# Citizens' Attitudes Under the COVID-19 Pandemic

Canada (wave 1)

Ruth Dassonneville<sup>1</sup>, Éric Bélanger<sup>2</sup>, Jean-François Daoust<sup>3</sup>, Richard Nadeau<sup>1</sup>, & Erick Lachapelle<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Université de Montréal – <sup>2</sup>McGill University – <sup>3</sup>University of Edinburgh

## Data

### The Project

- · Three-wave panel study in Canada.
- Part of an international collaborative project 'Citizens' Attitudes Under the COVID-19 Pandemic', coordinated at CEVIPOF.
- Surveys in France, the UK, Italy, Germany, Austria, USA, New Zealand, Australia, Sweden, ...
- · More info: bit.ly/3cyFct4

## This survey

- Data from an online survey among 1,006 respondents.
- · Administered by Léger Marketing.
- Census-balanced, representative sample from the Voluntary Leger 360 online platform, that includes 400,000 panelists.
- · Fieldwork between April 15th and April 21st, 2020.





# \_\_\_\_

Attitudes and Feelings about

COVID-19

#### Trust

#### Question

What is your level of trust in the following institutions?

Answer options: no trust at all; not much trust; some trust; complete trust.

## Trust

Institution	Percent
	some/complete trust
Doctors	92.3%
Scientists	89.6%
Your provincial government	69.2%
The Government of Canada	67.8%
Your province's premier	67.7%
Your city's mayor	66.8%
The Prime Minister of Canada	62.5%

#### **Emotions**

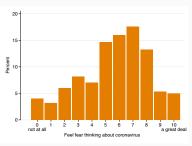
#### Question

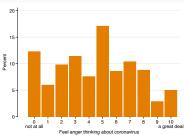
When you think about the situation related to the coronavirus (nCOVID-19) in Canada, on a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 means "not at all" and 10 means "a great deal," are you experiencing...?

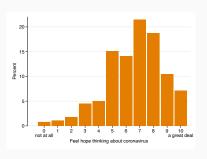
	Mean	Std. Dev.
Fear	5.6	2.5
Норе	6.6	2.1
Anger	4.5	2.8

5

## **Emotions**







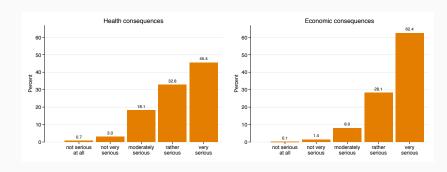
## Assessing the consequences of the outbreak

#### Questions

Would you say that today, the health consequences of the coronavirus outbreak in Canada are...?

Would you say that today, the economic consequences of the coronavirus outbreak in Canada are...?

# Assessing the consequences of the outbreak



# Behavioral changes

## Changes in daily behavior

#### Question

Because of the coronavirus outbreak, would you say that in your daily behaviour...?

To express your opinion, please use a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means "not at all" and 10 means "absolutely."

# Changes in daily behavior

Item	Average score (between 0 and 10)
You have stopped greeting people by shaking hands	9.4
or with a kiss on the cheek	
You have reduced your travel	9.2
You have stopped meeting up with your friends	9.1
You keep a distance of 2 metres with other people	9.1
when outside your home	
You avoid high traffic locations (public transit,	9.1
restaurants, sports training)	

# Changes in daily behavior

Item	Average score (between 0 and 10)
You cough or sneeze in the crook of your arm or a	8.9
tissue paper	
You wash your hands more often and/or for a longer	8.8
period of time	
You have stocked up on food for several days	7.1
Your have stocked up on protective face masks	2.5
You have changed your place of residence	1.0

# have reacted

Evaluating how governments

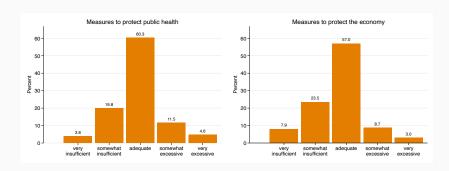
## Overall evaluation of protective measures

#### Questions

In your opinion, would you say that the measures taken by governments to protect public health are...?

