

Table 3. Demographic characteristics, perception of dangerous PSI level, and availability of N-95 masks, physical symptoms and psychological stress of the haze crisis (N = 298).

Item	Total sample (N=298)	Men (n=120)	Women (n=178)	<i>P</i> value	Perceived dangerous PSI ^a value < 250 (178)	Perceived dangerous PSI ^a value ≥250 (120)	<i>P</i> value
	N (%)	n (%)	n (%)		n (%)	n (%)	
Age							
18-29 (210)	210(70.5)	82(71.9)	128(68.3)	.507	126(71.2)	84(70.0)	.826
30-69 (88)	88(29.5)	38(28.1)	50(31.7)		51(28.8)	36(30.0)	
Ethnicity							
Chinese	260(87.2)	99(82.5)	161(90.4)	.044	164(92.1)	96(80.0)	.002
Indian, Malay, Other Ethnicities	38(12.8)	21(17.5)	17(9.6)		14(7.9)	24(20.0)	
Marital Status							
Married	71(23.8)	31(25.8)	40(22.5)	.297	39(21.9)	32(26.7)	.345
Others: Single, divorced, widow	227(76.2)	89(74.2)	138(77.5)		139(78.1)	88(73.3)	
Occupation							
Students	150(50.3)	65(54.2)	85(47.7)	.486	88(49.4)	62(51.7)	.893
Working Outdoor	66(22.2)	23(19.2)	43(24.2)		41(23.1)	25(20.8)	
Working Indoor	82(27.5)	32(26.6)	50(28.1)		49(27.5)	33(27.5)	
Presence of chronic medical	20(7.3)	8(7.2)	12(7.4)	.950	13(8.0)	7(6.4)	.616

illness**Personal possession of N-95 mask**

Inadequate –very inadequate	194(66.0)	72(61.0)	122(69.3)	.141	117(67.2)	77(64.2)	.584
Just enough – very adequate	100(34.0)	46(39.0)	54(30.7)		57(32.8)	43(35.8)	

Physical symptoms

Mental slowing	82(27.5)	40(33.3)	42(23.6)	.065	53(29.8)	29(24.2)	.288
Headache	150(50.3)	90(50.6)	60(50.0)	.924	97(54.5)	53(44.2)	.080
Dizziness	74(24.8)	25(20.8)	49(27.5)	.190	51(28.7)	23(19.2)	.063
Eye discomfort	181(60.7)	63(52.5)	118(66.3)	.017	111(62.4)	70(58.3)	.485
Nose discomfort	191(64.1)	84(70.0)	107(60.1)	.081	122(68.5)	69(57.5)	.051
Mouth or throat discomfort	205(68.8)	78(65.0)	127(71.3)	.246	135(75.8)	70(58.3)	.001
Breathing difficulty	120(40.3)	42(35.0)	78(43.8)	.128	71(39.9)	49(40.8)	.870
Heart pain or chest pain	32(10.7)	16(9.0)	16(9.0)	.235	24(13.5)	8(6.7)	.062
Nausea or vomiting	30(10.1)	17(9.6)	13(10.8)	.718	24(13.5)	6(5.0)	.017
Gastric or abdominal discomfort	48(16.1)	16(13.3)	32(18.0)	.285	32(18.0)	16(13.3)	.285
Slowness in movement	51(17.1)	20(16.7)	31(17.4)	.866	34(19.1)	17(14.2)	.267
Muscle ache or pain	38(12.8)	15(12.5)	23(12.9)	.915	19(10.7)	19(15.8)	.190
Total number of physical symptoms	4.03(2.60)	3.93(2.74)	4.10(2.51)	.586	4.34(2.61)	3.58(2.53)	.012

Psychological stress

Mean avoidance score mean ± SD	0.71(0.50)	0.70(0.52)	0.71(0.49)	.779	0.71(0.47)	0.70(0.55)	.779
Mean intrusion score mean ± SD	0.96(0.63)	0.94(0.62)	0.98(0.64)	.671	1.03(0.63)	0.87(0.61)	.029

Mean hyper-arousal score mean ±SD	0.85(0.74)	0.84(0.74)	0.86(0.75)	.889	0.94(0.73)	0.72(0.76)	.013
Total mean IES-R score mean±SD	0.84(0.53)	0.84(0.74)	0.85(0.53)	.740	0.89(0.51)	0.77(0.56)	.047
Total IES-R score mean±(SD)	18.47(11.69)	18.19(11.73)	18.65(11.69)	0.740	19.57(11.18)	16.83(12.27)	0.047

^aPSI = Pollutant Standard Index

Table 4. Univariate regression analysis of factors which determined the psychological impact (n = 298).

	Mean avoidance score			Mean intrusion score			Mean hyper-arousal score			Total mean IES-R score			Total IES-R score			p-value
	B	SE	R ²	B	SE	R ²	B	SE	R ²	B	SE	R ²	B	SE	R ²	
Age	0.028 0.663	0.064	0.001	-0.043 0.595	0.080	0.001	0.035 0.714	0.095	0	0.004 0.952	0.068	0	0.089 0.952	1.492	0	
Gender	-0.017 0.779	0.059	0	-0.032 0.671	0.075	0.001	-0.012 0.889	0.088	0	-0.021 0.740	0.063	0	-0.460 0.740	1.383	0	
Ethnicity	0.046 0.600	0.087	0.001	0.009 0.936	0.110	0	-0.031 0.810	0.130	0	0.011 0.902	0.092	0	0.250 0.902	2.033	0	
Marital status	-0.004	0.068	0	0.092	0.086	0.004	0.064	0.101	0.001	0.050	0.072	0.002	1.093	1.591	0.002	

	0.958			0.284			0.526			0.493			0.493		
Occupation	0.006	0.034	0	-0.009	0.043	0	0.036	0.051	0.002	0.009	0.036	0	0.193	0.796	0
	0.859			0.837			0.480			0.809			0.809		
Presence of chronic medical illness	0.097	0.118	0.003	-0.070	0.144	0.001	0.132	0.167	0.002	0.046	0.122	0.001	1.010	2.691	0.001
	0.410			0.626			0.430			0.708			0.708		
Perceived dangerous PSI value	-0.017	0.059	0	-0.162	0.074	0.016	-0.217	0.087	0.020	-0.124	0.062	0.013	-2.734	1.374	0.013
	0.779			0.029			0.013			0.047			0.047		
The actual PSI value at the time of survey	-0.001	0	0.012	0	0	0	0	0.001	0.003	0	0	0.004	-0.008	0.008	0.004
	0.055			0.907			0.358			0.290			0.290		
Personal possession of N-95 mask	0.030	0.061	0.001	-0.142	0.077	0.011	-0.160	0.092	0.010	-0.084	0.065	0.006	-1.849	1.435	0.006
	0.621			0.068			0.082			0.199			0.199		
Perceived usefulness of N-95 mask	0.045	0.133	0	0.173	0.167	0.004	0.230	0.198	0.005	0.142	0.141	0.003	3.130	3.102	0.003
	0.733			0.300			0.247			0.314			0.314		
Total number of physical symptoms	0.048	0.011	0.061	0.075	0.013	0.095	0.130	0.015	0.207	0.080	0.011	0.153	1.759	0.240	0.153
	<0.001			<0.001			<0.001			<0.001			<0.001		

IES-R = Impact of Event Scale - Revised