

COVID-19 ONTARIO POLL

PREPARED BY FORUM RESEARCH



December 17th, 2021

MEDIA INQUIRIES

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INTRODUCTION

METHODOLOGY

The Forum Poll™, conducted by Forum Research, was based on a computer-assisted web survey of 1,001 residents in Ontario aged 18 years and above, recruited from the Forum Poll Panel.

The poll was conducted on December 14th, 2021. The average length of the survey was 4 minutes.

The Forum Poll Panel is a randomly recruited panel of Canadians. Its total sample results are accurate 19 times out of 20 (+/- 3 percentage points), while its subsample results are considered less accurate.

Where appropriate, the data has been statistically weighted by age, region, and other variables to ensure that the sample reflects the actual population according to the latest Census data.

INTERPRETING THIS REPORT

TOP2 / BTM2

Top 2 (TOP2) and Bottom 2 (BTM2) reference the collected TOP2 positive and BTM2 negative responses, respectively where applicable. For example, a TOP2 grouping referred to as “agree” may be the combined result of “strongly agree” and “somewhat agree,” where a grouping of “disagree” (BTM2) may be the combined result of “somewhat disagree” and “strongly disagree.”

Rounding

Due to rounding, numbers presented throughout this document may not add up to the totals provided. For example, in some cases, the sum of all question values may add up to 101% instead of 100%. Similar logic applies to TOP2 and BTM2 groupings.

Significance Testing

Throughout the report, statistically significant differences (at the 95% confidence level) between demographic segments have been stated under the related finding in the right text boxes. It is important to point out that, statistical differences exist only between the segments mentioned in the notes.

KEY INSIGHTS

TOP FINDINGS

With the Omicron variant of COVID-19 becoming an increasing concern, around 4 in 5 Ontario residents say they are likely to get a third vaccine dose to protect themselves against it.

- Those who are likely to receive a third vaccine dose are more likely to be older (65+: TOP2: 93%), earn more than \$100K (TOP2: 85%) and be concerned with the Omicron variant (TOP2: 85%)
- In the contrary, those who say they are not likely to get it tend to be younger (18-24: BTM2: 15%; 25-34: BTM2: 13%) and not be concerned with the Omicron variant (BTM2: 34%)

When it comes to plans for this holiday season, residents say they are limiting the people they celebrate with.

- Around 5 in 10 (51%) will be celebrating with only their immediate household. 4 in 10 (42%) will be celebrating with their household and members of their extended family, while 1 in 10 (7%) will be celebrating without any restrictions.
- Also, those who are concerned with the Omicron variant are most likely to gather with only their immediate household (TOP2: 81%)
- When thinking about holiday activities, people are most comfortable when it comes to gathering with only their immediate household (TOP2: 86%) and with vaccinated people outside their household (TOP2: 70%)

TOP FINDINGS

Around 1 in 3 have plans for international travel in the next year, and they are most commonly planning a trip between 6 to 12 months from now.

- Those who are planning to travel are more likely to be 25-34 years old (47%), have finished post-graduate studies (32%), earn more than \$100K (48%) and be vaccinated (37%)
- Residents who are not born in Canada are also more likely to travel internationally (52%). This could possibly be because they haven't had the chance to travel back to their home country in the past two years and would like to do so when the situation gets better.
- Among those who have plans for travel next year, only 3 in 5 (56%) are currently comfortable with international travel, which could explain they are more likely to have their trip later in the year.

As of November 23rd, children aged 5-11 have become eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine. Since then, 2 in 5 parents have had their children vaccinated, while 2 in 5 are still planning to and 1 in 5 don't plan to at all.

- Parents who don't intend to get their children vaccinated are most concerned about the potential side effects on their children (TOP2: 82%)
- Meanwhile, parents who intend to get their children vaccinated will do so as soon as an appointment is available (44%) and will do it after school as it is most convenient for them (48%).

DETAILED FINDINGS

LIKELIHOOD OF RECEIVING THIRD VACCINE DOSE

Nearly 4 in 5 (TOP2: 79%) Ontario residents say they are likely to get a third booster shot against COVID-19.



TOP 2

79%

■ Very unlikely
 ■ Somewhat unlikely
 ■ Neither likely nor unlikely
 ■ Somewhat likely
 ■ Very likely

Q4. How likely are you to get a third booster shot?

Framework: Respondents who have received 1 or 2 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine

Sample size: n = 798



Respondents who are likely to receive a third vaccine dose are:

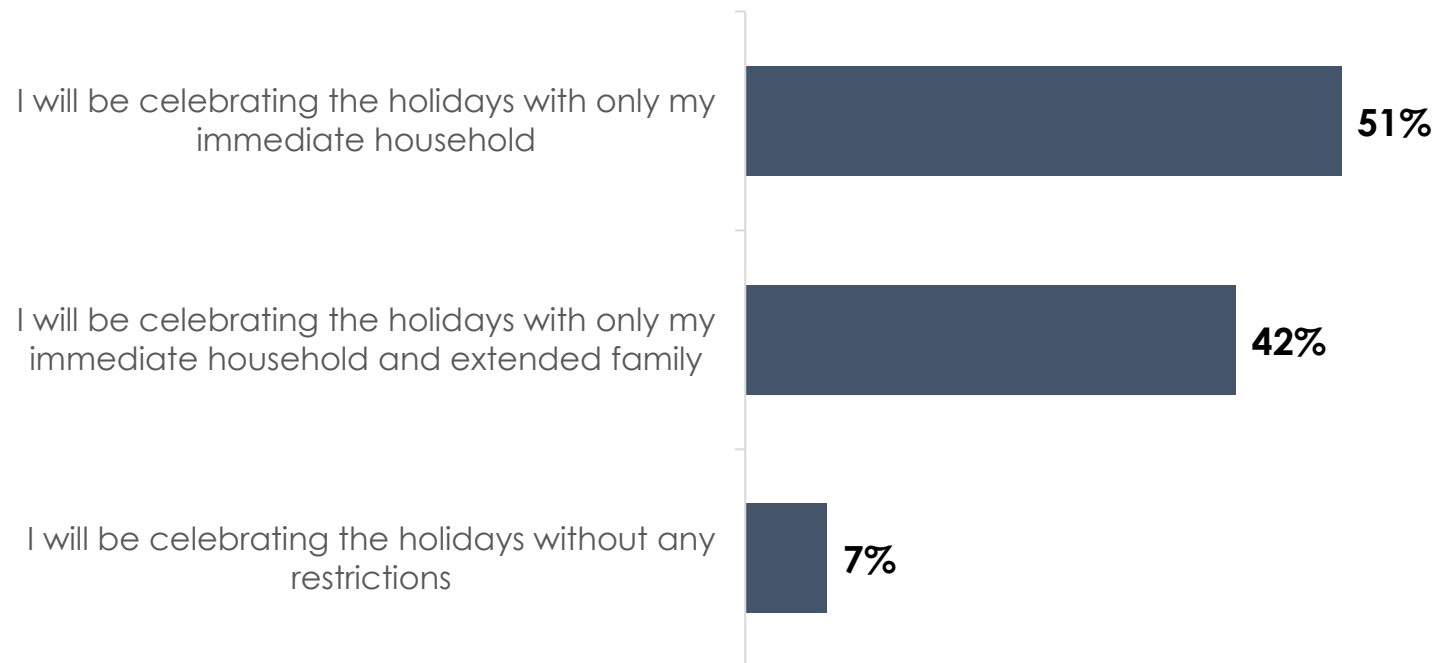
- Most likely to be aged 65 and over (TOP2: 93%)
- More likely to earn more than \$100K (TOP2: 85%) than earn less than \$20K (TOP2: 70%)
- More likely to be concerned with the Omicron variant (TOP2: 85%) than not (TOP2: 52%)

