



## OPINIONS, FEELINGS AND BEHAVIORS REGARDING THE EFFECT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN THE GREEK URBAN ENVIRONMENT: COMPARISON OF THE CITY OF THESSALONIKI AND KAVALA

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### SCOPE

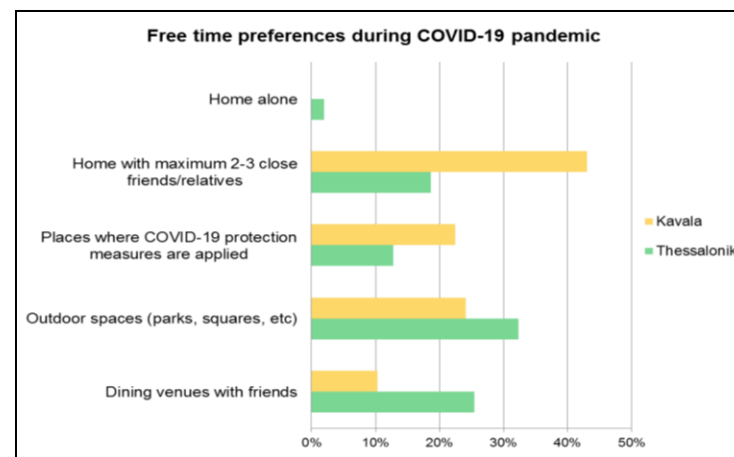
To highlight the **perceptions of the residents** of the cities of Thessaloniki and Kavala regarding the **effects of the COVID-19 pandemic** on various key issues.

### METHODOLOGY

A **research questionnaire** was answered by a random heterogeneous sample of residents of **Thessaloniki** (population 325.182) and **Kavala** (population 70.501) in April 2022. The responds were analyzed and comparisons and correlations were made between the two populations.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In total **160 questionnaires** were completed, 102 in Thessaloniki and 58 in Kavala and several different opinions were recorded. Specifically, more citizens of **Thessaloniki question the effectiveness of vaccines**, while the citizens of Kavala do not seem to underestimate the personal protection measures that should be taken. The residents of Thessaloniki state that they have **not limited their outdoor time** in contrast to the people of Kavala. Furthermore, the people of Thessaloniki prefer to spend their **free time only in outdoor spaces**, while the residents of Kavala prefer exclusively places where all measures against COVID-19 are respected. Half of the respondents in **Thessaloniki avoid the use of public transportation** and about the same percentage use telework or tele-education. One-third of the respondents in Kavala belongs to these groups.



*Answers to the question of where and how the residents of the two cities prefer to spend their free time during the COVID-19 pandemic*

### CONCLUSIONS

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have caused several **significant changes at an urban level**. These changes mainly apply to the everyday life of the citizens (social life, personal relationships and psychology). In general, the **citizens of Thessaloniki** seemed to be **less concerned about the spread of the virus** than the citizens of Kavala.