

Report

Has The Vaccine Has Injected Some Optimism Into The COVID Year End Mood Of Most Canadians?

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Vast majority of Canadians looking to 2021 with optimism however most do so cautiously

Given the news about the forthcoming vaccine in looking ahead to 2021 would you say that you're feeling...?									
	Total	Man	Woman	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 plus
TOTAL OPTIMIS- TIC	84%	85%	84%	91%	75%	76%	83%	88%	92%
Very optimistic	15%	15%	14%	14%	12%	12%	12%	18%	19%
Somewhat Optimistic	70%	70%	69%	77%	63%	64%	71%	70%	74%
TOTAL PESSIMIS- TIC	16%	15%	16%	9%	25%	24%	17%	12%	8%
Somewhat pessimistic	10%	9%	11%	6%	16%	15%	12%	8%	5%
Very pessimistic	5%	6%	5%	3%	8%	9%	5%	4%	3%

Quebecers a tad more optimistic than other Canadians

Given the news about the forthcoming vaccine in looking ahead to 2021 would you say that you're feeling...?			
	Total	Quebec	ROC
TOTAL OPTIMISTIC	84%	87%	84%
Very optimistic	15%	15%	15%
Somewhat Optimistic	70%	72%	69%
TOTAL PESSIMISTIC	16%	13%	16%
Somewhat pessimistic	10%	9%	10%
Very pessimistic	5%	4%	6%

The Most Optimistic were most likely to believe we were going to get the vaccine for Christmas

There are numerous vaccines being worked on around the world. When do you think an approved vaccine will be available for general public use in Canada	Given the news about the forthcoming vaccine in looking ahead to 2021 would you say that you're feeling...?			
	Very optimistic	Somewhat Optimistic	Somewhat pessimistic	Very pessimistic
Around Christmas 2020	26.5%	21.5%	13.5%	12.2%
Winter 2021	18.6%	16.3%	15.4%	2.4%
Spring 2021	33.2%	30.1%	18.6%	23.2%
Summer 2021	14.2%	19.9%	17.3%	4.9%
End of 2021	4.9%	7.2%	12.8%	14.6%
2022 or later	1.3%	0.6%	4.5%	2.4%
Never		0.2%	1.9%	9.8%
I don't know	1.3%	4.2%	16.0%	30.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The most optimistic amongst us are most likely to take the vaccine once available

When a vaccine for COVID-19 that had been approved by Health Canada becomes available to the population and it is free, do you intend to get vaccinated?	Given the news about the forthcoming vaccine in looking ahead to 2021 would you say that you're feeling...?			
	Very optimistic	Somewhat Optimistic	Somewhat pessimistic	Very pessimistic
Yes	88.5%	72.2%	25.0%	6.1%
No	4.4%	9.3%	41.0%	81.7%
I don't know	7.0%	18.5%	34.0%	12.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Those who are most optimistic are most likely than others to want the vaccine to be mandatory (although they have no reason to be optimistic that this will be the case)

When an approved COVID-19 vaccine becomes available to the population, do you think it should be...	CTC478: Given the news about the forthcoming vaccine in looking ahead to 2021 would you say that you're feeling...?			
	Very optimistic	Somewhat Optimistic	Somewhat pessimistic	Very pessimistic
Mandatory for all	46.9%	35.2%	8.3%	2.4%
Given on a voluntary basis	49.6%	59.5%	85.4%	84.1%
I don't know	3.5%	5.4%	6.4%	13.4%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The most optimistic for 2021 are most fearful of getting the virus

Are you personally afraid of contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)?	Given the news about the forthcoming vaccine in looking ahead to 2021 would you say that you're feeling...?			
	Very optimistic	Somewhat Optimistic	Somewhat pessimistic	Very pessimistic
Very afraid	27.8%	17.5%	21.8%	8.5%
Somewhat afraid	37.4%	45.4%	28.8%	11.0%
Not very afraid	26.0%	28.9%	21.2%	19.5%
Not afraid at all	6.6%	5.9%	22.4%	52.4%
I already have or have been exposed to the virus	0.4%	0.8%	1.3%	1.2%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	1.8%	1.4%	4.5%	7.3%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The most optimistic for 2021 are most supportive of a lockdown of non-essential businesses

