

Engage

MB

Survey Report

#RestartMB Pandemic Response System: COVID-19 Perceptions and Attitudes

Date of Collection: November 10 to 13, 2020

Number of Respondents: 9,872

Are you personally afraid of contracting COVID-19?	
Yes, very afraid	27%
Somewhat afraid	40%
Not very afraid	16%
No, not afraid at all	17%
Don't know	0%
Total	100%

When it comes to COVID-19 are you more afraid of being infected yourself or being infected and unknowingly spreading the virus to others, such as family members, friends or co-workers?	
More afraid of being infected myself	5%
More afraid being infected and unknowingly spreading the virus to others	49%
Equally afraid	32%
Neither, makes me afraid	14%
Don't know	1%
Total	100%

How often are you practicing the following preventative public health measures?						
Statements	Always	Very often	Somewhat often	Not very often	Never	Not applicable
Maintaining at least 6ft/2m distance from people outside your household.	44%	40%	10%	3%	1%	1%
Limiting your close contacts to those within your household only.	30%	44%	14%	6%	4%	3%
Frequent handwashing and hand sanitizing.	65%	24%	8%	2%	1%	1%
Always wearing a face mask while inside public spaces, such as stores, offices and using transit.	88%	5%	2%	2%	1%	1%

How often are you practicing the following preventative public health measures?						
Statements	Always	Very often	Somewhat often	Not very often	Never	Not applicable
Always washing/disinfecting face masks after each use.	36%	24%	16%	13%	6%	5%
Frequently disinfect high contact surfaces such as counters, phones, keys.	21%	29%	24%	18%	7%	1%
Downloading and checking the COVID Alert app on your phone. COVID Alert is Canada's COVID-19 exposure notification app.	29%	11%	8%	5%	36%	12%
Reminding family and friends to do things like wear a mask and physically distance (6ft/2m).	36%	24%	14%	9%	13%	4%
Not going out with friends to restaurants or bars.	73%	8%	3%	5%	7%	4%
Avoiding travel outside your community unless necessary (such as for work or providing care for someone).	70%	15%	5%	4%	4%	3%
Not sending your children to school if they are sick.	37%	2%	0%	0%	1%	60%
Staying home if you are feeling sick.	79%	8%	3%	1%	0%	9%

To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?					
Statements	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
I think it is safe to expand the people you can have close contact with beyond your household if they are family and friends that you know and trust.	24%	23%	6%	19%	28%
I don't believe any of these measures will work to stop the virus. The only thing that will help is a vaccine.	5%	14%	13%	25%	43%
I find it difficult to stay apart from friends and family, I'd rather take the risk of getting the virus than isolating myself away from everyone.	14%	10%	7%	18%	51%
I feel awkward being the only one wearing a mask/physical distancing when I am out with my friends.	5%	7%	18%	11%	59%
COVID has gone on long enough – I want to get on with life and take my chances.	16%	8%	6%	10%	60%
I would feel comfortable asking family/ friends outside of my household to wear a mask when around me.	42%	23%	11%	10%	14%
I want to physically distance from people outside of my household, but I often find myself breaking the rules.	2%	8%	14%	23%	53%
It's not people like me that are being infected with the virus.	6%	7%	20%	14%	53%
I don't worry about catching the virus. Only a small portion of people get really sick with it.	11%	8%	6%	13%	61%
The risk of me catching the virus is low. If I'm careful and I don't need to physical distance or wear a mask.	6%	5%	8%	11%	71%

Which of the following points of view best reflects your own?	
Vaccines are safe and I have no doubts about vaccinating myself or my family, as recommended by my doctor.	61%
I believe that vaccines are harmful and/or that our immune systems can deal with most infections naturally and so have declined all or many vaccinations for myself and my family.	8%
I agree that vaccinating myself or my family against diseases is necessary, but I worry about things I've heard or read about vaccinations and have considered delaying or declining specific vaccines.	27%
Don't know	4%
Total	100%

When a vaccine for COVID-19 is approved and widely available in Manitoba will you get vaccinated?	
Definitely will	55%
Probably will	19%
Probably will not	7%
Definitely will not	12%
Don't know	8%
Total	100%

Do you think you will get the flu shot this flu season?	
Already got my shot	44%
Definitely will	18%
Probably will	9%
Probably will not	9%
Definitely will not	17%
Don't know	3%
Total	100%

To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?					
Statements	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
I am more concerned about the flu this year because of COVID-19.	6%	5%	8%	11%	71%
The flu shot will help reduce the number of patients in hospitals.	24%	23%	20%	13%	21%
Everyone should get a flu shot to protect their loved ones from getting sick.	51%	17%	12%	6%	13%
I will get the flu shot earlier than I usually do because of COVID.	29%	11%	31%	8%	21%
I will delay/avoid getting the flu shot since I am already practicing physical distancing due to COVID-19.	5%	8%	21%	8%	58%

