



The Social and Economic Impacts of COVID-19: *A Six-month Update*

September 2020



Delivering insight through data for a better Canada

Catalogue no. 11-631-X
ISBN 978-0-660-36135-2



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

Foreword

The COVID-19 pandemic has had profound impacts on Canada's economy and society. As a purposeful response to a public health crisis, the policies enacted to contain the spread of the virus have resulted in unprecedented disruptions in the social and economic lives of Canadians, changing how they interact, learn, work, and consume. While disorienting in the near term, the longer-term impacts of these changes may prove transformative, accelerating many of the trends towards digitalization and automation and the changes in the quality of work that were underway prior to the pandemic. The crisis has also laid bare many of the social and economic hardships facing marginalized Canadians, raising fundamental questions about the inclusiveness of the recovery.

Responding effectively to a crisis requires timely, credible information. COVID-19 has substantially increased the demand for data and analyses that illuminate the challenges facing Canadians as households, businesses, and governments gravitate toward a new normal. This compendium provides an overview of the initial health, economic and social impacts of COVID-19, based on information collected during the lockdown period of late March and April, and as social and economic restrictions were eased in the late spring and summer months. The compendium will be updated periodically as new information becomes available.



Anil Arora
Chief Statistician of Canada

The detailed social, economic and community safety impacts of the pandemic on the lives of Canadians are presented through the following modules:

Highlights

Key Findings

Response to COVID-19

Changes in Canadians' Concerns and Response to COVID-19

Quality of Life and Health Impacts

Reduced Quality of Life

Impacts on Mental Health

Excess Mortality

Economic and Labour Impacts

Economic Impacts and Recovery Related to the Pandemic

Unequal impacts on Canadian workers

Business uncertainty in the recovery phase

Structural challenges in heavily affected sectors

Investing in resilience and growth

Impacts on Diverse Population Groups

Impacts on Immigrants and People Designated as Visible Minorities

Impacts on Indigenous Peoples

Impacts on Parents and Children

Impacts on Youth

Justice Impacts

Community Safety and Crime

Key findings:

The health impacts of COVID-19 go beyond the effects of the virus

The pandemic has had unprecedented impacts on the quality of life of Canadians, who have reported their lowest levels of life satisfaction since data became available in 2003.

Fewer Canadians reported being in very good or excellent mental health – with young Canadians registering the largest declines.

Excess mortality - the number of deaths in Canada was higher than expected from March to May, reflecting both COVID and non-COVID related deaths, before returning to normal levels in June.

43% of Canadians rated their life satisfaction as 8 or higher on a 10 point scale, compared with 73% of Canadians in 2018.

55% of Canadians reported very good or excellent mental health, compared with 68% of Canadians before the pandemic. Youth experienced the greatest declines – a **20 percentage point** reduction from 60% (pre-COVID) to 40% (July 2020).

Key findings:

The economic impacts of COVID-19 have been uneven across population groups

The historic declines in economic activity disproportionately affected many vulnerable Canadians, including women, youth, new immigrants, visible minorities and lower-wage workers.

Visible minorities are overrepresented in sectors hardest hit by the pandemic, including food and accommodation services, contributing to high rates of unemployment.

Results of crowdsourced data indicate that Indigenous people have been harder hit by the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The unemployment rate among young Canadians was **23.1%** in August, over twice the rate observed in February.

In August, the unemployment rate ranged from **12.7%** to **17.9%** for selected visible minority groups, compared with 9.4% among the non-Indigenous, non-visible minority population.

36% of Indigenous participants reported that the pandemic had an impact on their ability to meet financial obligations or essential needs, compared with 25% of non-Indigenous participants.

Key findings:

The impact of COVID-19 on economic activity have been unprecedented and highly uneven across sectors

The impact of COVID-19 on certain sectors, particularly those that provide consumer-facing services and rely more on travel and tourism, has been particularly severe. Lower-wage services have been impacted to a much greater extent than high-wage services.

The recovery in jobs will depend in large part on the ability of many businesses to adapt to changes in financial and operating conditions, including more uncertain demand for their products and services.

The pandemic is likely to have a transformative impact on existing business models, accelerating trends toward greater teleworking, digitalization and automation.

Airline passenger volumes, measured year-over-year, remained down **94%** in June.

As of July, payroll employment in accommodation and food services industries is about **2/3rds** of its pre-COVID level.

As of May 2020, nearly **25%** of businesses with rent or mortgage payments had been granted deferrals.

Over **1/5th** of businesses expect at least 10% of their workforce to continue tele-working after the pandemic.

Key findings:

The social impacts have also been uneven – greater impacts on those population groups with pre-existing vulnerabilities

Immigrants and visible minorities are overrepresented among front line workers, putting them at greater risk from COVID-19.

Visible minorities have perceived an increase in harassment, attacks, and stigma since the pandemic began – rates were highest among Chinese, Korean, and Southeast Asian participants.

Social isolation due to COVID has heightened the risk of family violence.

24% of employed Filipino Canadians and **20%** of employed Black Canadians work in the health care and social assistance industry, compared with 14% of all workers

Visible minority respondents were **3 times more likely** than other participants to report a perceived increase in the frequency of harassment or attacks based on race, ethnicity or skin colour.

54% of responding victim services reported an increase in the number of victims of domestic violence served between mid-March and early July.

Key findings:

Managing the pandemic moving forward - Canadians are willing to take precautions to slow the spread of COVID-19, but differences across groups are apparent

Canadians continue to take necessary precautions to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus despite being less concerned about the health and social impacts of COVID-19 since the start of the pandemic.

There is a clear relationship between level of concern and willingness to take precautions – those less concerned are less likely to take some precautions.

Most Canadians are willing to get tested, use an app and get a vaccine, when available, but concerns about safety and risks cited by those not willing to get a vaccine (14%).

Individuals that are less likely to get a vaccine include those with lower levels of education as well as landed and non-landed immigrants.

90% or more of Canadians said they would take precautions such as hand washing, crowds and wearing masks

64% of Canadians with the lowest level of concern are willing to avoid crowds and larger gatherings compared with 96% among those with the highest level of concern

63% would get tested if they experienced symptoms;

56% would likely use a contact tracing application; and

58% would be very likely to get a COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available.

Changes in Canadians' Concerns and Response to COVID-19

Changes in Canadians' Concerns and Response to COVID-19

Key messages:

- Most Canadians continue to take necessary precautions to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus despite being less concerned about the health and social impacts of COVID-19 since the start of the pandemic.
- As restrictions are lifted and activities resume, social interactions are increasing – particularly among youth, Canadian-born and those living outside central Canada.
- But concerns remain about resuming certain activities such as attending events, travelling by airplane and gathering in large groups – particularly among seniors, immigrants and Ontarians.
- Many Canadians at high risk of severe outcomes due to COVID-19 are working outside of home.
- About 6 in 10 Canadians would get tested if they experienced symptoms (63.5%) or were in contact with someone who had symptoms or tested positive for COVID-19 (58.9%).
- Support for testing and the use of contact tracing applications is higher among seniors.
- While most Canadian are willing to get a vaccine, concerns about safety, risks and side effects were most commonly cited by those not likely to get one.

