandemic illness have become a routine aspect of our global reality. As a result, to prevent contagious disease is the biggest reason why Taiwanese wear masks. To conclude, we believe that the trend of wearing masks will spread all over the world soon.