In contrast, those who are not likely to get the third dose (BTM2: 10%) are:

- More likely to be younger – aged 18-24 (BTM2: 15%) and 25-34 (BTM2: 13%) vs aged 65+ (BTM2: 4%)
- More likely to not be concerned with the Omicron variant (BTM2: 34%) than be concerned with it (BTM2: 6%)

HOLIDAY PLANS

Thinking about their current holiday plans, around half (51%) say they will only be celebrating with their immediate household. Around 2 in 5 (42%) say they will only be celebrating with their household and extended family.



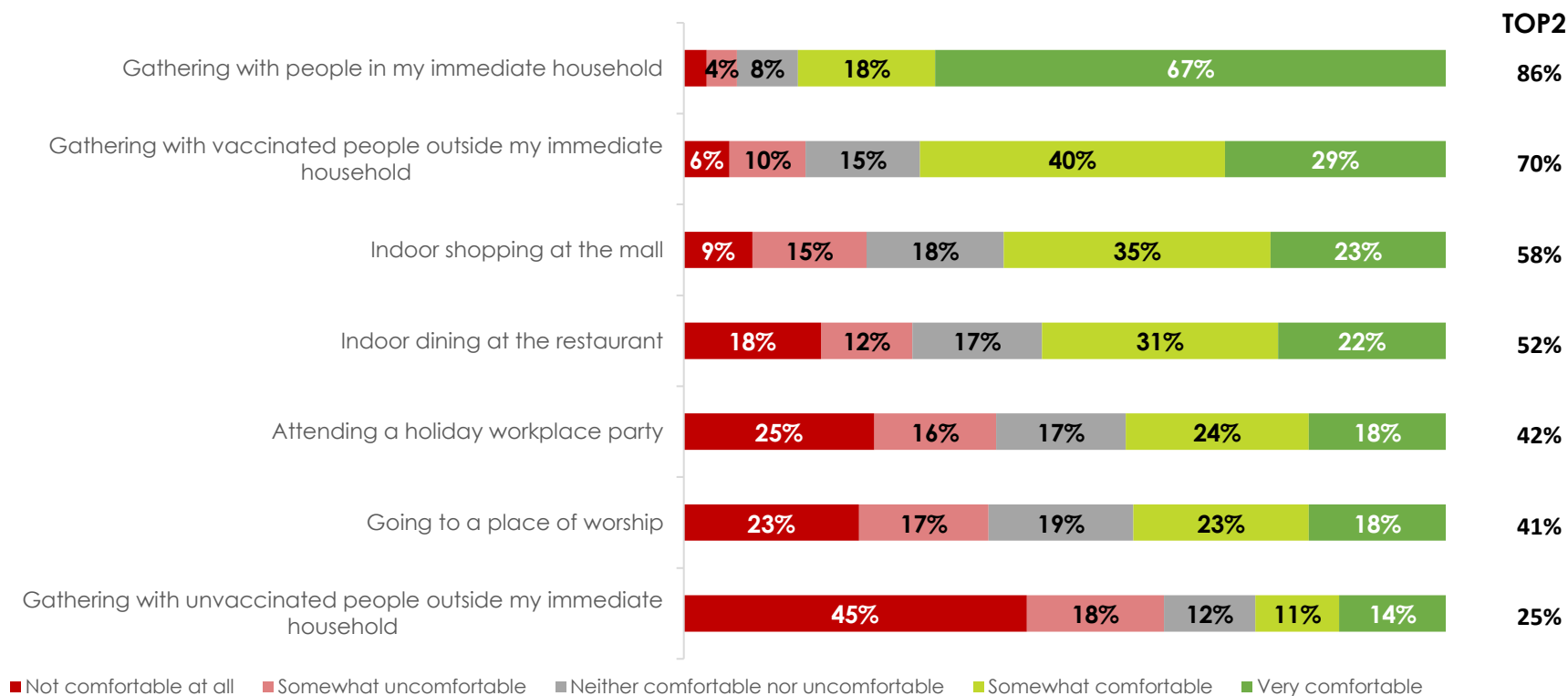
Respondents who are only celebrating with their immediate household are:

- More likely to be immigrants (59%) than be born in Canada (49%)
- More likely to be concerned with Omicron (56%) than not (34%)

While those who will be celebrating the holidays with anyone outside their household are more likely to be unvaccinated (17%) than vaccinated (5%).

