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# PERSONALLY KNOWING SOMEONE THAT DIED FROM COVID-19 BRINGS FRANCOPHONE FEAR OF GETTING THE VIRUS UP TO NORTH AMERICAN LEVELS

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FEBRUARY 4, 2021

# INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

For the better part since the outset of the contagion Quebec's francophones have continually exhibited the lowest percentage in North America fearing they would get COVID-19. There has yet to be a convincing explanation to help us comprehend why this is the case. Some contend that it's higher trust in leadership while others attribute it to culture. A previous survey (January 15-17, 2021) revealed that personally knowing someone that was infected with COVID-19 had not impact on the degree of anxiety about getting COVID-19.

But the latest Leger survey for the Association for Canadian Studies offers a key insight into this persistent gap. In effect, those Quebec francophones that report personally knowing someone that has died from COVID-19 report roughly similar rates of fear of getting the contagion as other Canadians. Moreover those francophones that say it is a family member that died from COVID-19 are above the Canadian average in terms of the fear of contracting COVID-19. Hence it is possible that francophones disproportionately think that the virus is less fatal than do others until they are confronted by it in a manner that affects them most directly.

These findings arise from a survey conducted via web panel by Leger in partnership with the Association for Canadian Studies between January 29 and January 31, 2021 with 1566 Canadians (and in Quebec it is 403 respondents) and while no margin of error can be associated with a non-probability sample, for comparative purposes the national sample would have a margin of error of  $\pm 2.5\%$ , 19 times out of 20.

# QUEBECERS ONLY SLIGHTLY MORE LIKELY THAN ONTARIANS AND ALBERTANS TO REPORT KNOWING SOMEONE PERSONALLY THAT DIED FROM COVID-19

Do you personally know someone who has	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
...been infected with COVID-19? January 15-17, 2021	50%	23%	59%	51%	48%	58%	42%
Died from Covid January 27-29, 2021	17%	1%	21%	20%	14%	19%	13%

# PERSONS OVER 55 SLIGHTLY MORE LIKELY TO KNOW SOMEONE THAT DIED FROM COVID-19

Do you personally know someone who has been infected with COVID-19?					
Do you personally know someone who...	Man	Woman	18-34	35-54	55+
...has been infected with COVID-19? January 15-17, 2021	51%	49%	61%	53%	40%
<b>Died from Covid January 29-31, 2021</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>19%</b>

# WOMEN, PERSONS UNDER 35, QUEBECERS AND ALBERTANS ARE MORE LIKELY TO PERSONALLY KNOW A FAMILY MEMBER RATHER THAN A FRIEND WHO DIED FROM COVID-19

If you personally know someone who died from COVID-19...is/are this/these person(s)...											
	Total	Man	Woman	18-34	35-54	55+	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
A family member	27%	20%	33%	43%	22%	21%	31%	24%	22%	39%	16%
A friend	38%	49%	29%	29%	39%	42%	25%	43%	40%	38%	51%
A coworker	5%	7%	3%	8%	6%	2%	5%	8%	0%	0%	0%
Other	36%	31%	41%	32%	39%	37%	44%	33%	45%	31%	33%

# THOSE WHO PERSONALLY KNOW SOMEONE THAT DIED FROM COVID ARE MORE FEARFUL OF GETTING THE VIRUS THAN THOSE WHO DON'T SOMEONE

Are you personally afraid of contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)? January 29 -31, 2021	Do you personally know someone that died from Covid-19?	
	Yes	No
<b>Total Afraid Canada</b>	<b>65.1</b>	<b>58.6%</b>
Very afraid	26.5%	16.6%
Somewhat afraid	38.6%	42.0%
Not very afraid	25.4%	26.5%
Not afraid at all	5.1%	12.3%
I already have or have been exposed to the virus	2.2%	1.5%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	2.2%	1.0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

WHEN IT COMES TO LEVELS OF FEAR OF GETTING COVID-19, THERE IS LESS OF A GAP BETWEEN FRANCOPHONES AND NON-FRANCOPHONES WHO PERSONALLY KNOW SOMEONE WHO DIED OF COVID-19 THAN THERE IS BETWEEN FRANCOPHONES AND NON-FRANCOPHONES WHO DON'T KNOW SOMEONE WHO DIED OF COVID-19.

Are you personally afraid of contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)? Canada	: Do you personally know someone that died from Covid-19?		Total
	Yes	No	
Total Afraid Francophone	59.7%	41.1%	44.5%
Very afraid	19.3%	8.0%	9.8%
Somewhat afraid	40.4%	33.1%	34.7%
Not very afraid	36.8%	41.1%	39.6%
Not afraid at all	1.8%	14.1%	12.0%
I already have or have been exposed to the virus	1.8%	2.3%	2.1%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer		1.5%	1.8%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Total Afraid Non Francophone	66.9%	63.5%	63.7%
Very afraid	28.8%	19.0%	20.7%
Somewhat afraid	38.1%	44.5%	43.0%
Not very afraid	22.3%	22.5%	22.2%
Not afraid at all	5.6%	11.9%	10.9%
I already have or have been exposed to the virus	2.3%	1.3%	1.5%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	2.8%	0.9%	1.8%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

# FRANCOPHONES THAT PERSONALLY KNOW SOMEONE THAT DIED FROM COVID-19 DISPLAY THE HIGHEST RATE OF FEAR OF GETTING THE CONTAGION

Are you personally afraid of contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)? Canada	If you personally know someone that died from Covid-19 - Is/are this/these person(s)...A family member or a friend	
	A friend	A family member
<b>Total Afraid Francophone</b>	<b>66.7%</b>	<b>72.8%</b>
Very afraid	26.7%	27.3%
Somewhat afraid	40.0%	45.5%
Not very afraid	33.3%	22.7%
Not afraid at all		
I already have or have been exposed to the virus		4.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%
<b>Total Afraid Non-Francophone</b>	<b>69.7%</b>	<b>65.2%</b>
Very afraid	27.0%	34.6%
Somewhat afraid	42.7%	30.8%
Not very afraid	20.2%	23.1%
Not afraid at all	7.9%	5.8%
I already have or have been exposed to the virus	1.1%	5.8%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	1.1%	
Total	100.0%	100.0%



# KNOWING SOMEONE PERSONALLY WITH COVID-19 HAS NOT CONTRIBUTED TO MORE FEAR OF GETTING THE VIRUS THAN IS THE CASE FOR PEOPLE SAYING THAT THEY DON'T PERSONALLY KNOW SOMEONE THAT GOT IT

Are you personally afraid of contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)? January 15-17, 2021	Do you personally know someone who has been infected with COVID-19?	
	Yes	No
<b>Total Afraid</b>	<b>57.4%</b>	<b>61.7%</b>
Very afraid	16.7%	15.5%
Somewhat afraid	40.7%	46.2%
Not very afraid	28.2%	28.3%
Not afraid at all	10.0%	8.9%
I already have or have been exposed to the virus	3.3%	.4%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	1.1%	.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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Created on February 4, 2021



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