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# CANADIAN OPINION ON THE CORONAVIRUS – N°22: COVID-19 AND THE PERCEPTIONS OF ENGLISH- SPEAKING QUEBECERS

QUEBEC COMMUNITY GROUPS NETWORK  
AND THE ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN STUDIES

MAY 11, 2020

# METHODOLOGY

The Quebec Community Groups Network and the Association for Canadian Studies commissioned the firm Léger Marketing to conduct a Web survey using computer-assisted Web interviewing (CAWI) technology. The survey was conducted from May 1 to May 6, 2020, some 1638 Quebecers 18 years of age or older, randomly recruited from LEO's online panel. (The survey included the largest sample of English-speaking Quebecers conducted to date with 694 respondents).

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 1515 respondents would have a margin of error of  $\pm 2.52\%$ , 19 times out of 20, while a probability sample of 1,012 would have a margin of error of  $\pm 3.08\%$ , 19 times out of 20.

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

# QUEBEC ALLOPHONES AND ANGLOPHONES FAR ARE MORE AFRAID OF GETTING THE VIRUS THAN QUEBEC FRANCOPHONES

Are you personally afraid of contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)?									
	Total	Francophone	Anglophone	Allophone	Mtl RMR	Qc RMR	Est	Centre	Ouest
<b>TOTAL AFRAID</b>	52%	47%	68%	71%	58%	37%	51%	41%	51%
Very afraid	14%	11%	21%	24%	17%	4%	11%	11%	14%
Somewhat afraid	38%	36%	47%	46%	42%	33%	40%	31%	37%
<b>TOTAL NOT AFRAID</b>	46%	52%	31%	25%	39%	63%	49%	56%	48%
Not very afraid	38%	42%	25%	22%	32%	46%	46%	41%	42%
Not afraid at all	9%	10%	6%	3%	7%	17%	3%	15%	6%
I already have or have been exposed to the virus	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	1%	1%	0%	3%	1%	0%	0%	3%	1%

# ANGLOPHONES AND ALLOPHONES MORE LIKELY TO BE AFRAID OF AN IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER GETTING THE VIRUS

Are you afraid that someone in your immediate family will be contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)?									
	Total	Francophone	Anglophone	Allophone	Mtl RMR	Qc RMR	Est	Centre	Ouest
<b>TOTAL AFRAID</b>	63%	<b>59%</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>47%</b>	64%	<b>56%</b>	63%
Very afraid	22%	<b>18%</b>	26%	<b>42%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>11%</b>	20%	20%	<b>16%</b>
Somewhat afraid	41%	41%	<b>50%</b>	35%	41%	35%	44%	36%	47%
<b>TOTAL NOT AFRAID</b>	35%	<b>39%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>53%</b>	33%	<b>42%</b>	37%
Not very afraid	29%	<b>32%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>43%</b>	31%	30%	32%
Not afraid at all	6%	<b>6%</b>	<b>3%</b>	3%	<b>4%</b>	<b>11%</b>	2%	<b>12%</b>	5%
I already have or have been exposed to the virus	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	<b>2%</b>	0%	0%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	1%	1%	1%	3%	2%	0%	0%	2%	0%

# MONTREAL ANGLOPHONES MOST AFRAID OF PERSONALLY CONTRACTING COVID 19

Montreal Region				
TOTAL AFRAID	Total	Francophone	Anglophone	Allophone
Are you personally afraid of contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)	57.7	49.6%	72%	65.5%
Are you afraid that someone in your immediate family will be contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)?	68.4%	59.8%	71.5%	72.8%

# AMONGST OTHER PROVINCIAL ENGLISH SPEAKING POPULATIONS QUEBEC ANGLOPHONES DISPLAY THE HIGHEST RATE OF FEAR IN CANADA OF CONTRACTING COVID 19

