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# MAJORITY OF QUEBECERS THINK IT WILL BE AT LEAST TWO YEARS BEFORE THE CRISIS PASSES AND THINGS RETURN TO 'NORMAL'

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# INTRODUCTION: QUEBEC FRANCOPHONES SOMEWHAT MORE OPTIMISTIC THAN NON-FRANCOPHONES ABOUT TIME LINE FOR RETURNING TO 'NORMAL'

One in two Quebecers now think it will be two years before things return to something closer to life before COVID-19 (January 29-31, 2021) This contrasts with earlier projections when in mid December 2020 (prior to the holidays) when the vast majority of Quebecers seemed optimistic about 2021 owing to positive forecasts about the vaccine roll out. Yet earlier projections of a perceived return to relative normalcy by the middle of 2021 now seem less likely to correspond to the public's forecast. In July 2020 a majority of Quebecers thought a resumption of normal activities would occur in one year or less. It is worth noting that a January 15-17, 2021 survey found that 62% of Quebecers were "upset that you don't know when the COVID-19 crisis will end." That figure was the highest for any region in Canada.

The data collected above are based on four surveys by Leger for the Association for Canadian Studies with the most recent survey of January 29-31, 2021 conducted with 1559 Canadians 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.

# QUEBEC FRANCOPHONES LESS PESSIMISTIC THAN NON-FRANCOPHONES AROUND RETURN TO 'NORMAL'

How long do you think it will take before the COVID-19 crisis pass and things return to something closer to life before COVID-19? Quebec	Total	Francophone	Non-Francophone
One year	25%	28%	15%
Two Years	52%	52%	50%
Five Years or more	17%	15%	24%
I don't know	6%	5%	11%
Total	100%	100%	100%

# HIGHER INCOME QUEBECERS ARE MORE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT TIME LINE FOR RETURN TO 'NORMAL'

How long do you think it will take before the COVID-19 crisis pass and things return to something closer to life before COVID-19	\$59,999 or less	\$60,000 and more
One year	19%	30%
Two Years	51%	53%
Five Years or more	23%	13%
I don't know	7%	4%
Total	100	100

# THREE IN FOUR QUEBECERS UNDER THE AGE OF 45 BELIEVE IT WILL BE AT LEAST TWO YEARS BEFORE RETURN TO NORMAL

How long do you think it will take before the COVID-19 crisis pass and things return to something closer to life before COVID-19?	18-44	45 years and over
One year	19%	30%
Two Years	54%	49%
Five Years or more	20%	15%
I don't know	7%	6%

# IN MID DECEMBER CANADIANS WERE RELATIVELY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT 2021 IN LIGHT OF POSITIVE NEWS ABOUT VACCINE ROLL OUT

Given the news about the forthcoming vaccine in looking ahead to 2021 would you say that you're feeling...?						
December 11-13, 2020	Total	Quebec	ROC	French	English	Other
<b>TOTAL OPTIMISTIC</b>	84%	87%	84%	86%	84%	83%
Very optimistic	15%	15%	15%	15%	15%	14%
Somewhat Optimistic	70%	72%	69%	72%	69%	68%
<b>TOTAL PESSIMISTIC</b>	16%	13%	16%	14%	16%	17%
Somewhat pessimistic	10%	9%	10%	10%	10%	13%
Very pessimistic	5%	4%	6%	4%	6%	4%

# LAST JULY MANY QUEBECERS WERE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT RETURN OF KEY ACTIVITIES IN LESS THAN A YEAR

At what point do you expect to resume doing the activities below:

Quebec July 3-5, 2021	Attend a wedding or a funeral	Hug or shake hands when greeting a friend	Attend a sporting event, concert, or play	Quebec Cumulative Average for return to selected activities	Rest of Canada Cumulative Average for return to selected activities
Up to 12 months	47	69	44	53	50
1 year or more	53	32	56	47	50

# MAJORITY OF CANADIANS UPSET THAT THEY DON'T KNOW WHEN THE COVID-19 CRISIS WILL END WITH QUEBECERS MOST LIKELY TO FEEL THAT WAY

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis have you felt more often, about the same or less often...	Canada	ATL	QC	ONT	MB/SK	AB	BC
Upset that you don't know when the COVID-19 crisis will end	55%	47%	62%	57%	48%	48%	54%



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