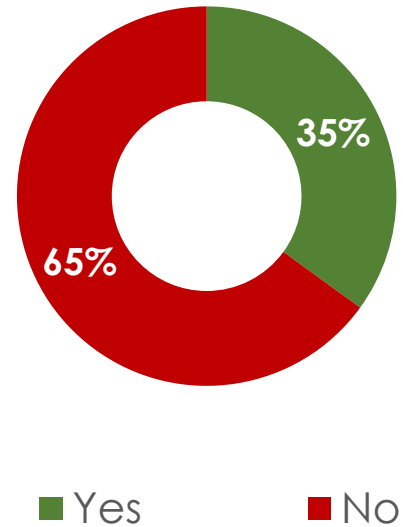
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

When it comes to holiday activities, the majority are comfortable with gathering with people in their immediate household (TOP2: 86%) and vaccinated people outside their household (TOP2: 70%).



INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL PLANS

Around one third (35%) say they plan to travel internationally in the next year 2022.

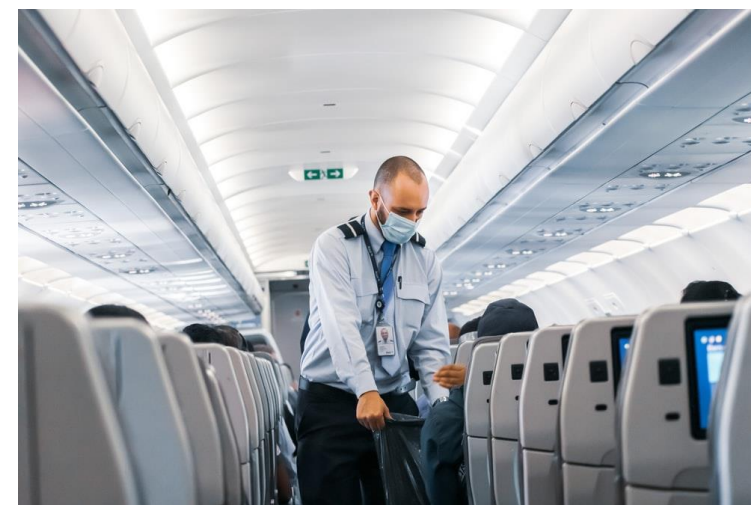
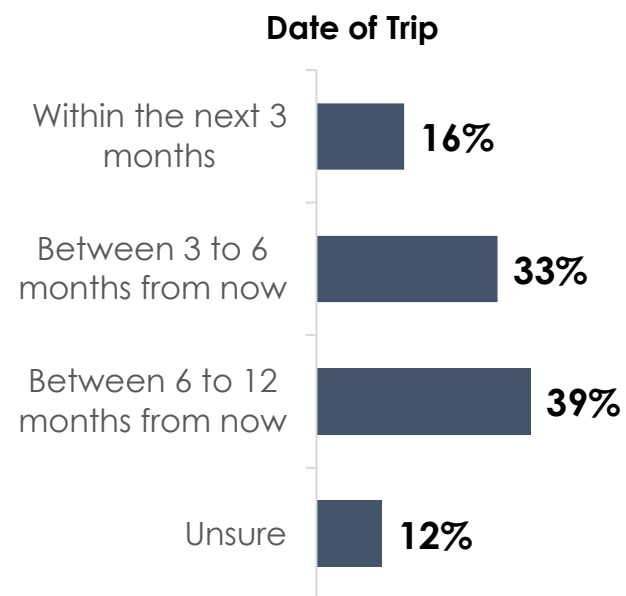
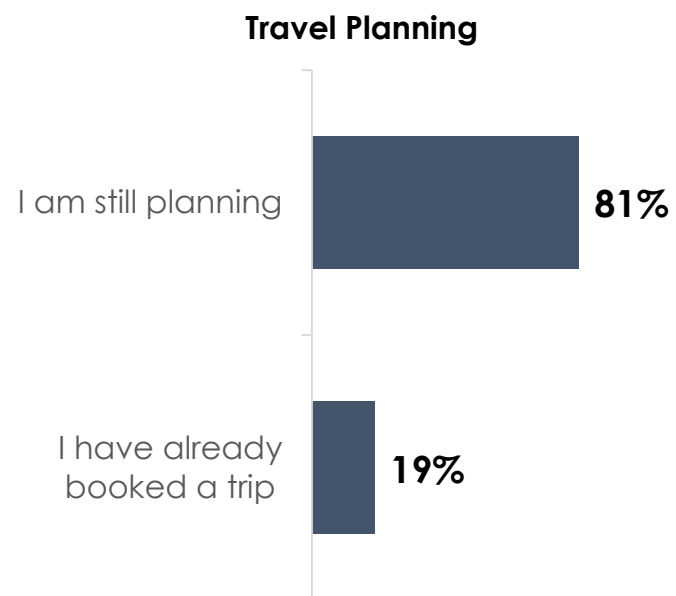


Respondents who plan to travel internationally next year are:

- More likely to be 25-34 years old (47%) than 45-54 (32%), 55-64 (28%) or 65+ (24%)
- Most likely to have finished post-graduate studies (57%)
- More likely to not be born in Canada (52%) than be born in Canada (29%)
- Most likely earn more than \$100K (48%)
- More likely to be vaccinated (37%) than not (18%)