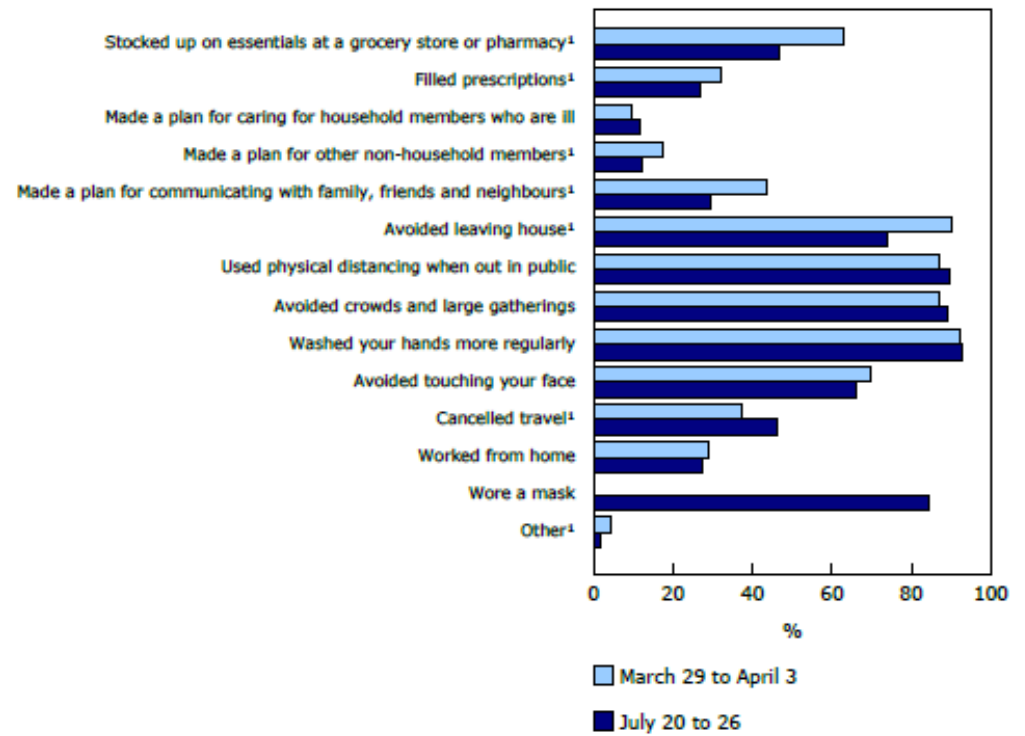
Canadians continue to take necessary precautions to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus...

Canadians continue to social distance, wear masks and take other precautions to reduce cases and avoid overwhelming the healthcare system.

In July, more than **90%** said they would continue to wash hands more often and **almost all Canadians reported avoiding crowds and large gatherings and keeping a safe distance from others.**

- Results were similar in March at the start of the pandemic
- **Some variation across provinces**

Main precautions taken by Canadians as a result of COVID-19, by period of web panel survey, 2020



Always

- Stay home and away from others if you feel sick
- Follow local public health advice
- Stick to a small and consistent social circle

Avoid

- Closed spaces
- Crowded places
- Close contact

However, as restrictions eased, some precautions were less likely to be followed (July compared to March/April)

- **Canadians became less likely to stock up on essentials** (47% from 63%) and
- **Less likely to avoid leaving the house** (74% from 90%)

Source: Public Health Agency of Canada, August 2020.

Source(s): Canadian Perspectives Survey Series, March/April 2020, July 2020.
 1. July 20 to 26 value is significantly different from the March 29 to April 3 value (p < 0.05).

... despite being less concerned about the health and social impacts of COVID-19 since the start of the pandemic

As the pandemic continued, Canadians were less likely to report being very or extremely anxious about their health and the health of others...

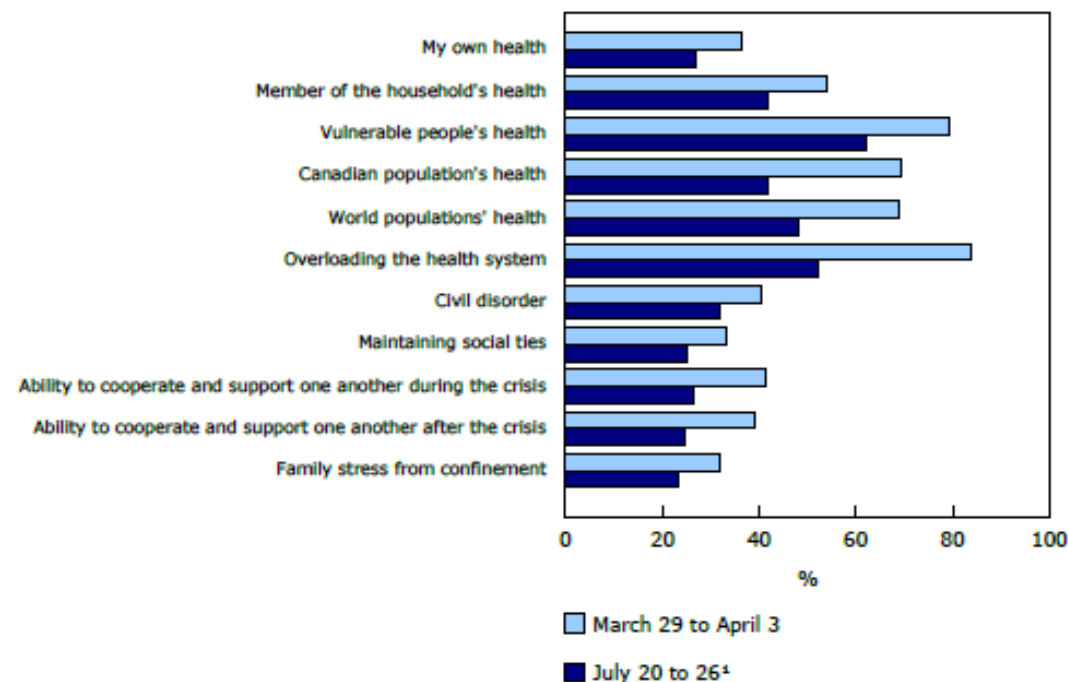
- **Own health – 27% (July) from 36% (March)**
- **Health of a household member – 41% (July) from 54% (March)**
- **Health of Canadians – 42% (July) from 69% (March)**

Declines in health concerns were similar across regions, immigrants and persons born in Canada, and men and women, but larger among older Canadians

The decline of COVID-19 cases in June was followed in July by a decline in **Canadians' concerns about the health consequences** of the pandemic. The largest declines were noted for...

- **Overloading the health system – 32 percentage points decline**
- **Canadian population's health – 28 percentage points decline**

Proportion of Canadians who are very or extremely concerned about selected issues, by period of web panel survey, 2020



Source(s): Canadian Perspectives Survey Series, March/April 2020, July 2020.