Are you personally afraid of contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) ANGLOPHONES ONLY	Canada	British Columbia	Alberta	Prairies	Ontario	Quebec	Maritimes
Very afraid	15.2%	11.7%	14.1%	7.6%	16.0%	24.4%	21.8%
Somewhat afraid	41.8%	35.2%	44.5%	45.6%	43.7%	48.8%	33.3%
Not very afraid	29.5%	41.4%	22.7%	36.7%	27.3%	14.6%	29.9%
Not afraid at all	12.1%	11.7%	14.8%	8.9%	11.9%	7.3%	14.9%
I already have or have been exposed to the virus	0.4%				0.5%	4.9%	
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	1.0%		3.9%	1.3%	0.7%		
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

# ALLOPHONES AND ANGLOPHONES ARE FAR MORE LIKELY THAN FRANCOPHONES TO SAY THEY KNOW SOMEONE THAT HAS COVID-19

Do you personally know someone who has received a diagnosis that they actually have the virus?				
	Total	Francophone	Anglophone	Allophone
<b>TOTAL YES</b>	25%	21%	34%	43%
Yes – someone who lives in my home	1%	1%	1%	2%
Yes – a friend or family member who does not live with me	11%	9%	16%	23%
Yes – an acquaintance	14%	12%	19%	19%
<b>No</b>	75%	79%	65%	57%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	0%	0%	1%	0%

# ALLOPHONES AND ANGLOPHONES FAR MORE LIKELY TO WEAR A PROTECTIVE MASK IN PUBLIC AREAS THAN FRANCOPHONES

Wear a protective mask in public areas - In the past week, have you done any of the following:				
	Total	Francophone	Anglophone	Allophone
Yes	29%	24%	45%	49%
No	71%	76%	55%	51%



# ANGLOPHONES AND ALLOPHONES MORE LIKELY TO WANT TO SLOW DOWN THE RETURN TO NORMAL ACTIVITIES THAN ARE FRANCOPHONES

Do you feel that your provincial government should accelerate, maintain, or slow down the pace at which it is relaxing social distancing/self-isolation measures to allow a gradual return to normal activities?

	Total	Francophone	Anglophone	Allophone
Accelerate the pace	8%	8%	8%	9%
Maintain the pace	57%	61%	44%	46%
Slow down the pace	35%	31%	47%	45%



# QUEBEC ANGLOPHONES AND THE ROQ (REST OF QUEBEC)

# ANGLOPHONES IN THE REST OF QUEBEC OUTSIDE OF MONTREAL EXPRESS ANXIETY LEVELS SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN FRANCOPHONES AND OTHER ANGLOPHONES

Mother Tongue (StatsCan) % Somewhat or Very Afraid		Montreal				Quebec Regions		
		Total	English	French	Non-official	Total	English	French
Are you personally afraid of contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)?	%	<b>64%</b>	<b>71%</b>	50%	<b>71%</b>	46%	<b>59%</b>	42%
	Sample	1017	533	350	134	595	125	457
Are you afraid that someone in your immediate family will be contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)?	%	<b>74%</b>	<b>79%</b>	66%	<b>80%</b>	60%	<b>71%</b>	57%
	Sample	1018	531	351	136	595	127	455

ANGLOPHONES IN THE REST OF QUEBEC A BIT MORE FAVORABLE TO RELAXING SOCIAL DISTANCING AND SELF ISOLATION THAN ANGLOPHONES IN MONTREAL BUT BOTH DIFFER WITH FRANCOPHONES IN THE DEGREE TO WHICH THEY WANT TO MAINTAIN THE CURRENT PACE

Mother Tongue (StatsCan) % Somewhat or Very Afraid		Montreal				Quebec Regions		
		Total	English	French	Non-official	Total	English	French
Do you feel that your Provincial government should accelerate, maintain, or slow down the pace at which it is relaxing social distancing / self-isolation measures to allow a gradual return to normal activities?	Accelerate	8%	7%	9%	9%	8%	<b>13%</b>	7%
	Maintain	48%	43%	<b>57%</b>	48%	<b>60%</b>	44%	<b>64%</b>
	Slow down	<b>44%</b>	<b>50%</b>	34%	43%	32%	<b>43%</b>	29%
Do you feel that your Federal government should accelerate, maintain, or slow down the pace at which it is relaxing social distancing / self-isolation measures to allow a gradual return to normal activities?	Accelerate	10%	8%	13%	14%	<b>15%</b>	13%	15%
	Maintain	61%	62%	63%	54%	64%	56%	<b>67%</b>
	Slow down	<b>29%</b>	31%	24%	<b>32%</b>	21%	<b>31%</b>	18%