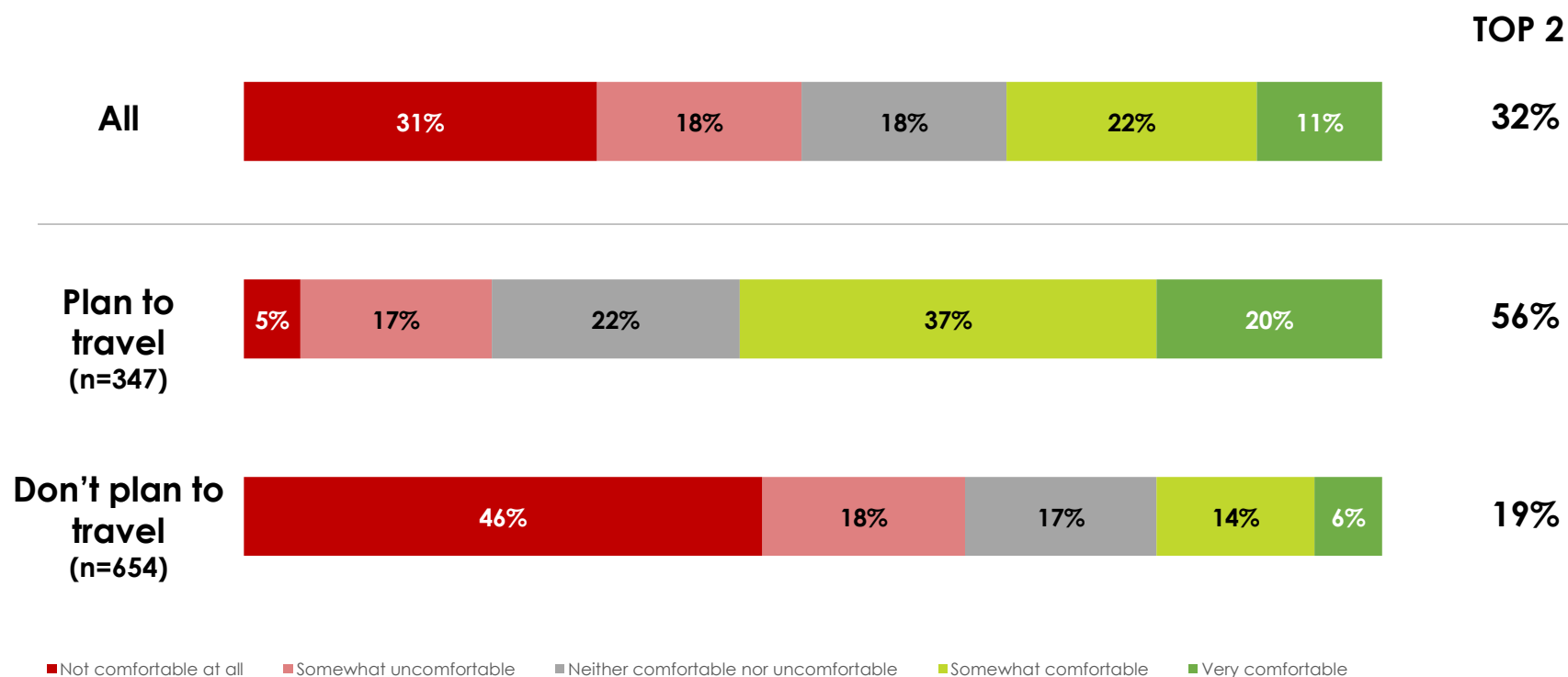
INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL PLANS

Among those who plan to travel internationally next year, 4 in 5 (81%) are still planning. When asked about when they plan to take their first trip, 2 in 5 (39%) say between 6-12 months from now.



INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL COMFORT LEVEL

Around one third (TOP2: 32%) currently feel comfortable with international travel.



Only 1 in 3 (TOP2: 32%) respondents are currently comfortable with international travel. Those who plan to travel next year (TOP2: 56%) are more comfortable with international travelling than those who don't plan to (TOP2: 19%).

Respondents who are currently comfortable with international are also:

- More likely to be males (TOP2: 37%) than females (TOP2: 28%)
- Most likely to be aged 18-24 (TOP2: 55%)
- More likely not to be concerned with Omicron (TOP2: 59%) than the opposite (TOP2: 26%)



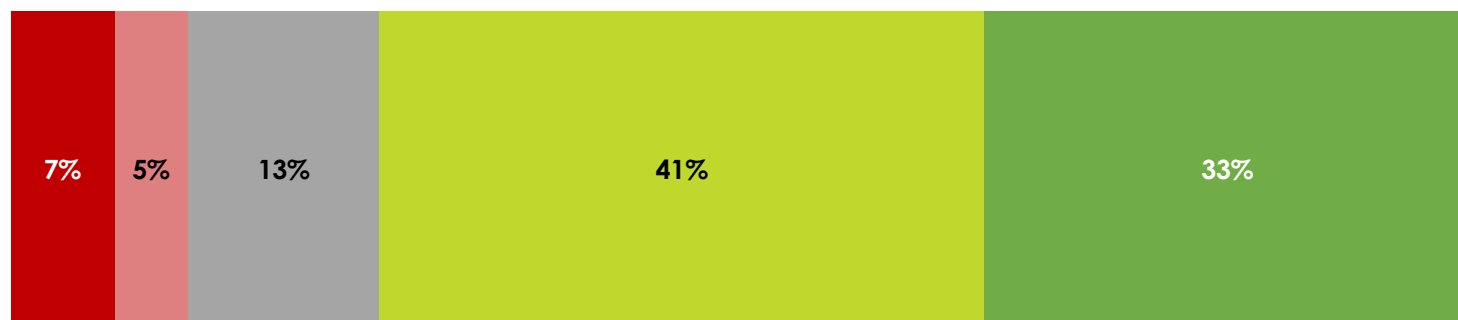
Q7D. What is your current level of comfort with international travel?

Framework: All respondents

Sample size: n = 1001

OMICRON VARIANT CONCERN

Nearly three quarters (TOP2: 74%) say they are concerned with the Omicron variant of COVID-19.



TOP 2

74%

■ Not concerned at all ■ Somewhat unconcerned ■ Neither concerned nor unconcerned ■ Somewhat concerned ■ Very concerned



Q8. How concerned are you with the Omicron variant of COVID-19?