1. All the July 20 to 26 values are significantly different from the March 29 to April 3 values ($p < 0.05$).

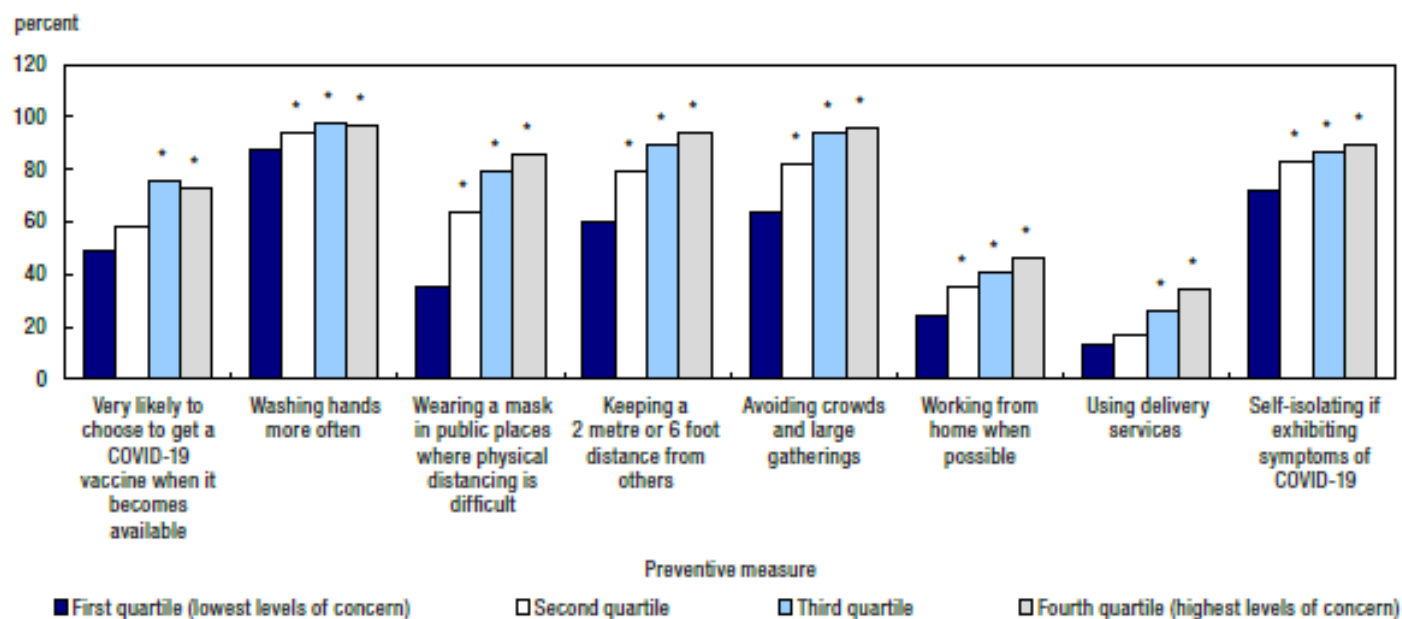
There is a clear relationship between level of concern about the health risk of resuming activities and willingness to take precautions

Those with a high degree of concern about resuming activities in Canada are more likely to take precautions to limit the spread of COVID-19 compared with those who express little concern.

- Vaccines – 73% vs 49%
- Avoid crowds and large gatherings – 96% vs 64%

The gaps between the different levels of concern were smaller for basic preventive measures such as “washing hands more often” and “self-isolating if exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19.”

Proportion of Canadians willing to take various precautions to limit the spread of COVID-19, by quartile of overall level of concern, week of June 15 to 21, 2020



* significantly different from reference category (first quartile—lowest levels of concern) ($p > 0.05$)

Note: A score of 1 to 3 was assigned to the answers provided for each activity item (attending shows, travelling by airplane, etc.). A score of 1 was given for “not at all concerned,” a score of 2 for “somewhat concerned” and a score of 3 for “very concerned.” Level of concern quartiles were determined based on the rank ordering of scores. Average scores were used rather than total scores to account for respondents’ non-response to certain items. For the purposes of this article, those who expressed a “high overall level of concern” are those who scored in the fourth concern quartile.

Source: Third iteration of the Canadian Perspectives Survey Series (June 2020).

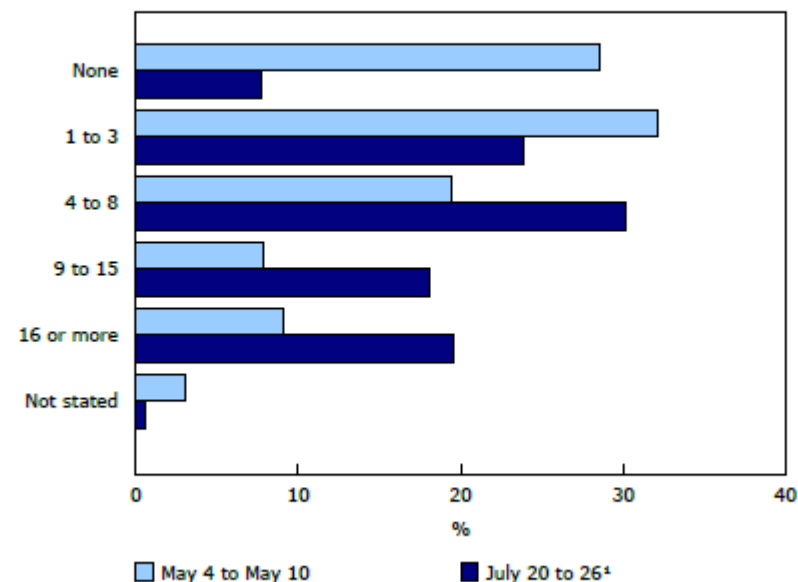
As restrictions are lifted and activities resume, social interactions are increasing – particularly among youth, Canadian-born and those living outside central Canada

As restrictions were lifted, fewer Canadians reported not coming into close contact with others outside their household in the last 7 days – **from 29% in May to 8% in July.**

Although social interactions increased in all population subgroups, some remained more likely to have a higher number of social interactions (9 or more) than others...

- Youth aged 15 to 34 were twice as likely (45%) as those aged 65 and older (22%);
- Canadian-born individuals (41%) were more likely than immigrants (27%);
- Those living in Atlantic Canada (41%) the Prairies (47%) and British Columbia (42%) were more likely than those living in central Canada (Ontario 35% and Quebec 33%).

Number of persons who came in close contact with the respondent during the last seven days, excluding members of their own household, by period of web panel survey, 2020



Source(s): Canadian Perspectives Survey Series, May 2020, July 2020.

1. All the July 20 to 26 values are significantly different from the May 4 to May 10 values ($p < 0.05$).

But concerns remain about resuming certain activities such as attending events, travelling by airplane and gathering in large groups – particularly among seniors, immigrants and Ontarians

Youth (aged less than 35) were less likely to express a high level of concern about the health risks of resuming activities.