Do you support or oppose a general lockdown in your province, including the closure of all non-essential businesses and services, for the holiday season to tackle the pandemic?	Given the news about the forthcoming vaccine in looking ahead to 2021 would you say that you're feeling ...?			
	Very optimistic	Somewhat Optimistic	Somewhat pessimistic	Very pessimistic
Strongly support	41.9%	29.8%	26.3%	18.3%
Somewhat support	31.7%	39.2%	25.6%	4.9%
Somewhat oppose	11.9%	16.0%	12.8%	13.4%
Strongly oppose	11.0%	9.3%	25.6%	53.7%
I don't know	2.6%	5.5%	7.1%	4.9%
I prefer not to answer	0.9%	0.3%	2.6%	4.9%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Those who are most optimistic for 2021 believe that social distancing and other safety measures will continue

When a vaccine for COVID-19 becomes widely available in Canada, do you expect the safety measures (wearing face masks in public space, keeping a safe distance from other people in public space, disinfecting hands in shops and restaurants)	Given the news about the forthcoming vaccine in looking ahead to 2021 would you say that you're feeling...?			
	Very optimistic	Somewhat Optimistic	Somewhat pessimistic	Very pessimistic
These measures will remain	72.2%	69.0%	60.3%	50.0%
These measures will be discontinued	19.8%	22.1%	24.4%	29.3%
I don't know	7.9%	8.8%	15.4%	20.7%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The most optimistic about 2021 are reporting the best mental health assessments

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, how would you rate your mental health?	Given the news about the forthcoming vaccine in looking ahead to 2021 would you say that you're feeling...?			
	Very optimistic	Somewhat Optimistic	Somewhat pessimistic	Very pessimistic
Excellent	19.9%	8.3%	9.6%	16.0%
Very good	34.1%	22.8%	14.6%	14.8%
Good	33.6%	49.2%	39.5%	25.9%
Bad	10.2%	14.2%	21.7%	22.2%
Very bad	0.9%	2.8%	8.9%	11.1%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	1.3%	2.7%	5.7%	9.9%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

More fitness and better eating dominate 2021 new year's resolutions: women had more resolutions than men

Are the New Year's resolutions you plan to make related to...	Total	Man	Woman
Being more active / improving your fitness level	65%	55%	74%
Improving your eating habits / eating healthier	54%	43%	65%
Losing weight	52%	38%	64%
Improving your finances / saving more money	50%	45%	55%
Improving your mental health	49%	42%	55%
Taking more time for yourself / relaxing more	44%	36%	50%
Spending more time with your friends / family	40%	32%	47%
Improving your sleeping habits	38%	34%	42%
Being more organized	32%	29%	34%
Learning a new skill / hobby	30%	30%	30%
Giving back more (e.g., donating to charity, volunteering, etc.)	21%	19%	23%
Getting a new job / a promotion	20%	20%	21%

METHODOLOGY & NOTES



Web survey using computer-assisted Web interviewing (CAWI) technology.



Data collected from December 11-13, 2020



1,528 Canadians ≥ 18 years, randomly recruited from LEO's online panel.



Using data from the 2016 Census, results are weighted by 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). However for comparative purposes, a probability sample of 1,528 respondents has a margin of error of $\pm 2.51\%$, 19 times out of 20,. The research results presented here are in full compliance with the CRIC Public Opinion Research Standards and Disclosure Requirements.

If you have questions about the data presented in this report, please contact Jack Jedwab, President & CEO of the Association for Canadian Studies at the following e-mail address: jack.jedwab@acs-aec.ca, or Paul Holley, Research Director at the Association for Canadian Studies at paul.holley@acs-aec.ca.