Framework: All respondents

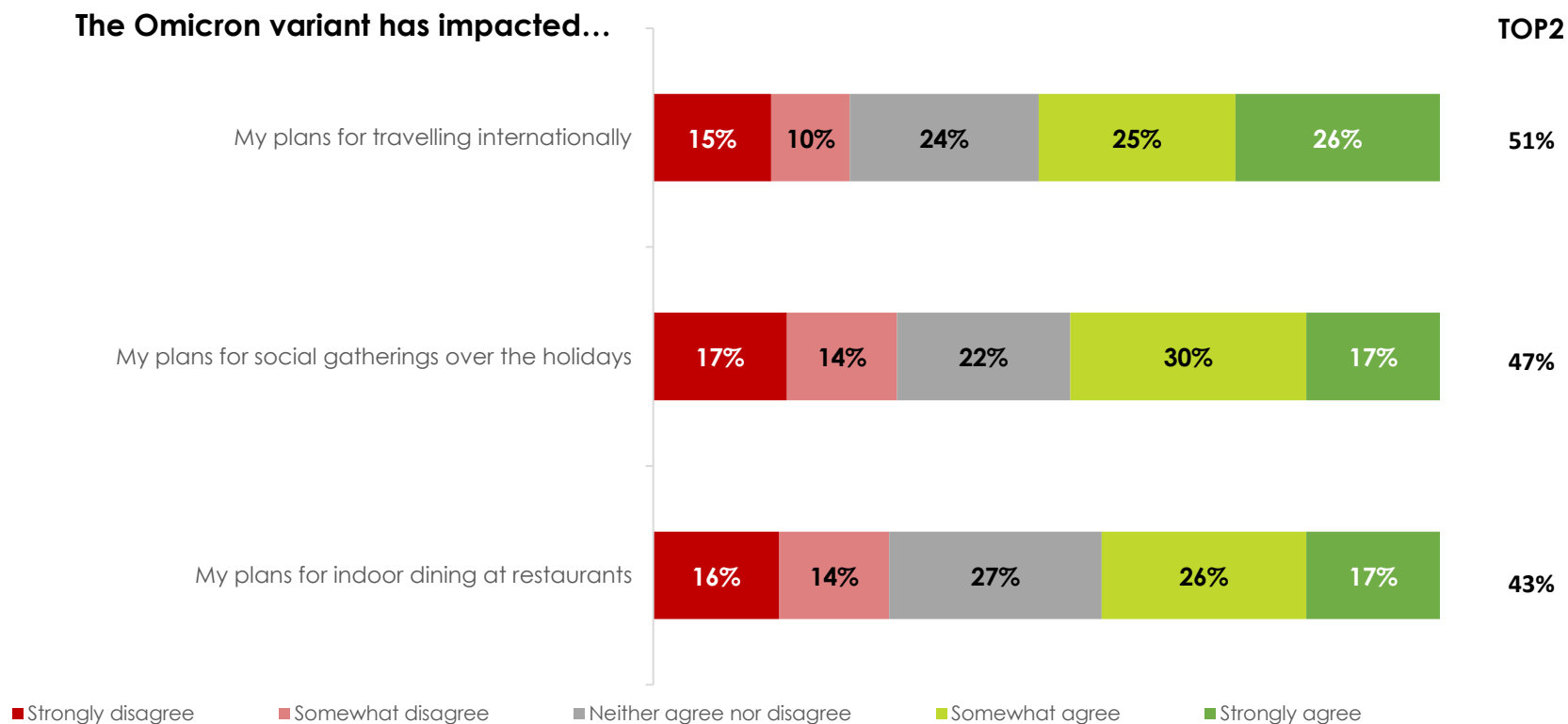
Sample size: n = 1001

Respondents who are concerned with the Omicron variant are:

- More likely to be female (TOP2: 78%) than male (TOP2: 69%)
- Most likely to be aged 65+ (TOP2: 89%)
- More likely to have completed college/university (TOP2: 77%) than those who only completed secondary school or less (TOP2: 67%)
- More likely to be vaccinated (TOP2: 80%) than unvaccinated (TOP2: 34%)
- Most likely to gather with only their immediate household (TOP2: 81%)

OMICRON VARIANT IMPACT

Around half say the Omicron variant has impacted their plans for international travel (TOP2: 51%) and for social gatherings in the holidays (47%).



Those who say the Omicron variant has impacted their plans for international travel are more likely to:

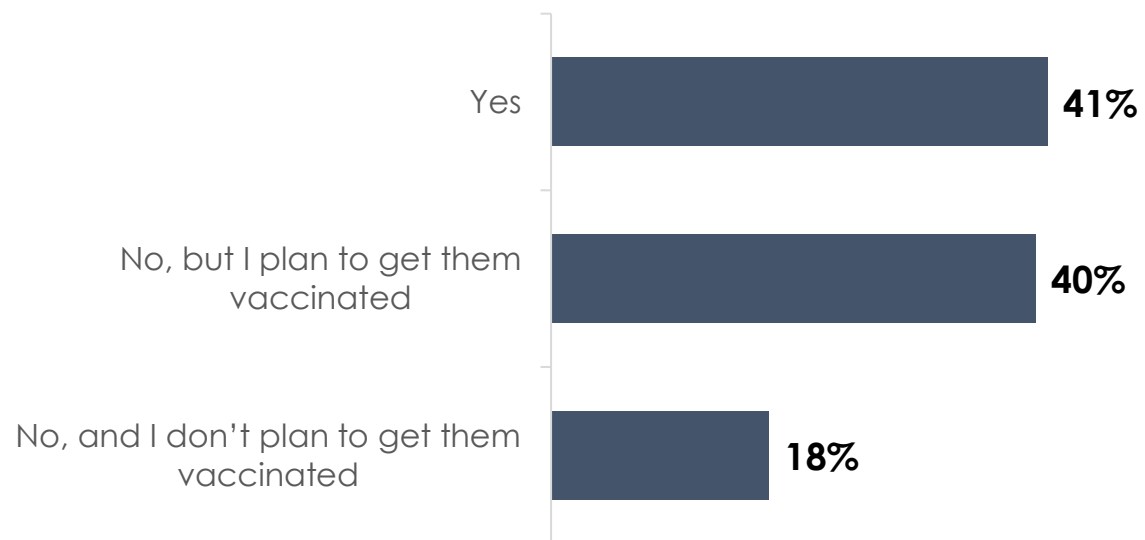
- Be aged 65+ (TOP2: 62%) than aged 18-24 (TOP2: 44%) and 45-54 (TOP2: 46%)
- Have completed college/university (TOP2: 58%) than have completed only high school or less (TOP2: 40%) or some college university (TOP2: 44%)
- Be vaccinated (TOP2: 53%) than not (TOP2: 35%)

While those who say the Omicron variant has impacted their plans for social gatherings are more likely to:

- Have completed post-graduate studies (TOP2: 63%) than have completed only high school or less (TOP2: 34%) or some college university (TOP2: 42%)
- Not be born in Canada (TOP2: 57%) than the opposite (TOP2: 43%)
- Be vaccinated (TOP2: 50%) than not (TOP2: 23%)

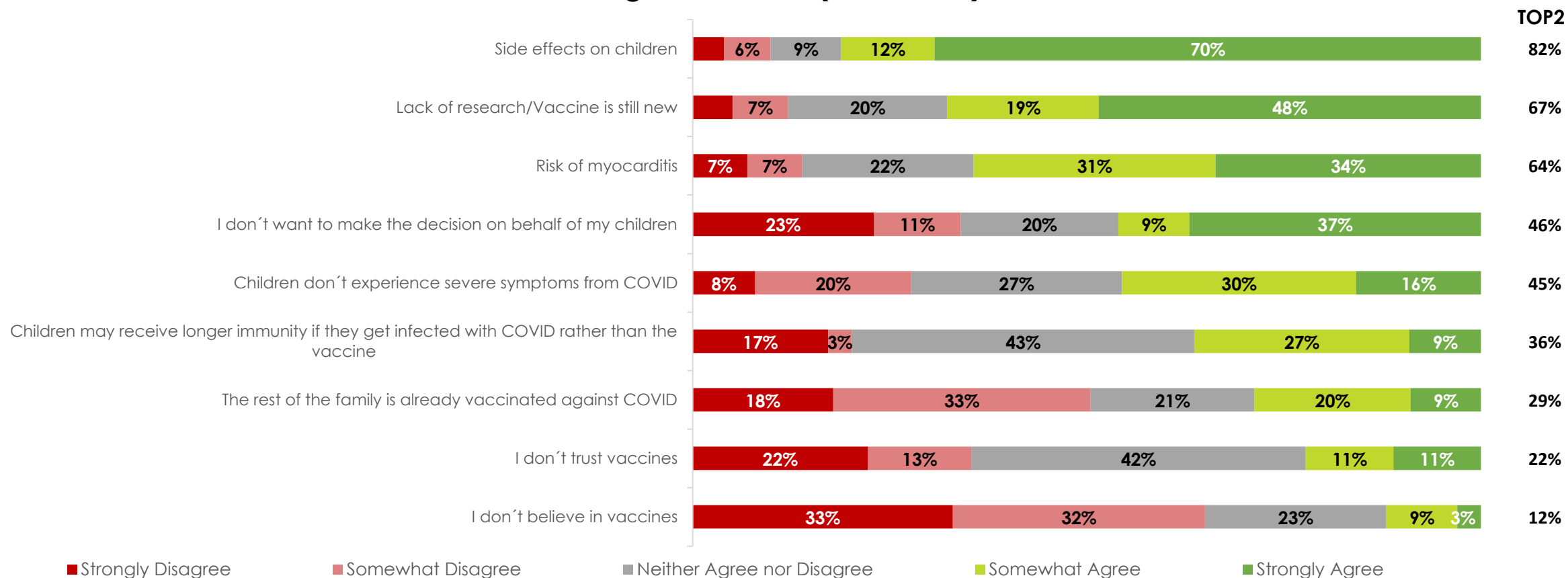
CHILDREN'S VACCINATION AGAINST COVID-19

2 in 5 parents (41%) say their children have been vaccinated. Another 2 in 5 (40%) have not had their children vaccinated yet but plan to. The remaining 1 in 5 (18%) don't plan to at all.



REASONS FOR NOT VACCINATING CHILDREN

Side effects on their children is the top concern for parents on why they are not getting their children vaccinated against COVID (TOP2: 82%)



Q12. We understand that you don't plan to vaccinate your child/children against COVID. To better understand why, can you please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following:

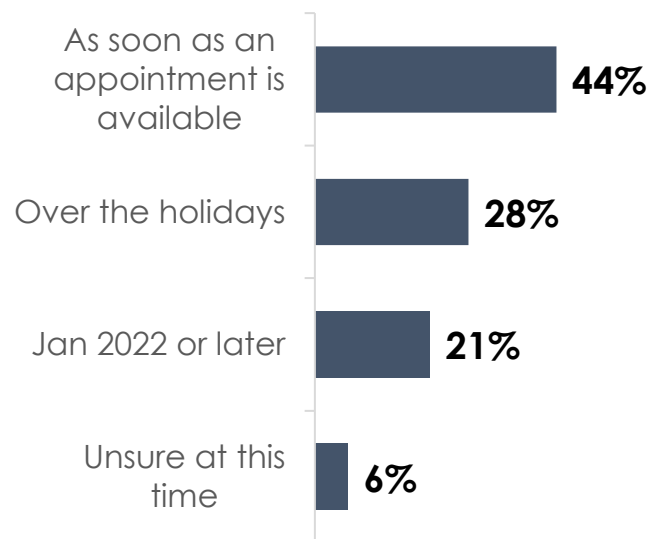
Framework: Respondents who don't plan to have their children vaccinated

Sample size: n = 32 *small subsample size

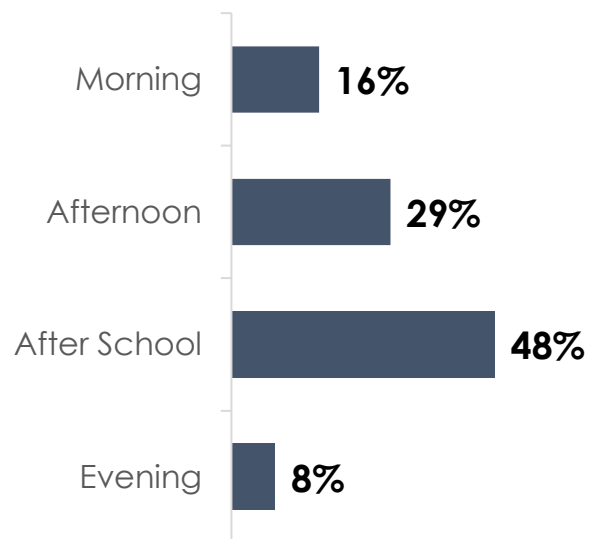
PLANS FOR VACCINATING CHILDREN

Among those who plan to have their children vaccinated, more than 2 in 5 (44%) plan to do it as soon as an appointment is available. Nearly half (48%) also say that after school is most convenient for them.