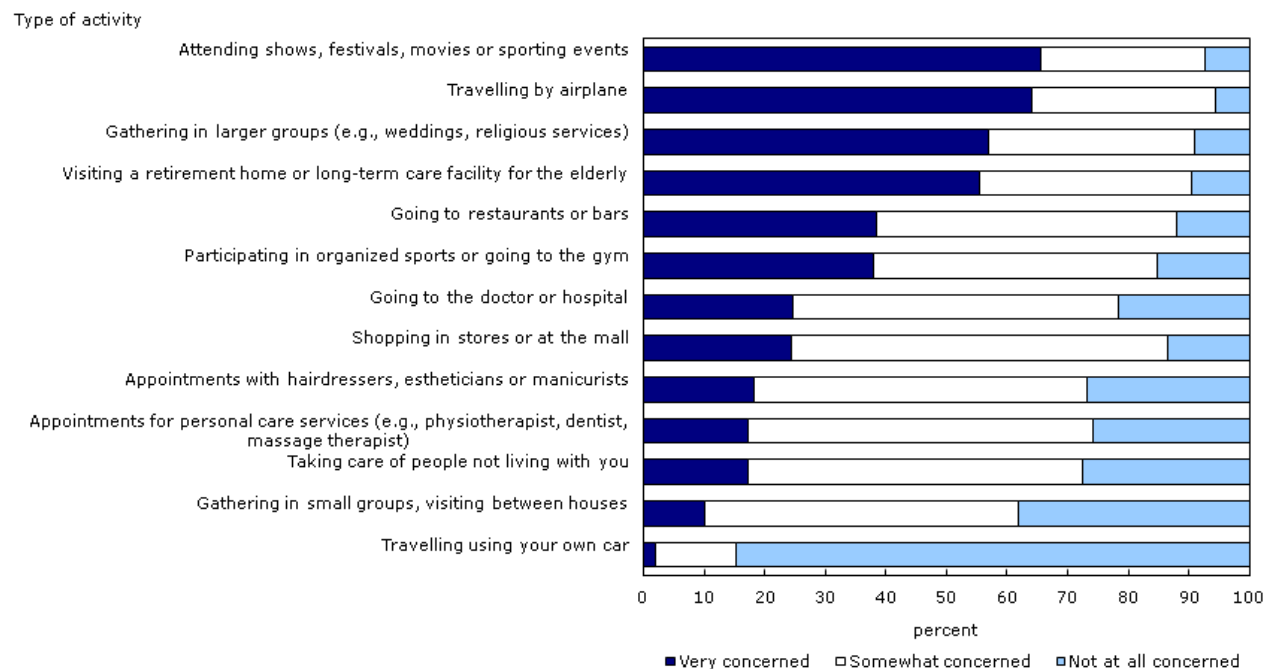
Immigrants were generally more concerned than Canadian-born individuals about ...

- attending events (81% vs 61%)
- gathering in larger groups (70% vs 53%)

Residents of Ontario were generally more concerned than those living in Quebec and the Prairie provinces about ...

- attending events (73% vs 57% in Quebec and 56% in the Prairies);
- gathering in larger groups (63% vs 49% in Quebec and 48% in the Prairies); and
- participating in organized sports or going to the gym (44% vs 33% in the Prairies and 29% in Quebec).

Self-reported level of concern about the health risks of resuming certain activities or relaxing safety measures related to those activities, week of June 15 to 21, 2020



Note: The sum of proportions may not be equal to 100% for all activities due to rounding.

Source: Third iteration of the Canadian Perspectives Survey Series (June 2020).

Individuals who expressed a high level of concern were more likely than those with lower levels of concern to take precautions such as ...

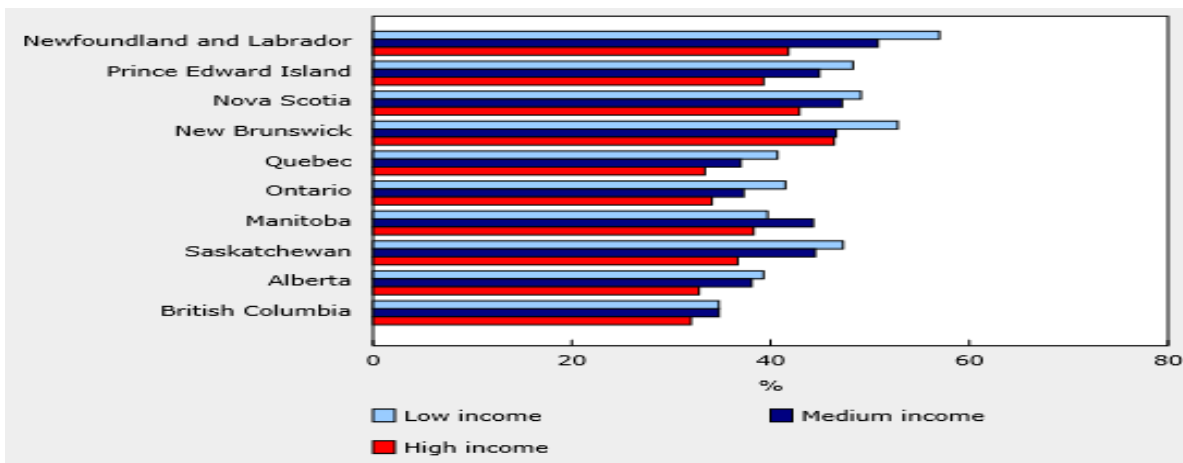
- Wearing a mask (86% vs 35%) and social distancing (94% vs 60%).

Concerns about overwhelming the healthcare system remain – many Canadians are at high risk of severe outcomes due to COVID-19

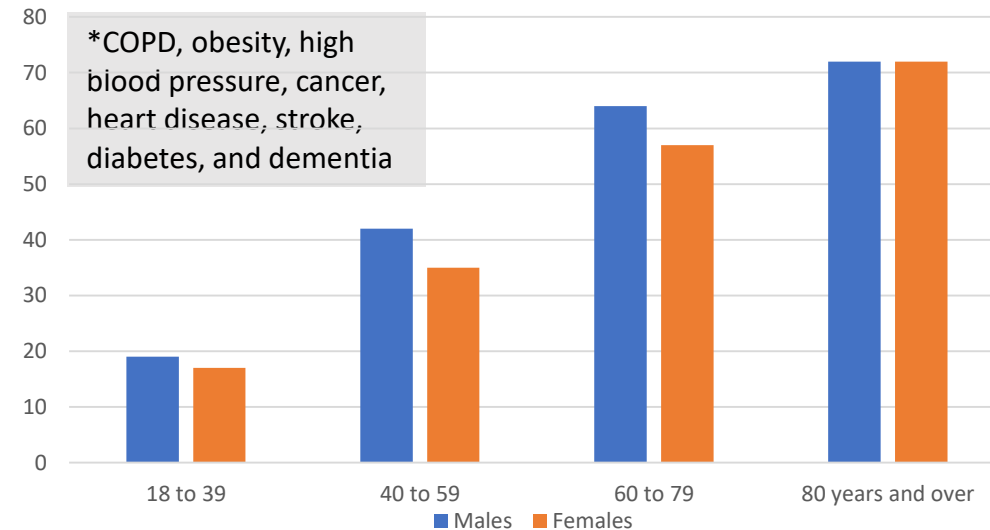
As the pandemic spreads, evidence suggests that most (74%) who were hospitalized with COVID-19 reported one or more pre-existing chronic condition.

