

#RestartMB Pandemic Response System: Safely Restoring Services and Activities in Manitoba

Date of Collection: March 18 to March 23, 2021

Number of Respondents: 31,776

Perceptions of the Virus and Vaccination

Manitoba's first COVID-19 immunization clinic launched on December 16, 2020. Since then, we've given more than 100,000 doses of vaccine. This will be the largest immunization campaign in the province's history and the next step in protecting Manitobans from COVID-19 and re-opening our economy.

Following public health orders, avoiding close-contact settings, crowded places and closed spaces remain important steps we can take until the vaccine is widely distributed and the pandemic is over.

Questions	Yes, very afraid	Somewhat afraid	Not very afraid	No, not afraid at all	Don't know
Are you personally afraid of contracting COVID-19?	14%	32%	24%	29%	0%
Are you afraid that someone close to you (friend, parent, grandparent) will contract COVID-19?	28%	34%	20%	17%	0%

Manitoba first received the COVID-19 vaccine in mid-December 2020 and plans to immunize priority populations first.

To what extent do you approve or disapprove of the provincial government’s current approach to providing the COVID-19 vaccine?

Strongly approve	33%
Somewhat approve	47%
Somewhat disapprove	13%
Strongly disapprove	7%
Total	100%

Which of the following statements best reflects your perspective on the COVID-19 vaccines?

I have already received immunization against COVID-19.	9%
I will sign up for vaccination as soon as I am eligible.	56%
I will get the vaccine, but I'm not in a rush to sign-up.	13%
I'm not sure if I will get the vaccine when it is available.	12%
I will not get vaccinated against COVID-19.	10%
Total	100%

Has a member of your household already received a COVID-19 vaccine?

Yes	13%
Not yet	82%
Prefer not to say	4%
Total	100%

Current Manitoba Situation

Given the current state of the pandemic situation in Manitoba, how comfortable would you feel doing each of the following activities?

	Not at all comfortable	Not very comfortable	Somewhat comfortable	Very comfortable	Not Applicable
Going to work / the office	7%	9%	18%	52%	14%
Going to restaurants	18%	16%	23%	43%	0%
Going to the movie theatre	32%	16%	18%	29%	5%
Taking public transit	36%	18%	12%	16%	18%
Going to bars, night clubs and pubs	46%	14%	11%	16%	13%
Shopping at a stand-alone store	2%	7%	31%	60%	0%
Sending children to schools and day cares	4%	8%	22%	45%	21%
Going to the gym / yoga centre	21%	13%	18%	36%	12%
Going to the dentist / chiropractor / massage therapist	3%	7%	25%	64%	1%
Shopping at a mall	10%	15%	30%	45%	1%
Attending religious services / funerals / Pow Wows	23%	15%	16%	34%	12%
Travelling outside of Manitoba	31%	15%	18%	35%	2%

Possible Changes to Public Health Orders

Public health officials, following the feedback of Manitobans, are considering possible changes to the public health orders for the entire province, with physical distancing measures, capacity limits and safety protocols in place.

Your insights and feedback will assist public health officials to prioritize the easing of restrictions, as case numbers, ICU capacity and other key data points improve.

Possible changes include:

- Outdoor gatherings: Increasing gathering limits at outdoor public places to 25 people.
- Weddings and funerals: Increasing gathering limits at weddings, funerals and other gatherings to 25 people.
- Places of worship: Expanding capacity at religious services to a 25 per cent or a 250-person capacity, whichever is lower, with other public health measures still in effect.
- Retail stores: Expanding the capacity limits for retail stores to 50 per cent or a 500-person capacity, whichever is lower.
- Restaurants: Allowing people to eat at the same table with other persons in the indoor area of a restaurant, as long as everyone seated at a table has designated those individuals to visit them in their home.
- Indoor sporting facilities: Allowing organized team games at indoor sporting facilities. Remove the restriction for youth to wear a mask while taking part in an indoor sporting activity such as hockey or soccer, but requiring mask use in other areas of the facility.
- Indoor theatres, indoor concert halls, casinos and bingo halls: Enabling indoor theatres, indoor concert halls, casinos and gaming centres to operate at 25 per cent or a 250-person capacity, whichever is lower, with other public health measures still in effect.
- Travel restrictions: Removing the requirement to self-isolate for 14 days for inter-provincial/domestic travellers who travel for business reasons and do not have symptoms.

