

GETTING VACCINATED AGAINST COVID 19 IN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES: SHOULD RESISTANCE BE FUTILE?

SOCIAL IMPACTS NETWORK-COVID 19

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INTRODUCTION: WHAT WOULD NOT TAKING THE VACCINE IMPLY FOR THE STRATEGY AGAINST COVID 19?

This week, Germany, France, Italy and the Netherlands signed an initial deal with pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca for over 300 million doses of a promising coronavirus vaccine currently still in the experimental phase. According to officials, doses of the vaccine would be distributed to countries relative to their population as soon as it is ready, adding that all EU members can participate in the program. The vaccine is expected to be finished by the end of 2020.

Other countries are also fast tracking a Covid 19 vaccine (s). Surveys in Canada and the United States by Leger Marketing in partnership with the Association for Canadian Studies (see methodology on slide 10) show that majorities in both countries are in agreement that a vaccine against Covid 19 should be mandatory. Yet in both countries a not insignificant minority say they would NOT take the vaccine once it is available. (nearly one in six in Canada and as many as one in four in the US). Will it be possible to avoid taking the vaccine and what would the refusal to do so imply for public health planning?

LESS THAN ONE IN SIX CANADIANS WOULD SAY NO TO THE VIRUS; QUEBECERS AND BRITISH COLUMBIANS MOST LIKELY TO SAY NO TO VACCINE

| | When it becomes available to the population, do you intend to get vaccinated against COVID-19? | | | | | | |
|---|--|------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|
| | Canada | Atl. | QC | ON | MB/SK | AB | BC |
| Yes | 68.3% | 81% | 68% | 67% | 64% | 66% | 69% |
| No | 15.6% | 7% | 18% | 16% | 14% | 14% | 18% |
| I don't know / I prefer not to answer | 16.1% | 12% | 15% | 17% | 22% | 20% | 12% |

TRUST IN PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS IS A DETERMINING FACTOR IN THE DEGREE TO WHICH CANADIANS WILL TAKE THE VACCINATION

| When it becomes available to the population, do you intend to get vaccinated against COVID-19? | Public Health Officials - To what extent do you trust each of the following? | | | |
|--|--|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | Trust a lot | Somewhat trust | Don't trust a lot | Don't trust at all |
| Yes | 86.6% | 66.2% | 42.3% | 30.4% |
| No | 3.5% | 15.5% | 35.0% | 58.9% |
| I don't know / I prefer not to answer | 9.9% | 18.3% | 22.7% | 10.7% |
| Total | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% |

THE MORE ANXIETY PEOPLE HAVE ABOUT CONTRACTING THE VIRUS, THE MORE LIKELY THEY ARE TO TAKE THE VACCINE

| When it becomes available to the population, do you intend to get vaccinated against COVID-19? | Are you personally afraid of contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)? | | | |
|--|--|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| | Very afraid | Somewhat afraid | Not very afraid | Not afraid at all |
| Yes | 83.6% | 69.3% | 68.7% | 51.1% |
| No | 6.0% | 13.4% | 14.5% | 33.0% |
| I don't know / I prefer not to answer | 10.3% | 17.3% | 16.9% | 15.8% |
| Total | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% |

THOSE CANADIANS WHO BELIEVE THERE WILL BE A SECOND WAVE OF THE VIRUS ARE FAR MORE LIKELY TO TAKE THE VACCINE

| When it becomes available to the population, do you intend to get vaccinated against COVID-19? | Do you think there will be a second wave of the virus? | |
|--|--|--------|
| | Yes | No |
| Yes | 73.4% | 46.4% |
| No | 12.5% | 39.9% |
| I don't know / I prefer not to answer | 14.1% | 13.7% |
| Total | 100.0% | 100.0% |

RESISTANCE TO TAKING THE VACCINE IS HIGHER IN THE US THAN IN CANADA WITH NEARLY ONE QUARTER SAYING NO SOUTH OF THE BORDER AND LESS THAN ONE OUT OF SIX IN CANADA

| When it becomes available to the population, do you intend to get vaccinated against COVID-19? | Total Canada | Total United States |
|--|--------------|---------------------|
| Yes | 68.3% | 54.8% |
| No | 15.6% | 23.4% |
| I don't know / I prefer not to answer | 16.1% | 21.7% |
| Total | 100.0% | 100.0% |

SIMILAR TO CANADIANS, TRUST OF PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS BY AMERICANS IS A KEY DETERMINING FACTOR IN READINESS TO TAKE THE VACCINE

| When it becomes available to the population, do you intend to get vaccinated against COVID-19? United States | Public Health Officials - To what extent do you trust each of the following? | | | |
|--|--|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | Trust a lot | Somewhat trust | Don't trust a lot | Don't trust at all |
| Yes | 77.2% | 58.5% | 30.9% | 10.7% |
| No | 9.8% | 19.8% | 36.2% | 69.3% |
| I don't know / I prefer not to answer | 13.0% | 21.6% | 32.9% | 20.0% |
| Total | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% |

MUCH LIKE CANADIANS, THE AMERICANS WHO ARE PERSUADED THERE WILL BE A SECOND WAVE OF THE VIRUS ARE FAR MORE LIKELY TO TAKE THE VACCINE

| When it becomes available to the population, do you intend to get vaccinated against COVID-19? United States | Do you think there will be a second wave of the virus? | |
|--|--|--------|
| | Yes | No |
| Yes | 65.1% | 38.8% |
| No | 15.4% | 44.8% |
| I don't know / I prefer not to answer | 19.5% | 16.4% |
| Total | 100.0% | 100.0% |

METHODOLOGY



METHODOLOGY



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



From June 5th to June 7th, 2020



1,523 Canadians and 1,001 Americans, 18 years of age or older, randomly recruited from LEO's online panel.



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 1,523 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.51\%$, 19 times out of 20, while a probability sample of 1,001 would have a margin of error of $\pm 3.1\%$, 19 times out of 20.

The research results presented here are in full compliance with the CRIC Public Opinion Research Standards and Disclosure Requirements.

COVID 19 SOCIAL IMPACTS NETWORK

- The COVID-19 Social Impacts Network is a multidisciplinary group of some of the country's leading experts to help identify key issues, indicators and socio-demographics to generate evidence-based responses that address the social and economic dimensions of the COVID-19 crisis in Canada.
- Visit <https://acs-aec.ca/en/covid-19-social-impacts-network/>

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