In Canada, 38% (11 million) individuals aged 18+ have at least one health condition that puts them at higher risk of severe outcomes related to COVID-19 – those at higher risk include...

- Older seniors 80+ years (72%)
- Those living in low income households (40%)
- First Nations people (47.7%) and Métis (41.3%)



Proportion of those with at least one chronic* condition related to severe symptoms of COVID-19 by age group and gender, Canada, 2017-2018 (Household population)



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey, 2017-2018

Rates were lower among visible minority groups compared with those who identified as White (40.3%).

- 25% among Arab/West Asian
 - 26% among East/Southeast Asian and
 - 35% among Black Canadians
- (Note: rates unadjusted for differences in age structure)

Concerns about overwhelming the healthcare system remain – many Canadians at high risk of severe outcomes due to COVID-19 are working outside of home

As more and more Canadians return to work, employers are focused on making workplaces safe – some employees may be at greater risk of severe outcomes of COVID-19 due to underlying health conditions.

Approximately half of high risk individuals (**5.16 million**) are employed – rate of risk among employed individuals is higher among

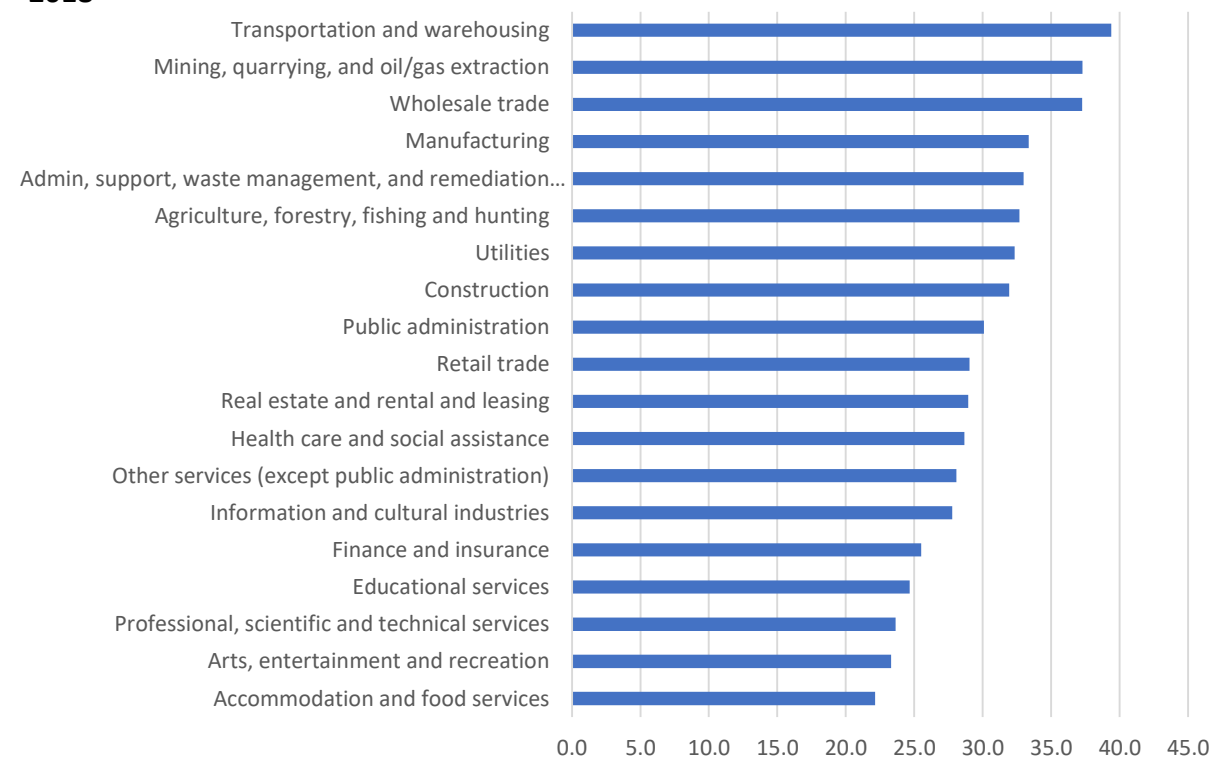
- Males (32%) compared with females (26%)
- Older workers aged 40 to 65 (39%) compared with younger workers aged 18 to 39 (18%)

The rate of risk also varies by sector from 22% among workers in food and accommodation to 39% among those in transportation and warehousing.

In terms of absolute numbers, sectors with the highest estimated number of workers at risk of adverse outcomes of COVID include...

- Healthcare and social assistance – 684,600
- Retail trade – 547,300
- Manufacturing – 509,600
- Construction – 405,900
- Professional, scientific and technical services – 356,300
- Transportation and warehousing – 336,100

Proportion of those with at least one chronic condition related to severe symptoms of COVID-19 among employed individuals (18 to 65 years of age), by sector, Canada, 2017-2018

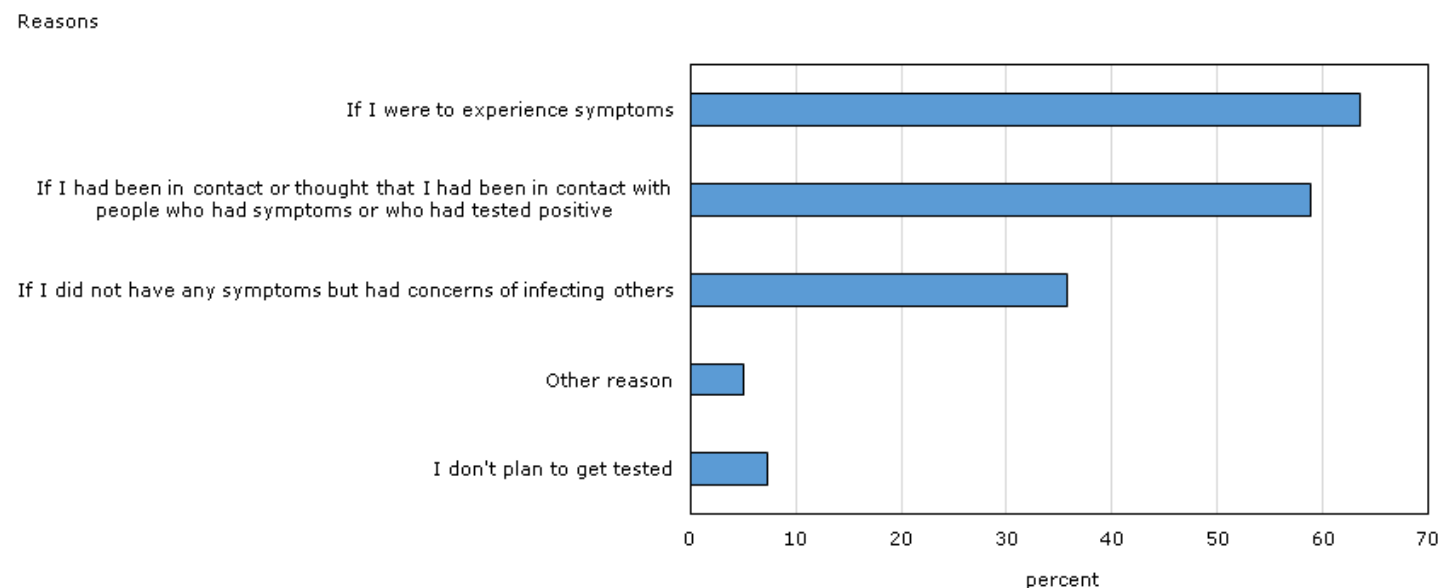


Source: Statistics Canada. Canadian Community Health Survey, 2017-2018.

