



THE STATE OF THE CAMPAIGN TO BOOST
CANADIANS AND THE REASONS FOR BOOSTER
HESITANCY:

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JANUARY 2022

INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

As the Omicron variant has produced a vast surge in cases affecting both vaccinated and unvaccinated Canadians, public health officials have increasingly called upon Canadians to receive a booster shot. At present, nearly four in ten Canadians aged 5 and over have received a booster shot, while the percentage of Canadians that are receiving the booster shot has emerged as a key metric in the ongoing battle against Covid 19. The continuing campaign has led some governments to consider eventually making the booster part of a future vaccine passport. The Association for Canadian Studies in partnership with Leger Marketing asked Canadians that are double vaccinated whether they intended to receive the booster shot. The survey reveals that some 27% of Canadians over the age of 18 are reticent to do so, with 14% saying they will not get the booster and another 13% saying they are still unsure. Amongst those Canadians with two vaccine doses who say they will not receive a booster (i.e., the booster hesitant), the major reason they cite is that they do not feel the vaccine is effective. ACS-Leger will continue to track the evolution of the vaccine booster campaign in the coming months to monitor the evolution of public opinion in this regard.

The findings arise from a survey conducted via web panel by Leger for the Association for Canadian Studies between January 7 and 9, 2022 with 1547 Canadians 18 years of age or older, and has a probabilistic margin of error of $\pm 2.9\%$ 19 times out of 20.

OVER ONE IN FOUR CANADIANS THAT HAVE RECEIVED TWO VACCINE DOSES SAY THEY WILL NOT RECEIVE A BOOSTER; MALES AND PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 35 SAY THEY ARE LEAST LIKELY TO DO SO

Now that booster shots are becoming available for adults age 18 and over, do you intend to get a booster shot?

	Total	Man	Woman	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 +
Yes	73%	69%	77%	66%	62%	73%	77%	83%	89%
No	14%	16%	13%	21%	19%	14%	11%	8%	8%
I don't know	13%	15%	10%	13%	19%	14%	13%	9%	3%

ALBERTANS ARE THE LEAST LIKELY TO SAY THEY WILL GET THE BOOSTER, WHILE BRITISH COLUMBIANS ARE MOST LIKELY TO DO SO; THE COUNTRY'S ETHNIC MINORITIES (OTHER LANGUAGES) ARE MOST LIKELY TO SAY THEY WILL GET THE BOOSTER

Now that booster shots are becoming available for adults age 18 and over, do you intend to get a booster shot?

	Total	French	English	Others	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
Yes	73%	70%	73%	82%	74%	75%	69%	65%	60%	85%
No	14%	16%	15%	11%	10%	13%	16%	21%	25%	7%
I don't know	13%	15%	13%	8%	16%	13%	15%	14%	14%	7%

AMONGST THOSE DOUBLE VACCINATED CANADIANS SAYING THAT THEY WON'T RECEIVE THE BOOSTER, ONE IN FOUR NO LONGER BELIEVE IN THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE VACCINE, WHILE SOME ONE IN SEVEN FEEL THEY'VE HAD ENOUGH

Persons that have received two vaccines	Why do you not intend to get a booster shot?
I don't believe it will work / no evidence of effectiveness yet	25.5%
I had enough / two shots are enough	14.3%
I don't need it / it is unnecessary	10.2%
I don't want to	9.2%
I am afraid of adverse side effects	8.2%
I don't see the point / it is absurd	8.2%
I will get it later	4.1%
I am healthy enough / we need to build our immune system	4.1%
I don't trust the government / the government is giving conflicting information	4.1%

VACCINES (WITH MULTIPLE BOOSTER SHOTS) CAN PROVIDE PROTECTION FROM COVID-19, BUT A PERSON ALSO DEVELOPS IMMUNITY WHEN THEY ACTUALLY CONTRACT THE VIRUS. HOW EFFECTIVE DO YOU BELIEVE EACH APPROACH TO BE?

		Visible minority	Not a minority	BC	AB	SK/MN	ON	QC	ATL	18-34	35-54	55+
Getting vaccinated	Very effective	41.3%	40.9%	49.3%	43.9%	31.7%	37.9%	39.1%	44.3%	34.4%	35.6%	48.9%
	Somewhat effective	46.7%	39.5%	35.4%	35.8%	39.6%	44.4%	41.6%	34.0%	40.8%	41.5%	39.4%
	TOTAL Effective	88.0%	80.5%	84.7%	79.8%	71.3%	82.3%	80.7%	78.3%	75.2%	77.1%	88.3%
	Not very effective	3.7%	8.8%	7.7%	8.1%	8.9%	7.4%	8.8%	10.4%	11.8%	9.2%	4.7%
	Not at all effective	5%	6.2%	4.3%	7.5%	13.9%	5.7%	4.1%	7.5%	7.1%	7.6%	4.0%
	TOTAL Not effective	8.7%	15.0%	12.0%	15.6%	22.8%	13.1%	12.9%	17.9%	18.9%	16.8%	8.7%
	I don't know	8%	4.5%	3.3%	4.6%	5.9%	4.5%	6.3%	3.8%	5.9%	6.1%	3.0%
Contracting COVID-19 and recovering	Very effective	28.8%	21.7%	23.8%	27.6%	18.8%	21.7%	20.1%	28.3%	26.0%	25.5%	17.7%
	Somewhat effective	42.4%	47.9%	42.9%	37.9%	41.6%	47.5%	52.1%	46.2%	46.1%	41.3%	51.0%
	TOTAL Effective	71.2%	69.6%	66.7%	65.5%	60.4%	69.2%	72.2%	74.5%	72.1%	66.8%	68.7%
	Not very effective	16.5%	15.2%	17.1%	12.1%	19.8%	15.5%	15.2%	12.3%	13.0%	16.2%	16.1%
	Not at all effective	3.7%	3.6%	5.7%	8.0%	6.9%	2.9%	2.8%	0.9%	4.4%	5.4%	2.3%
	TOTAL Not effective	20.2%	18.8%	22.9%	20.1%	26.7%	18.4%	17.9%	13.2%	17.4%	21.6%	18.4%
I don't know	8.6%	11.6%	10.5%	14.4%	12.9%	12.5%	9.9%	12.3%	10.5%	11.6%	12.9%	

VACCINES (WITH MULTIPLE BOOSTER SHOTS) CAN PROVIDE PROTECTION FROM COVID-19, BUT A PERSON ALSO DEVELOPS IMMUNITY WHEN THEY ACTUALLY CONTRACT THE VIRUS. HOW EFFECTIVE DO YOU BELIEVE EACH APPROACH TO BE?

		Two doses and a booster shot	Two doses	Not vaccinated
Getting vaccinated	Very effective	56.4%	31.5%	2.1%
	Somewhat effective	38.2%	47.3%	18.8%
	TOTAL Effective	94.6%	78.8%	20.8%
	Not very effective	1.4%	11.6%	26.0%
	Not at all effective	1.1%	3.9%	42.7%
	TOTAL Not effective	2.5%	15.5%	68.8%
	I don't know	2.8%	5.8%	10.4%
Contracting COVID-19 and recovering	Very effective	19.6%	23.4%	32.3%
	Somewhat effective	48.0%	47.3%	37.5%
	TOTAL Effective	67.6%	70.7%	69.8%
	Not very effective	17.2%	14.0%	12.5%
	Not at all effective	3.2%	3.5%	9.4%
	TOTAL Not effective	20.4%	17.5%	21.9%
	I don't know	12.0%	11.8%	8.3%