Citizens’ Attitudes Under the COVID-19 Pandemic

Canada (wave 1)

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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
Question

What is your level of trust in the following institutions?

Answer options: no trust at all; not much trust; some trust; complete trust.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Percent some/complete trust</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctors</td>
<td>92.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientists</td>
<td>89.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your provincial government</td>
<td>69.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Government of Canada</td>
<td>67.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your province’s premier</td>
<td>67.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your city’s mayor</td>
<td>66.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Prime Minister of Canada</td>
<td>62.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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...?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Std. Dev.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fear</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anger</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Emotions

Feel fear thinking about coronavirus

Feel hope thinking about coronavirus

Feel anger thinking about coronavirus
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

Health consequences

- Not serious at all: 0.7%
- Not very serious: 3.0%
- Moderately serious: 18.1%
- Rather serious: 32.8%
- Very serious: 45.4%

Economic consequences

- Not serious at all: 0.1%
- Not very serious: 1.4%
- Moderately serious: 8.0%
- Rather serious: 28.1%
- Very serious: 62.4%
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Average score (between 0 and 10)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You have stopped greeting people by shaking hands or with a kiss on the cheek</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You have reduced your travel</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You have stopped meeting up with your friends</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You keep a distance of 2 metres with other people when outside your home</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You avoid high traffic locations (public transit, restaurants, sports training...)</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item</td>
<td>Average score (between 0 and 10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You cough or sneeze in the crook of your arm or a tissue paper</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You wash your hands more often and/or for a longer period of time</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You have stocked up on food for several days</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your have stocked up on protective face masks</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You have changed your place of residence</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Evaluating how governments have reacted
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

Measures to protect public health

- Very insufficient: 3.8%
- Somewhat insufficient: 19.8%
- Adequate: 60.3%
- Somewhat excessive: 11.5%
- Very excessive: 4.6%

Measures to protect the economy

- Very insufficient: 7.9%
- Somewhat insufficient: 23.5%
- Adequate: 57.0%
- Somewhat excessive: 8.7%
- Very excessive: 3.0%
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

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

Satisfaction with the federal government

Satisfaction with the provincial government
Evaluating how the government is handling coronavirus

[Bar chart showing evaluation scores for British Columbia, Alberta, Prairies, Ontario, Québec, and Maritimes, comparing Federal government and Provincial government.]
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

**Situation in the past four weeks**

- Deteriorated: 35.9%
- Stayed the same: 35.9%
- Improved: 28.1%

**Situation in the next four weeks**

- Will worsen: 18.4%
- Stay the same: 30.9%
- Will improve: 50.7%
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

- in 2 to 3 weeks
- in 2 to 3 months
- in 4 to 5 months
- in 6 months to a year
- in a few years
- never
- don't know
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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Percent somewhat/ strongly agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governments should prioritize public health measures and limit social interactions, even if this is detrimental to the economy. Governments should seek to get people back to work, even if public health suffers somewhat.</td>
<td>83.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Questions?
Send us an email!

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