Managing the pandemic moving forward – Most Canadians would get tested for COVID-19 if symptomatic or in contact with others who were symptomatic

- About 6 in 10 Canadians would get tested if they experienced symptoms (63.5%) or were in contact with someone who had symptoms or tested positive for COVID-19 (58.9%), some more likely than others:
 - Women more likely than men (67% vs 60%)
 - Those with a Bachelors degree more likely than a high school degree (69% vs 61%)
 - Those living in Atlantic Canada more likely than in Ontario and British Columbia (72%, 65%, 55%)
- 36% of Canadians reported that they would get tested if they were not experiencing symptoms but had concerns about infecting others.

Canadians' reasons to get tested for the COVID-19 virus, if testing were widely available

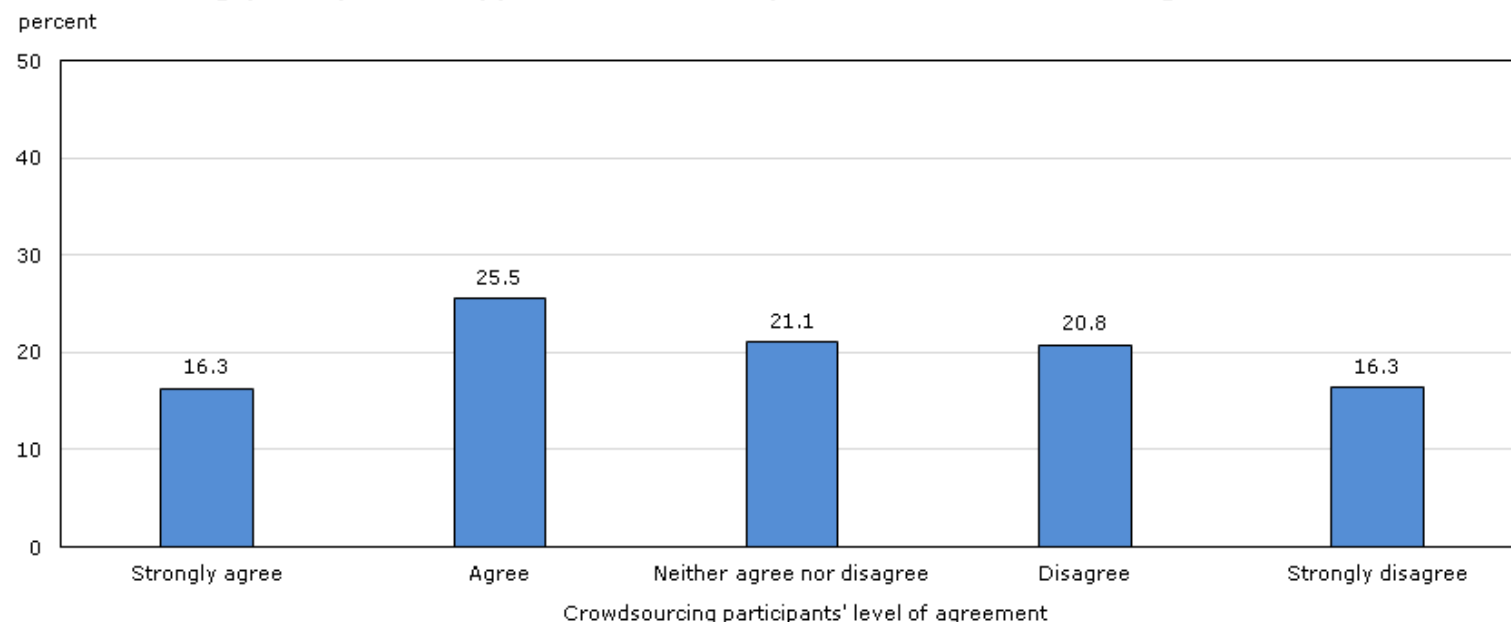


Note: Categories do not sum to 100% because respondents could select more than one response.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Perspectives Survey Series 3 (June 2020).

Managing the pandemic moving forward – support for mandatory COVID-19 testing higher among senior respondents

- Among crowdsourcing respondents, 4 in 10 were supportive of mandatory random COVID-19 testing.
- There were similar levels of support between different sociodemographic groups, including gender, education level, and immigration status.
- However, older respondents (aged 65 or older) were more likely than those aged 15 to 24 to support mandatory testing (49% and 39%).

Crowdsourcing participants' support for mandatory random COVID-19 testing



Note: Percent calculations exclude missing responses.

Source: Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians - Trust in Others: Data Collection Series (5323).

Managing the pandemic moving forward - more than half of Canadians willing to use a contact tracing application – rates higher among seniors compared with younger Canadians

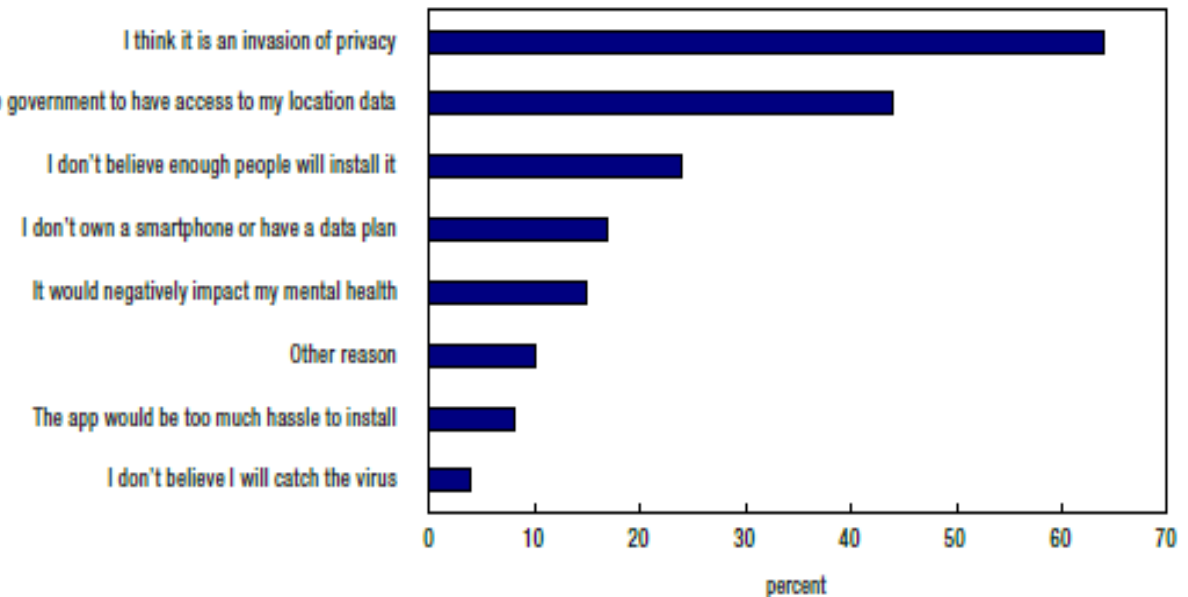
- More than half of Canadians (56%) consider it “somewhat likely” or “very likely” that they would use a contact tracing application.
- While younger Canadians are more likely to be socially interacting in larger circles, only 16% said they would be “very likely” to use a contact tracing application compared with 33% among seniors.
- Results varied across the country....
 - Prairies (17%) and in Quebec (21%) less likely to report they would be “very likely” to use a contact tracing application compared with Atlantic (28%), Ontario (28%) and British Columbia (30%).