Planned Date of Vaccination



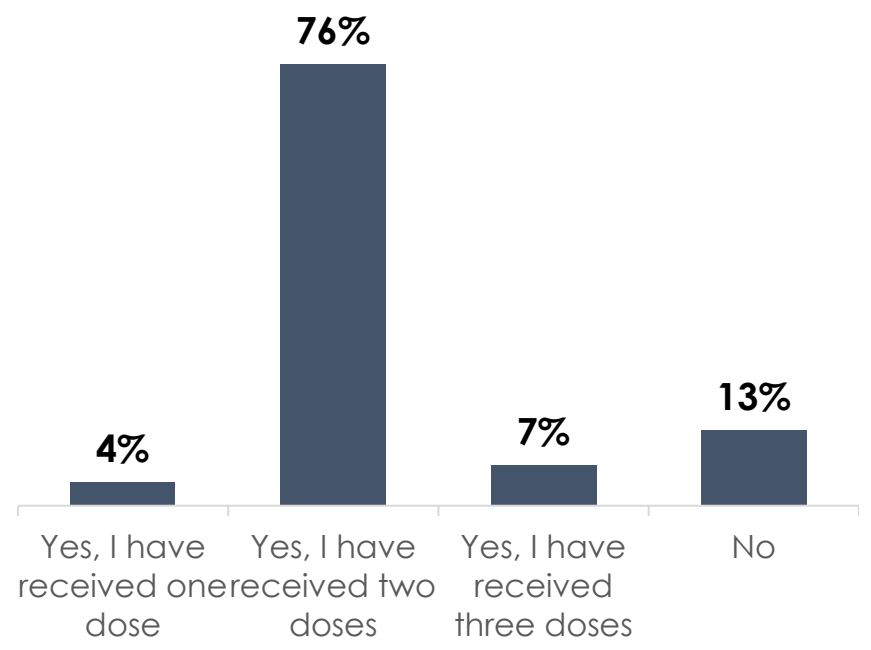
Most Convenient Time of Vaccination



RESPONDENT PROFILE

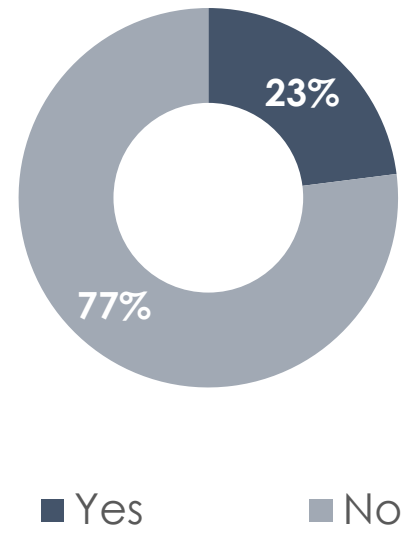
RESPONDENT PROFILES

Vaccinated Against COVID-19



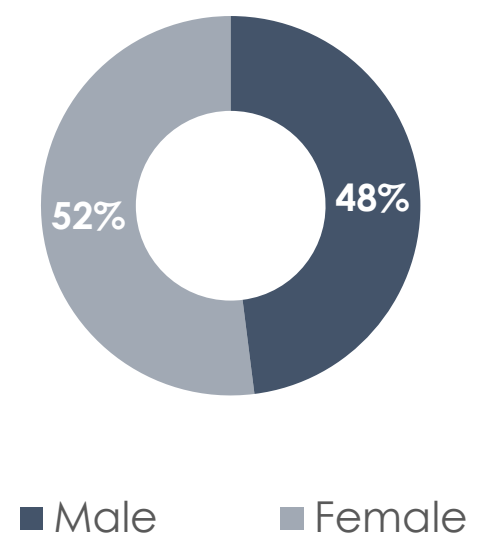
“No”
→

Plan to Get Vaccinated