To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?					
Statements	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
Due to COVID-19, I will only get the flu shot if I am already at my physician's office.	3%	6%	19%	8%	64%
I have a hard time distinguishing between what the symptoms are for the flu and what the symptoms are for the COVID-19 virus.	23%	36%	17%	12%	12%
Because COVID-19 and flu symptoms are similar, I will get a flu shot this year to help reduce my chances of getting the flu.	49%	13%	14%	6%	18%
I'm worried the flu shot may make me more susceptible to COVID-19.	3%	4%	14%	8%	71%
The flu shot will help protect me from COVID-19 since it protects against respiratory viruses.	3%	5%	22%	12%	58%
The flu shot is an added layer of protection from the COVID virus.	9%	10%	21%	13%	46%
It is very important that certain occupations, such as healthcare professionals, long-term care workers and teachers get the flu shot.	65%	12%	11%	3%	10%

Due to COVID-19, are you more or less likely to get the flu shot?	
More likely	42%
No impact on whether or not I'll get the flu shot	52%
Less likely	5%
Don't know	2%
Total	100%

How trustworthy do you feel each of these sources are in providing you accurate information about the pandemic?					
Statements	Not at all trustworthy	Not very trustworthy	Somewhat trustworthy	Very trustworthy	Don't know
Government websites	8%	10%	36%	44%	2%
Friends/family members	6%	23%	58%	9%	4%
Elected officials	22%	25%	40%	9%	3%
Religious institutions/religious figures	36%	20%	18%	6%	19%
Social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter)	45%	32%	19%	1%	4%
TV	17%	17%	52%	8%	6%
Radio	14%	15%	54%	10%	8%
Newspapers	12%	13%	52%	15%	7%
Scientists/Scientific journals	3%	3%	20%	70%	4%
Public Health officials, doctors, nurses	4%	5%	24%	65%	3%

Thinking about your day-to-day life, what would you say are the three biggest sources of COVID-19 related stress right now?	
Personal and family's health and safety	16%
Social isolation	13%
Concern about getting sick with COVID-19	13%
Own work situation (e.g. hours of work, working conditions)	10%
Own emotional or mental health problem or condition	10%
Financial situation	7%
My children attending school	6%
Personal relationships	5%
Physical health problems or conditions unrelated to COVID-19	4%
Other personal or family responsibilities	3%
Caring for – others	3%
Employment status (e.g. unemployed)	3%
Caring for - own children	2%
Time pressures / not enough time	2%
I have no sources of stress	1%
Total	100%

Thinking about business and economic activity in Manitoba, would you say things are currently moving in the right direction or wrong track?	
Strongly right direction	4%
Somewhat right direction	22%
Somewhat wrong track	24%
Strongly wrong track	38%
Don't know	12%
Total	100%

Thinking ahead 6 months from today, what would you say the economic and job situation in Manitoba will be?	
Much better	7%
A little better	21%
About the same	17%
A little worse	14%
A lot worse	29%
Don't know	12%
Total	100%

To this day, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the measures put in place by the following organizations to fight the COVID-19 virus?					
Statements	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
The Manitoba Government	4%	19%	22%	55%	1%
Your employer	35%	22%	11%	9%	23%
Manitoba's healthcare system	16%	39%	21%	19%	5%
The Federal Government	16%	41%	17%	22%	3%
The local/municipal government	9%	36%	21%	24%	11%
Local Manitoba-based businesses you shop at or visit	37%	42%	12%	4%	4%

Have you heard about Manitoba's Pandemic Response System consisting of different colour codes which communicate the current level of risk, provide public health guidance to Manitobans and explain the range of measures in place to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in Manitoba?	
Yes	99.3%
No	0.4%
Don't know	0.3%
Total	100%

Based on what you know of the Pandemic Response System, do you feel this is a helpful or unhelpful system to communicate the severity of the pandemic situation to Manitobans?	
Helpful	71%
Unhelpful	21%
Don't know	8%
Total	100%

The Pandemic Response System provides Manitobans with clear public health direction as we learn to live with COVID-19 by setting levels of risk and restrictions.					
How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?					
Statements	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
Public health restrictions should be targeted to at-risk activities, specific sectors, regions or facilities as required.	48%	30%	7%	8%	7%
Regions of the province should only be set to Critical, the highest level of the pandemic response system if absolutely necessary.	48%	30%	7%	8%	7%
Changes to the public health orders should be in effect for the shortest period possible to minimize impact to the economy.	28%	17%	10%	24%	21%
Changes to the public health orders should be in effect for an extended period to avoid confusion.	21%	29%	17%	14%	20%
Public health orders should aim to keep priority services open (e.g. schools, child care).	32%	24%	10%	18%	16%
Public health orders should take into consideration the mental health impacts on Manitobans.	45%	31%	13%	9%	3%