The Government of Canada released the COVID Alert tracing app on August 3rd - over 1.3 million downloads as of Aug 5th



Reasons why people who were unlikely to use a contact tracing app would not install it, June 2020

Reason for not installing contact tracing app



Source: Canadian Perspectives Survey Series, June 2020.

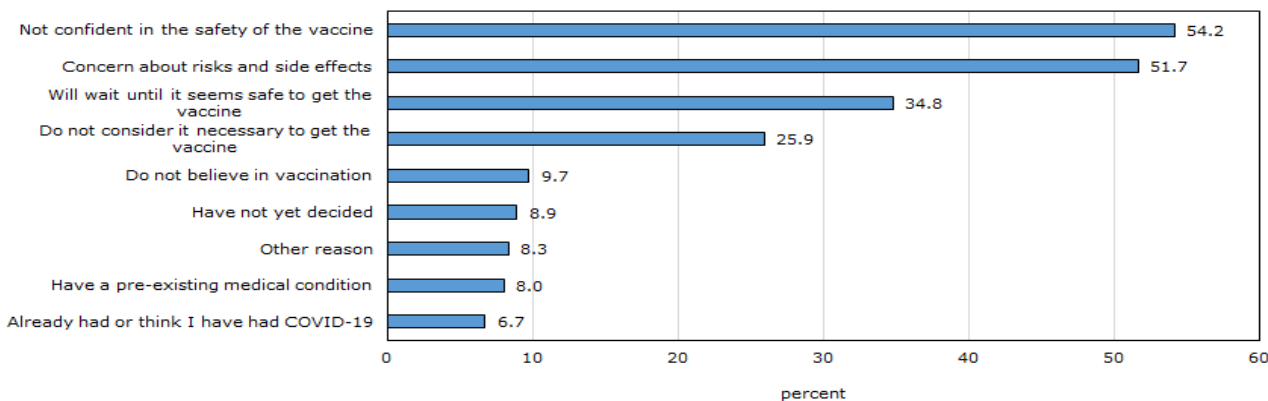
- Concerns about privacy and government access to location data are the leading reasons why people would not use a contact tracing application.

Most Canadians are willing to get a COVID-19 vaccine when available – concerns about safety, risks and side effects most commonly cited by those not likely to get one

The development of a COVID-19 vaccine has been identified as a key factor in ending the pandemic and returning to normal activities.

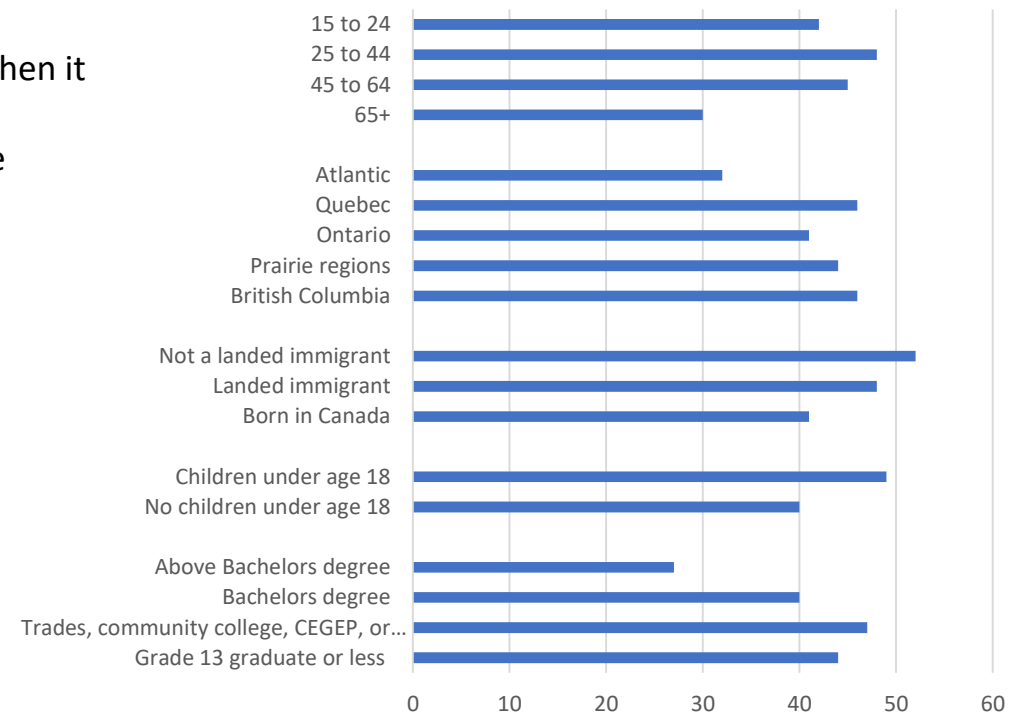
- 58% of Canadians reported that they would be very likely to get a COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available.
- 44% of Canadians are not very likely* to get a vaccine – the rate is higher among those
 - Less than 65 years of age
 - Less than a Bachelors degree
 - Landed and non-landed immigrants

Reasons for not getting a vaccine given by Canadians somewhat or very unlikely to get one



Note: Categories do not sum to 100% because respondents could select more than one response.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Perspectives Survey Series 3 (June 2020).

Proportion of Canadians not very likely* to get a vaccine by selected characteristics, June 2020



*"Not very likely" includes response categories indicating "somewhat likely", "somewhat unlikely", "very unlikely", and "don't know".

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Perspectives Survey Series 3, June 2020. 21

Looking forward

- With the possibility of a second wave in the fall, the attitudes and precautions of Canadians could become critically important;
- The arrival of the flu season and possible outbreaks in schools could lead to new and repeated measures (self-isolation, repeated testing, etc.), with large social and economic consequences;
- Statistics Canada will continue to work with its partners, including the Public Health Agency of Canada, on the most effective ways to report on how Canadians are doing in the context of the pandemic.