In your opinion, the measures taken to protect the Canadian economy are...?

# Overall evaluation of protective measures



### Attitudes towards specific measures

#### Question

Here is a series of measures implemented in certain countries against the spread of the coronavirus (nCOVID-19). Do you have a favourable view of them or not?

# Attitudes towards specific measures

Measure	% somewhat/very favourable
Closing the borders	91.0%
Prohibiting gatherings	90.3%
Prohibiting non-essential travel	87.7%
Closing daycares, CPEs, schools, Cégeps and univer-	87.2%
sities	
Closing non-essential businesses (bars, stores that	86.4%
are not food or health related, etc.)	
Handing out \$1,000 fines to those who do not com-	73.7%
ply with confinement rules	
General lockdown of the population with a ban on	61.1%
leaving the home (except for medical reasons)	

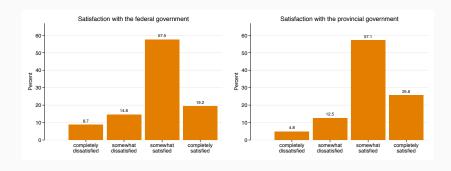
## Evaluating how the government is handling coronavirus

#### Question

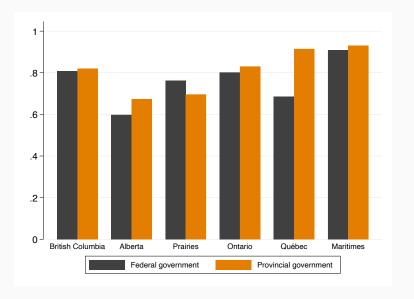
Generally speaking, are you satisfied with how the federal government in Ottawa is handling the coronavirus outbreak?

Generally speaking, are you satisfied with how your provincial government is handling the coronavirus outbreak?

# Evaluating how the government is handling coronavirus



# Evaluating how the government is handling coronavirus



How Canadians think about the

future

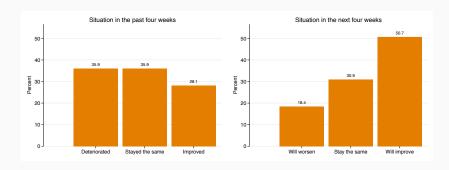
## Looking back and looking forward

#### Question

In the past 4 four weeks, would you say that the situation regarding the coronavirus outbreak in Canada has improved, deteriorated, or stayed the same?

In the next 4 weeks, do you think the situation regarding the coronavirus outbreak in Canada will improve, deteriorate, or stay the same?

# Looking back and looking forward

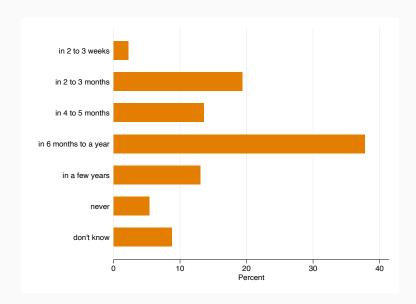


# Going back to living as before

#### Question

How long do you think it will be before we can go back to living as we did before the coronavirus crisis?

# Going back to living as before



## Should public health or the economy be prioritized?

#### Question

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Answer options: Strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree.

# Should public health or the economy be prioritized?

Item	Percent somewhat/
	strongly agree
Governments should prioritize public health	83.4%
measures and limit social interactions, even	
if this is detrimental to the economy.	
Governments should seek to get people back	25.8%
to work, even if public health suffers some-	
what.	

**Questions?** 

#### Send us an email!

- · ruth.dassonneville@umontreal.ca
- · eric.belanger3@mcgill.ca
- jf.daoust@ed.ac.uk
- · richard.nadeau@umontreal.ca
- · erick.lachapelle@umontreal.ca