# SATISFACTION WITH COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO FIGHT COVID-19

# VERY FEW QUEBECERS ARE DISSATISFIED WITH THE WORK OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS IN FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

Your Community Organization - To this day, are you satisfied or not with the measures put in place to fight the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic by the following?				
	Total	Francophone	Anglophone	Allophone
<b>TOTAL SATISFIED</b>	53%	53%	54%	53%
Very satisfied	14%	14%	<b>18%</b>	11%
Somewhat satisfied	39%	39%	36%	42%
<b>TOTAL DISSATISFIED</b>	7%	<b>5%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>12%</b>
Somewhat dissatisfied	5%	<b>4%</b>	6%	<b>8%</b>
Very dissatisfied	2%	<b>1%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>I don't know / I prefer not to answer</b>	40%	<b>42%</b>	36%	35%

# ANGLOPHONES GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO FIGHT COVID-19

To this day, are you satisfied or not with the measures put in place to fight the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic by the following?

TOTAL SATISFIED	Total	Francophone	Anglophone	Allophone
Public Health Agencies	85%	86%	81%	78%
Your local or municipal government	69%	69%	70%	71%
Your provincial government	87%	91%	74%	74%
Your federal government	74%	72%	85%	81%

# FRANCOPHONES MORE LIKELY TO FEEL DISSATISFIED THAT GOVTS DID NOT ACT QUICKLY ENOUGH WHILE ANGLOPHONES AND ALLOPHONES ARE MORE DISSATISFIED THAT DE-CONFINEMENT IS HAPPENING TOO QUICKLY

If you said you were dissatisfied with government action on COVID-19 tell us about the source of the dissatisfaction	Total	Francophone	Anglophone	Allophone
Government could have acted sooner in closing borders/airlines	17%	22%	6%	0%
Government took precaution measures too late / didn't act fast enough	17%	20%	6%	10%
Lack of leadership	15%	17%	14%	5%
Negative impacts on the economy (depression, recession, government debt, etc.)	14%	16%	3%	10%
Concerned for reopening (too fast/early)	9%	6%	15%	22%
Lack of support / not done enough / not enough resources made available	7%	8%	7%	5%
Concern of reopening of schools	7%	4%	17%	14%
Lack/poor information	6%	6%	9%	8%
Changes in senior health care are needed	6%	5%	7%	14%
Need stricter measures (mandatory masks, not enough safety measures, etc.)	4%	2%	4%	12%





# VOLUNTEERING AND CHARITABLE GIVING



# ANGLOPHONES SOMEWHAT MORE LIKELY TO VOLUNTEER OR DONATE TO CHARITY IN THE PAST WEEK

In the last week, have you...				
	Total	Francophone	Anglophone	Allophone
<b>Volunteered for a charity</b>	3%	3%	7%	2%
<b>Donated money to a charity</b>	13%	11%	22%	19%

# HEALTH AND LOCAL COMMUNITY SERVICES ARE MAIN AREAS THAT SECURED TIME OR MONEY FROM CHARITABLE GIVERS

In what sector does the charity to which you have donated time or money operate? More than one option may apply				
	Total	Francophone	Anglophone	Allophone
Health	32%	28%	29%	48%
Local community services	29%	30%	33%	23%
Fighting poverty and social exclusion	23%	23%	19%	27%
International aid	13%	11%	14%	18%
Animal welfare	13%	11%	11%	23%
Emergency assistance	11%	14%	10%	2%
Children and youth	11%	13%	7%	9%

# 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/>

For more information and to join the Network's Wednesday 4 p.m. weekly call please contact [gillian.aitken@acs-aec.ca](mailto:gillian.aitken@acs-aec.ca)