Do you think the options for potential changes to the public health orders would be an appropriate next step in a gradual reopening, too fast, or too slow?

Potential Change	Appropriate Next Step	Too Fast	Too Slow	Unsure
Increasing gathering limits at outdoor public places to 25 people.	53%	21%	23%	2%
Increasing gathering limits at weddings, funerals and other gatherings to 25 people.	48%	25%	24%	3%
Expanding capacity at religious services to a 25 per cent or a 250-person capacity, whichever is lower, with other public health measures still in effect.	32%	44%	18%	6%
Expanding the capacity limits for retail stores to 50 per cent or a 500-person capacity, whichever is lower.	45%	35%	16%	3%
Allowing people to eat at the same table with other persons in the indoor area of a restaurant.	45%	28%	23%	4%
Allowing organized team games at indoor and outdoor sporting facilities.	40%	34%	17%	8%
Removing the restriction for youth to wear a mask while taking part in an indoor or outdoor sporting activity such as hockey or soccer.	36%	38%	18%	9%
Enabling indoor theatres, indoor concert halls, casinos and gaming centres to operate at 25 per cent or a 250-person capacity, whichever is lower.	37%	41%	16%	6%
Removing the requirement to self-isolate for 14 days for inter-provincial/domestic travellers who travel for business reasons and do not have symptoms.	30%	44%	20%	6%

When considering the proposed changes to the public health orders what is most important to you?

The results below indicate the possible changes ranked from **most important to least important**. The potential changes ranked the highest is increasing gathering limits at an outdoor place to 25 people.

Potential Change	Average Rank
Increasing gathering limits at an outdoor place to 25 people.	2.84
Allowing people to eat at the same table with other persons in the indoor area of a restaurant.	3.40
Increasing gathering limits at weddings, funerals and other gatherings to 25 people.	3.66
Expanding the capacity limits for retail stores to 50 per cent or a 500-person capacity, whichever is lower.	4.66
Allowing organized team games at indoor sporting facilities.	4.98
Removing the requirement to self-isolate for 14 days for inter-provincial/domestic travellers who travel for business reasons and do not have symptoms.	5.27
Expanding capacity at religious services to a 25 per cent or a 250-person capacity, whichever is lower.	5.37
Enabling indoor theatres, indoor concert halls, casinos and gaming centres to operate at 25 per cent or a 250-person capacity, whichever is lower.	5.82

Timing of Changes to Orders

When considering timing for the next round of changes to orders:

- 39% indicated that we should wait to make any changes until after Passover and Easter or later, to prevent further spread of COVID-19.
- 24% indicated that some changes can be made sooner, but other changes should wait.
- 37% indicated that all the changes can be made now; Easter, Passover and spring break should not affect timing.

Of the 24 per cent of respondents (7,592) that believe that some changes can be made sooner, but others should wait, their preference of timing is indicated in the table below.

Potential Change	As soon as possible	After Passover and Easter	Unsure
Increasing gathering limits at outdoor public places to 25 people.	68%	29%	3%
Increasing gathering limits at weddings, funerals and other gatherings to 25 people.	52%	42%	6%
Expanding capacity at religious services to a 25 per cent or a 250-person capacity, whichever is lower, with other public health measures still in effect.	22%	69%	9%
Expanding the capacity limits for retail stores to 50 per cent or a 500-person capacity, whichever is lower.	38%	54%	8%
Allowing people to eat at the same table with other persons in the indoor area of a restaurant.	64%	30%	6%
Allowing organized team games at indoor and outdoor sporting facilities.	44%	43%	14%
Removing the restriction for youth to wear a mask while taking part in an indoor or outdoor sporting activity such as hockey or soccer.	42%	39%	19%
Enabling indoor theatres, indoor concert halls, casinos and gaming centres to operate at 25 per cent or a 250-person capacity, whichever is lower.	25%	63%	12%
Removing the requirement to self-isolate for 14 days for inter-provincial/domestic travellers who travel for business reasons and do not have symptoms.	30%	54%	16%