



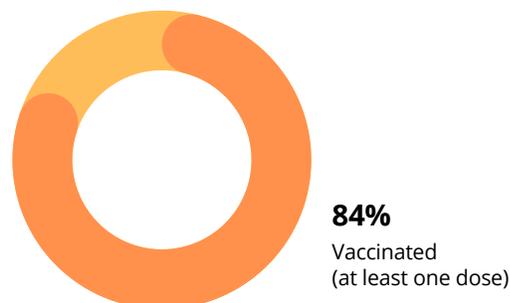
Research findings: Summary brief

April 5, 2022

Survey data from the 4th wave (Feb. to March 2022) of the *Study on socioeconomic and health impacts of COVID-19*, conducted by the Association for Canadian Studies and the Metropolis Institute, in collaboration with the University of Manitoba and Leger.

HEADLINE FINDINGS

- Over 84% of people across all ethnicities have been vaccinated (at least one dose).
 - Vaccination rates are slightly lower among Indigenous Peoples compared to other groups.
 - Arabic, Black and Latin American respondents are behind in getting booster shots; while White and Chinese respondents are ahead.
- On average, **Arabic** respondents are more likely to believe some COVID-19 myths and get their information from social media. They also report generally lower trust in institutions.
- On average, **Black** respondents are more likely to have been initially hesitant towards the vaccines, to remain hesitant towards boosters, and to be skeptical towards mandatory and children's vaccination. They also report generally lower trust in institutions.
- On average, **Asian** respondents are more likely to support vaccination, whether boosters, mandatory vaccination, or children's vaccination. They are also more likely to report trust in government and scientists.
- On average, **Latin American** respondents are more likely to be split: while many are behind in getting their booster shots and were initially hesitant, most support mandatory vaccination and children's vaccination.
- Scientists, the WHO and public health officials are generally trusted across all groups. The media, the police, people in general, immigrants, and religious leaders are not.



DETAILED FINDINGS

- **Non-vaccinated:** The majority of people who had not yet been vaccinated at all said they had no intention of being so. This attitude was most common among White, Indigenous and Black people. The two major reasons for not getting vaccinated, which cut across the three groups (above) were: "I do not think the vaccines are safe and could potentially be harmful to my health" (44%) and "I do not believe the vaccines are effective against COVID-19" (20%).



- A minority of respondents who had not been vaccinated cited lack of access or opportunity. This group was more likely to be White or Indigenous, have low household income, and low education. It is worth noting, however, that this group was also more likely to be better informed than non-vaccinated people citing other reasons (eg safety or religious concerns). They were less likely to answer “True” to false or misleading statements, and more likely to answer “False” or “I don’t know”.
- While the number of respondents was small, this does suggest that lack of access and lack of accurate information are different, if overlapping, issues.
- **Initial vaccine hesitancy** was higher among minorities, especially Arabic, Black and Latin American people, followed by South Asian and Indigenous Peoples.
- **Boosters:** Black Canadians were much more likely to be hesitant about getting a booster dose (only 36.0% answered “Yes” to the question “Do you think it is necessary to get a third booster vaccine?”), followed by Arab Canadians (45%), Latin American Canadians (50%) and Indigenous Peoples (51.5%). On the contrary, Asians were more likely to highly approve of boosters.
- The most **common vaccine myths** are:

“Researchers rushed the development of the COVID-19 vaccine, so its effectiveness and safety cannot be trusted”.

“The side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine are dangerous”.

“The messenger RNA technology used to make the COVID-19 vaccine is brand new”.

“Now that we have a vaccine for COVID-19, we can make vaccines for the common cold, HIV and other diseases”.

- Arabic respondents are more likely to believe some COVID-19 myths than other groups.
- **Mandatory vaccination:** Asian and Latin American respondents are mostly in favour of mandatory vaccination; Arabic, Indigenous and White respondents are evenly split. Black respondents are also evenly split, but less likely to support mandatory vaccination.
- **Children’s vaccination:** Except for Arabic and Black respondents, other groups largely favour vaccination for children (aged 5 to 11, and 12 to 17). Support is highest among Asians (South Asian, Chinese and other Asian).



- **News source:** A majority in all ethnic groups said they got their information from social media, especially South Asian, Arabic and Black respondents. [Please note: this survey listed mainstream, open social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, TikTok, and Other). Future surveys will go further in including closed platforms such as Whatsapp, Telegram, Signal etc.]
- **Interactions of vaccinated people with the unvaccinated:** A majority across all groups believed that people that refuse to get vaccinated are putting others at risk.
 - Asian respondents are less likely to invite a friend or family member they knew was unvaccinated, or to accept an invitation from them.
 - South Asian, Arabic and Latin American respondents were more likely to argue with non-vaccinated people about their vaccination status.
- **Trust in institutions** such as media, police, people in generation, immigrants and religious leaders is relatively low across all ethnicities. Trust in government is lower among Indigenous, Arabic, White and Black respondents, but high among Asians.