

CANADIAN OPINION ON THE CORONAVIRUS – N° 18:
FRANCOPHONE QUEBECERS LESS FEARFUL OF GETTING COVID-19 THAN
OTHER CANADIANS; ALSO FAR MORE FAVORABLE TO LOOSENING
RESTRICTIONS OF UNDER 65 AND MAINTAINING FOR OVER 65

JACK JEDWAB, PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN STUDIES AND METROPOLIS
CANADA, APRIL 28 , 2020

CHAIR COVID-19 SOCIAL IMPACTS NETWORK PLEASE VISIT

[HTTPS://ACS-AEC.CA/EN/COVID-19-SOCIAL-IMPACTS-NETWORK/](https://acs-aec.ca/en/covid-19-social-impacts-network/)

QUEBECERS IN GENERAL AND FRANCOPHONES IN PARTICULAR SAY THEY ARE LEAST AFRAID OF GETTING THE VIRUS

Are you personally afraid of contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)?										
	Total	French	English	Others	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
TOTAL AFRAID	57%	47%	59%	64%	59%	51%	64%	55%	53%	52%
Very afraid	16%	14%	16%	23%	15%	18%	16%	12%	16%	16%
Somewhat afraid	41%	33%	43%	41%	44%	34%	47%	42%	37%	37%
TOTAL NOT AFRAID	42%	52%	40%	34%	41%	47%	35%	43%	46%	46%
Not very afraid	30%	40%	29%	24%	22%	37%	26%	28%	32%	37%
Not afraid at all	11%	12%	11%	9%	19%	10%	10%	15%	14%	9%
I already have or have been exposed to the virus	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	1%	1%	0%	3%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%

YET QUEBECERS IN GENERAL AND FRANCOPHONES MOST LIKELY TO REPORT PERSONALLY KNOWING SOMEONE THAT WAS DIAGNOSED AS HAVING THE VIRUS

Do you personally know someone who has received a diagnosis that they actually have the virus?										
	Total	French	English	Others	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
TOTAL YES	17%	22%	15%	18%	11%	24%	19%	8%	11%	11%
Yes – someone who lives in my home	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Yes – a friend or family member who does not live with me	7%	8%	6%	7%	5%	11%	8%	2%	3%	5%
Yes – an acquaintance	10%	14%	8%	11%	6%	14%	10%	6%	8%	5%
No	83%	78%	84%	80%	88%	75%	81%	91%	89%	88%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	1%	0%	1%	3%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	2%

QUEBEC HAS HIGHER GAP IN THE DEGREE OF FEAR OF A FAMILY MEMBER GETTING THE VIRUS THAN GETTING IT PERSONALLY

	Total	French	English	Others	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
TOTAL PERSONALLY AFRAID	57%	47%	59%	64%	59%	51%	64%	55%	53%	52%
TOTAL AFRAID FOR A FAMILY MEMBER	68%	61%	70%	74%	70%	65%	73%	61%	67%	65%
GAP BETWEEN FEAR FOR MYSELF AND FAMILY MEMBER	11	14	11	10	11	14	9	6	14	13

QUEBECERS OUTSIDE OF MONTREAL LESS FEARFUL OF GETTING THE VIRUS

Are you personally afraid of contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)?	MTL RMR	QC RMR	OTHER REGIONS	Total
Very afraid	20.3%	8.6%	16.8%	17.7%
Somewhat afraid	36.7%	22.9%	32.2%	33.5%
Not very afraid	35.0%	45.7%	37.8%	37.2%
Not afraid at all	7.9%	20.0%	11.2%	10.4%
I already have or have been exposed to the virus			0.7%	0.3%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer		2.9%	1.4%	0.8%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

QUEBECERS BY FAR MOST FAVORABLE TO RELAXING RESTRICTIONS FOR UNDER 65 AND MAINTAINING THEM FOR PERSONS OVER 65

To what extent would you support a government policy that relaxes the social distancing restrictions for people under the age of 65, but maintains the current level of restrictions in place for people age 65 and older?

	Total	French	English	Others	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
TOTAL SUPPORT	46%	59%	41%	53%	33%	61%	44%	40%	46%	36%
Strongly support	14%	17%	11%	20%	7%	19%	14%	13%	13%	7%
Somewhat support	32%	42%	29%	34%	26%	42%	30%	27%	33%	29%
TOTAL OPPOSE	45%	33%	50%	39%	53%	31%	49%	48%	44%	52%
Somewhat oppose	21%	21%	22%	22%	23%	19%	24%	21%	22%	19%
Strongly oppose	23%	12%	28%	16%	30%	12%	25%	27%	22%	33%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	9%	8%	10%	8%	14%	8%	8%	12%	10%	12%

MONTREALERS LESS LIKELY THAN OTHER QUEBECERS TO SUPPORT MAINTAINING RESTRICTIONS FOR PEOPLE OVER 65

To what extent would you support a government policy that relaxes the social distancing restrictions for people under the age of 65, but maintains the current level of restrictions in place for people age 65 and older?	MTL RMR	QC RMR	OTHER REGIONS	Total
Strongly support	19.0%	20.0%	17.6%	18.5%
Somewhat support	38.0%	48.6%	45.8%	42.1%
Somewhat oppose	21.2%	14.3%	17.6%	19.1%
Strongly oppose	12.3%	8.6%	13.4%	12.4%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	9.5%	8.6%	5.6%	7.9%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

METHODOLOGY

The survey was conducted by Leger in partnership with the Association for Canadian Studies with 2015 Canadians, 18 years of age or older, were collected via an online panel between April 24 to 26, 2020

Using data from the 2016 Census, results were weighted according to gender, age, mother tongue, region, education level and presence of children in the household in order to ensure a representative sample of the population.

No margin of error can be associated with a non-probability sample (Web panel in this case). However for comparative purposes, a probability sample of 1500 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.52\%$, 19 times out of 20. That 'margin' rises for survey sub groups

© 2020 Association for Canadian Studies
All Rights Reserved.

Author: Jack Jedwab.

Created on April 28, 2020.



www.acs-aec.ca