

CANADIAN OPINION ON THE CORONA VIRUS – N°3: ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIOUR(S): IMMIGRANT AND NON-IMMIGRANT

ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN STUDIES (ACS)

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INTRODUCTION

- In response to the Corona Virus/Covid 19 several exceptional measures were introduced by the government of Canada. These measures were a testimony to the increasing seriousness of the virus. Public attitudes and behaviors are an important aspect in managing the national crisis arising from the virus. To examine opinion the Association for Canadian Studies commissioned a detailed survey of the people's views over the week of March 9th which aimed at providing a baseline to monitor evolving views arising from the crisis. Socio-demographic differences are an important characteristic that explain varying reaction and action undertaken. That which follows will contrast immigrant and non-immigrant attitude and behaviour relative to the Corona/Covid 19 virus.

METHODOLOGY

- The survey was commissioned by the Association for Canadian Studies and conducted by the firm Leger Marketing with a sample of 2001 Canadians nationally via web panel during the period March 9-12, 2020. The survey sample consisted of 1216 respondents born in Canada, 785 born outside of Canada (119 in the last five years, 84 between 5 and 10 years and 581 10 years or more). The survey was weighted to correspond to the country's demographic profile as reflected in Statistics Canada's census. It has a probabilistic margin of error of 2.5 percent 19 times out of 20.

IMMIGRANTS AND PARTICULARLY NEWCOMERS ARE MORE WORRIED ABOUT CORONA VIRUS OUTBREAK

That there will be a widespread outbreak of the Coronavirus/Covid 19 in your city					
	Born in Canada	Born outside Canada	Less than 5 years	Between 5 to 9 years	10 years or more
TOTAL WORRIED	56%	67%	72%	72%	65%
Very worried	17%	27%	31%	29%	26%
Somewhat worried	39%	40%	41%	43%	39%
TOTAL NOT WORRIED	44%	32%	28%	28%	34%
Not very worried	32%	24%	23%	13%	25%
Not worried at all	11%	9%	5%	15%	8%
I prefer not to answer	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%

IMMIGRANTS MORE CONCERNED THAN NON-IMMIGRANTS ABOUT FAMILY MEMBER GETTING CORONA VIRUS

That you or someone in your family will get sick from the Coronavirus/Covid 19					
	Born in Canada	Born outside Canada	Less than 5 years	Between 5 to 9 years	10 years or more
TOTAL WORRIED	56%	65%	61%	70%	65%
Very worried	19%	26%	35%	22%	25%
Somewhat worried	37%	39%	27%	48%	39%
TOTAL NOT WORRIED	44%	34%	38%	28%	34%
Not very worried	32%	26%	31%	18%	26%
Not worried at all	12%	8%	8%	10%	8%
I prefer not to answer	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%

BECAUSE OF CORONA VIRUS CRISIS, IMMIGRANTS FAR MORE LIKELY THAN NON-IMMIGRANTS TO WEAR A PROTECTIVE MASK

Because of the Coronavirus/Covid 19, I have bought a protective mask					
	Born in Canada	Born outside Canada	Less than 5 years	Between 5 to 9 years	10 years or more
TOTAL AGREE	9%	22%	30%	14%	21%
Strongly agree	4%	8%	10%	6%	8%
Somewhat agree	5%	14%	19%	8%	13%
TOTAL DISAGREE	89%	76%	69%	82%	76%
Somewhat disagree	18%	19%	19%	31%	18%
Strongly disagree	71%	57%	50%	51%	58%
I prefer not to answer	2%	3%	2%	4%	3%

IMMIGRANTS MORE LIKELY TO STOCK UP ON SUPPLIES THAN CANADIAN BORN WITH CORONAVIRUS/COVID 19 CRISIS

Because of the Coronavirus/Covid 19, I am stocking up on supplies (e.g water or food)					
	Born in Canada	Born outside Canada	Less than 5 years	Between 5 to 9 years	10 years or more
TOTAL AGREE	24%	37%	50%	49%	34%
Strongly agree	5%	9%	13%	12%	8%
Somewhat agree	19%	28%	37%	38%	25%
TOTAL DISAGREE	75%	62%	49%	50%	65%
Somewhat disagree	34%	29%	22%	18%	32%
Strongly disagree	41%	32%	28%	32%	33%
I prefer not to answer	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%

IMMIGRANTS FAR MORE LIKELY THAN CANADIAN BORN TO CHANGE THEIR DAY TO DAY SINCE THE OUTBREAK OF THE VIRUS

Did you change anything in your day to day since the Coronavirus/Covid 19 outbreak?					
	Born in Canada	Born outside Canada	Less than 5 years	Between 5 to 9 years	10 years or more
Yes	38%	55%	60%	44%	56%
No	62%	44%	39%	56%	44%
I prefer not to answer	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%

CANADIAN BORN MORE LIKELY TO WASH HANDS WHILE IMMIGRANTS MORE OFTEN OPT TO STAY HOME

What changes did you make most often (top two answers)	Total	Born in Canada	Born outside Canada	Less than 5 years	Between 5 to 9 years	10 years or more
Wash my hands frequently & thoroughly	58%	63%	47%	35%	48%	50%
Avoid crowded places/ social gatherings	14%	13%	18%	11%	3%	21%
Avoid direct contacts/keep distance with people (ex: don't shake hands)	14%	13%	15%	10%	14%	17%
More use of hand sanitizers	13%	14%	8%	14%	8%	7%
Stay at home more / go out less	10%	7%	17%	14%	12%	18%
Other	8%	8%	7%	2%	4%	8%
Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth	7%	8%	3%	0%	0%	4%
I don't frequent public places as much (ex: restaurant, shopping mall, gym, etc.)	7%	6%	7%	4%	4%	8%
Clean frequently touched surfaces (at home, at work, etc.)	6%	6%	6%	4%	2%	7%
Avoid touching surfaces in public places / be aware of what I touch	5%	5%	5%	5%	21%	3%
Stocking supplies	5%	5%	4%	0%	9%	4%
More / better hygiene practices	5%	5%	7%	13%	17%	5%

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