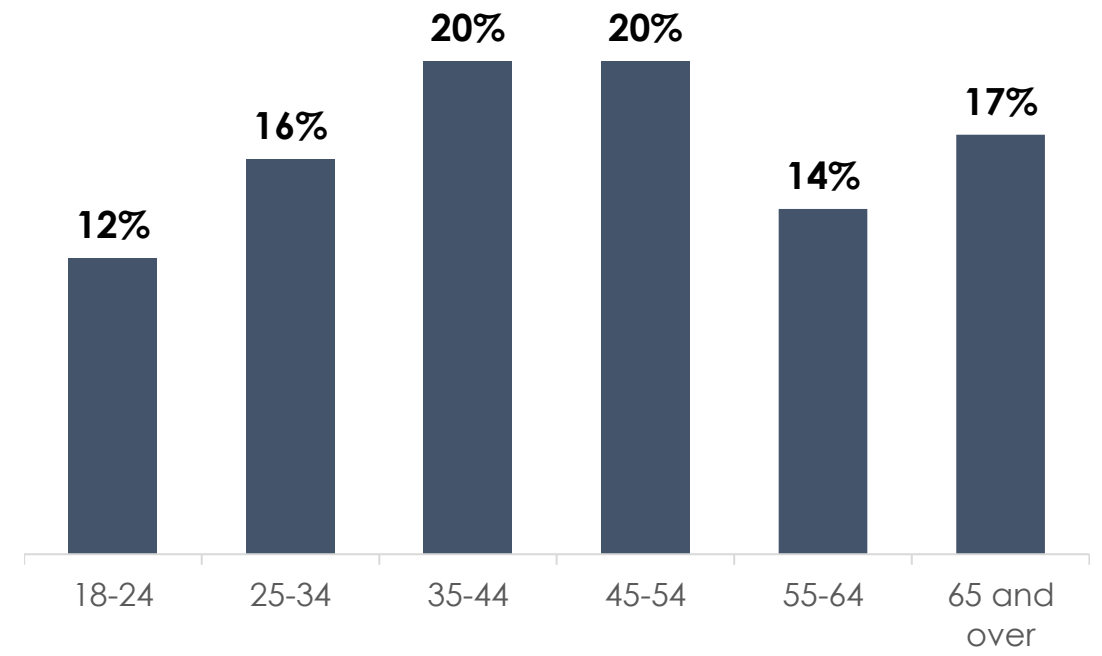


RESPONDENT PROFILES

Gender

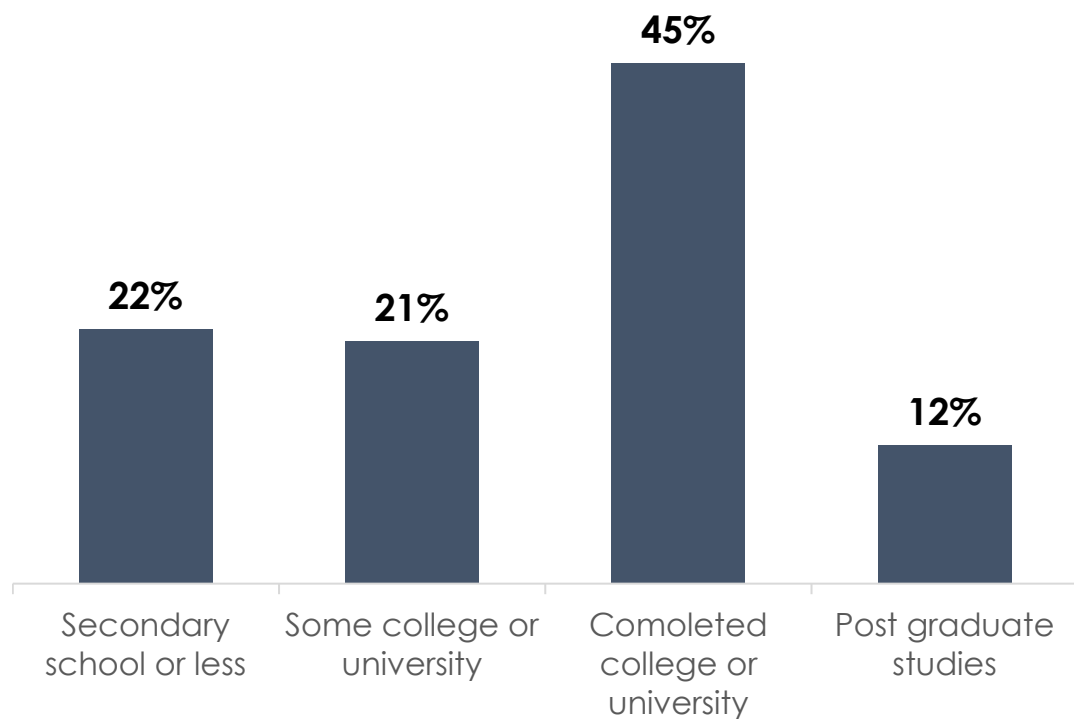


Age

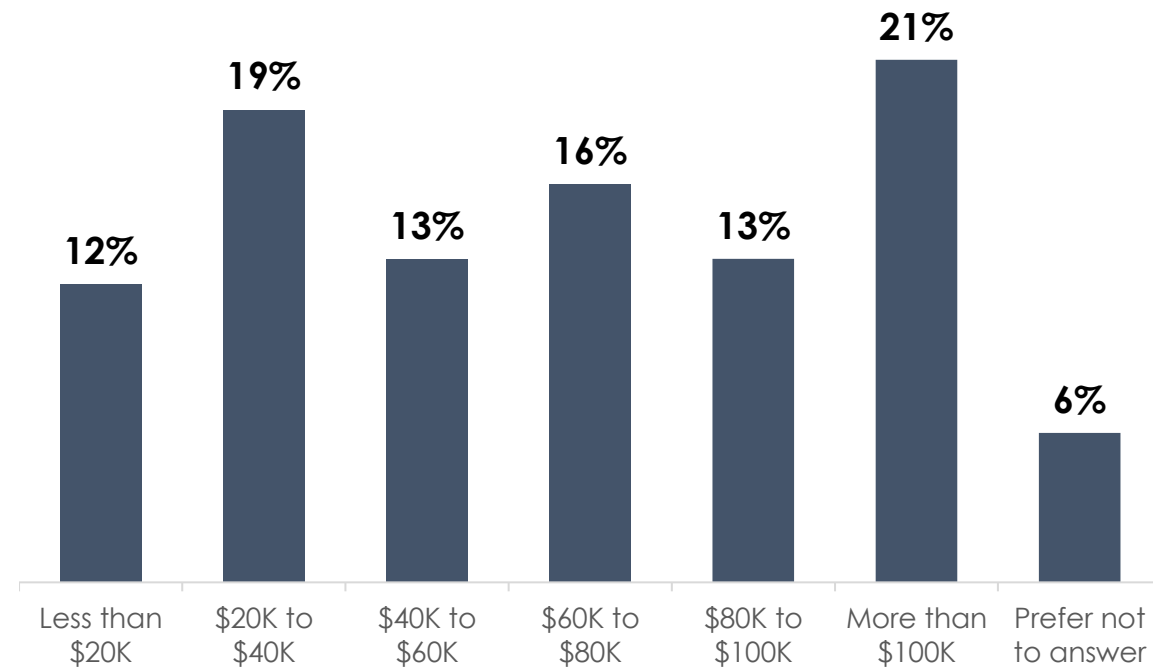


RESPONDENT PROFILES

Education

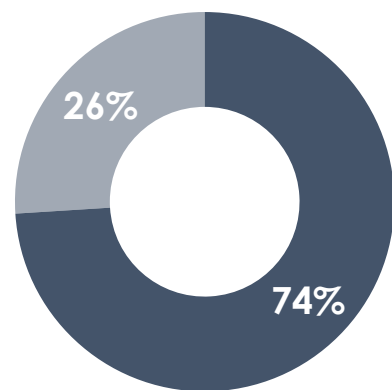


Income



RESPONDENT PROFILES

Born in Canada



■ Yes

■ No

Ethnicity

