
ANATOMY OF THE VACCINE HESITANT IN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES

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INTRODUCTION: WHICH CANADIANS AND AMERICANS WERE MOST HESITANT ABOUT GETTING VACCINATED

National Immunization Awareness Week (NIAW) is an annual event held in the last week of April to highlight and recognize the importance of immunization. To mark the week we've compiled data on a number of issues around vaccination arising from the pandemic as it affected Canadians and Americans, In this segment we look at the extent to which vaccinated Canadians and Americans were initially hesitant about getting vaccinated and focus in particular in hesitancy on the basis of ethnic, racial and religious identification in the two countries. Here are the highlights:

- **Canadians were much less hesitant about getting vaccinated than Americans**
- **Canadians and Americans of Latin American/Hispanic origins and persons identifying as Black were most hesitant to get vaccinated**
- **On the basis of religious identification it was Jews and Muslims in Canada that were most hesitant about getting vaccinated while in the United States it was Muslims and Catholics that were the most hesitant**

The findings arise from a survey conducted via web panel by Leger for the Association for Canadian Studies and the University of Manitoba during the middle of March 2022 with 2939 Canadians and 3734 Americans 18 years of age or older. A margin of error cannot be assigned because internet-based polls are not considered random.

CANADIANS WERE MUCH LESS HESITANT ABOUT GETTING VACCINATED THAN AMERICANS

Thinking back to when you got your first vaccine, would you describe yourself as very hesitant, somewhat hesitant or not at all hesitant?			
			Total Hesitant
Canada	Very hesitant	11.9%	34.3%
	Somewhat hesitant	22.4%	
	Not at all hesitant	64.5%	
	I don't know / I don't recall	1.2%	
		100.0%	
United States	Very hesitant	17.2%	43.5%
	Somewhat hesitant	26.3%	
	Not at all hesitant	53.5%	
	I don't know / I don't recall	3.1%	
		100.0%	

CANADIANS OF LATIN AMERICAN AND BLACK ORIGINS WERE INITIALLY MOST HESITANT TO GET VACCINATED

Canada	Thinking back to when you got your first vaccine, would you describe yourself as very hesitant, somewhat hesitant or not at all hesitant?						
	White	First Nations	Latin American (Mexican, Chilean, Costa Rican, etc.)	Black (African, African- American, etc.)	South Asian (Indian, Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.)	Chinese	Filipino
Total Hesitant	35.3%	42.2%	60%	50%	41.6%	34.2%	36%
Very hesitant	12.6%	23.3%	14.9%	19.3%	8.3%	6.7%	4.9%
Somewhat hesitant	22.7%	18.9%	45.1%	30.7%	33.3%	27.5%	34.1%
Not at all hesitant	63.8%	57.2%	38.8%	45.5%	55.0%	64.2%	61.0%
I don't know / I don't recall	0.9%	0.6%	1.2%	4.5%	3.3%	1.7%	
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

SIMILARLY IN THE UNITED STATES IT WAS BLACK AND HISPANIC AMERICANS THAT WERE MOST HESITANT ABOUT BEING VACCINATED

Thinking back to when you got your first vaccine, would you describe yourself as very hesitant, somewhat hesitant or not at all hesitant?					
United States	American Indian, Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian	Asian or Asian-American	Black or African-American	White or Caucasian	Hispanic
Total Hesitant	47.6%	35.6%	58.5%	41.5%	58%
Very hesitant	19.0%	7.9%	28.5%	16.1%	31.2%
Somewhat hesitant	28.6%	27.7%	30.0%	25.4%	26.8%
Not at all hesitant	47.6%	59.2%	37.6%	55.9%	37.9%
I don't know / I don't recall	4.8%	5.2%	3.9%	2.6%	4.1%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

ON THE BASIS OF RELIGIOUS IDENTITIES, IT WAS JEWS AND MUSLIMS THAT WERE MOST HESITANT WHEN IT CAME TO VACCINATION

Thinking back to when you got your first vaccine, would you describe yourself as very hesitant, somewhat hesitant or not at all hesitant?					
Canada	Protestantism	Catholicism	Muslim (Islam)	Jewish (Judaism)	No religion or Agnostic
Total Hesitant	28.3%	33.6%	44.6%	51.2%	30.6%
Very hesitant	10.1%	11.8%	13.5%	14.0%	11.7%
Somewhat hesitant	18.2%	21.8%	31.1%	37.2%	19.9%
Not at all hesitant	71.0%	65.4%	52.7%	48.8%	67.4%
I don't know / I don't recall	0.7%	1.0%	2.7%		1.0%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

IN THE UNITED STATES, MUSLIMS AND CATHOLICS WERE INITIALLY MOST HESITANT TO GET VACCINATED

Thinking back to when you got your first vaccine, would you describe yourself as very hesitant, somewhat hesitant or not at all hesitant?						
United States	Protestantism	Catholicism	Muslim (Islam)	Jewish (Judaism)	No religion or Agnostic	Total
Total Hesitant	33.3%	48.1%	64%	43.3%	38.9%	43.5%
Very hesitant	11.6%	19.6%	34.0%	25.0%	12.7%	17.2%
Somewhat hesitant	21.7%	28.5%	30.0%	18.3%	26.2%	26.3%
Not at all hesitant	63.7%	49.3%	36.0%	55.8%	56.5%	53.4%
I don't know / I don't recall	3.1%	2.7%		0.8%	4.5%	3.1%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

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