Reduced Quality of Life

Reduced Quality of Life

Key messages:

- The pandemic has had unprecedented impacts on Canadians' quality of life, with lowest levels of life satisfaction reported since start of time series in 2003.
- The share of Canadians rating their life satisfaction as 8 or above on a 0 to 10 scale decreased from 72% in 2018 to 40% in June 2020.
- Youth and immigrants experienced largest declines in life satisfaction since the start of the pandemic.
- While declines in quality of life are experienced across the country – some regions have been affected more than others.

The pandemic has had unprecedented impacts on Canadians' quality of life, with lowest levels of life satisfaction reported since start of time series in 2003

Finances, health and social contacts are three pillars of quality of life – all have been impacted by COVID-19.

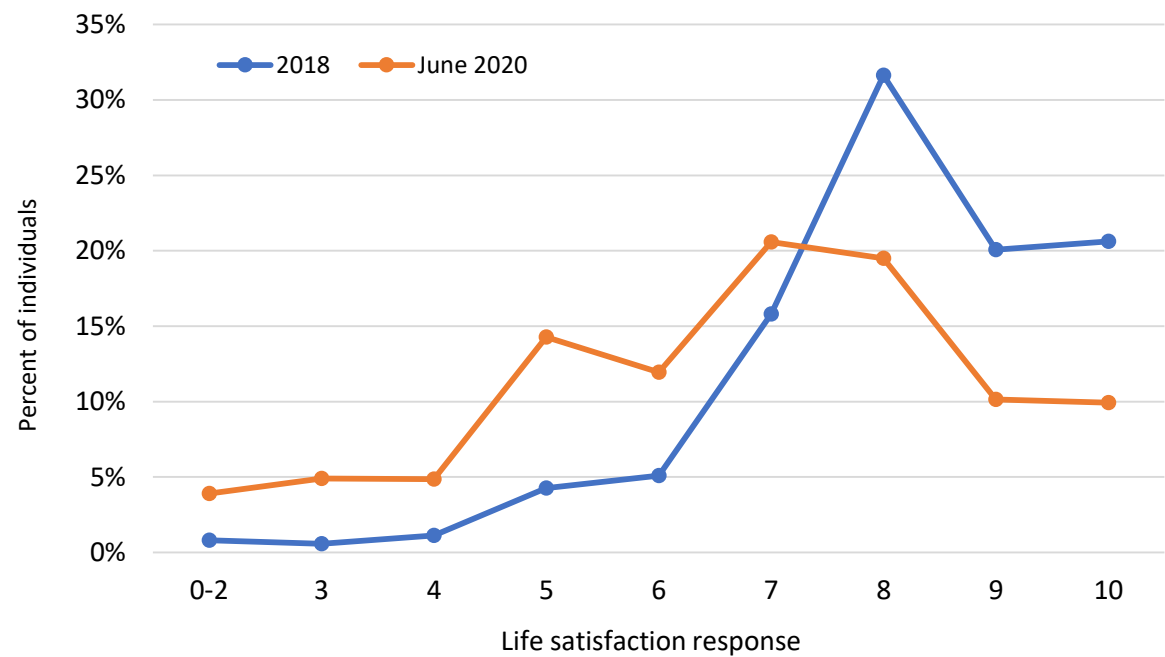
Since the pandemic, average life satisfaction in Canada declined from 8.1 in 2018 to 6.7 in June 2020 – a drop of 1.4 points on a 0 to 10 scale.

- This is about three-times the size of the decline associated with being unemployed as opposed to employed (in non-pandemic times).

The share of Canadians rating their life satisfaction as 8 or above decreased from 72% in 2018 to 40% in June 2020.

Outcomes are similar in the UK, where life satisfaction has declined by -1.2 points.

Canadians' ratings of their life satisfaction, 2018 and June 2020

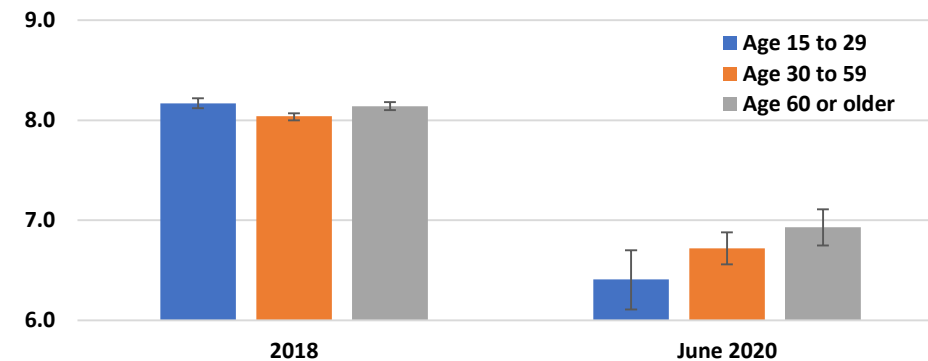


Sources: 2018 CCHS and June 2020 CPSS.

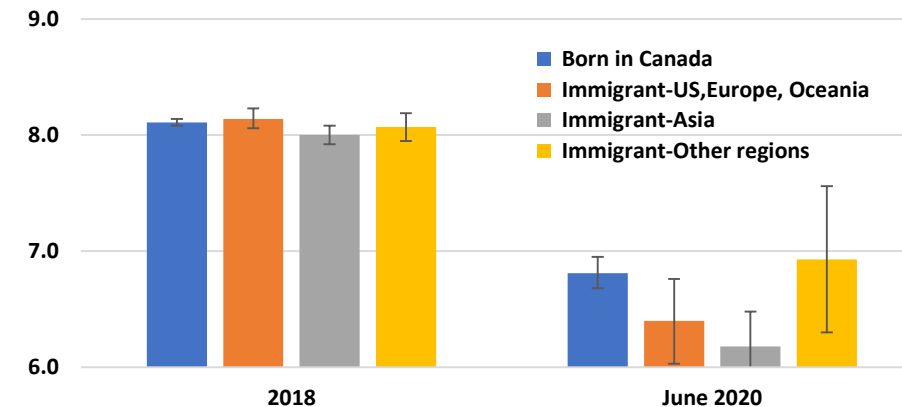
Differences observed across vulnerable population groups – youth and immigrants experienced largest declines in life satisfaction

- Since the pandemic, average life satisfaction among youth declined by -1.8 points compared with -1.2 points among older Canadians.
- Before the pandemic life satisfaction was generally similar among immigrants and the Canadian-born.
- Since the pandemic, average life satisfaction declined more among immigrants from Asia (-1.8 points) and USA/Europe (-1.7 points) than among individuals born in Canada (-1.3 points).
- Average life satisfaction reported by women and men did not differ significantly before or during the pandemic.

Average life satisfaction, by age group, Canada, 2018 and June 2020



Average life satisfaction, by immigration status, Canada 2018 and June 2020



Sources: 2018 CCHS and June 2020 CPSS.

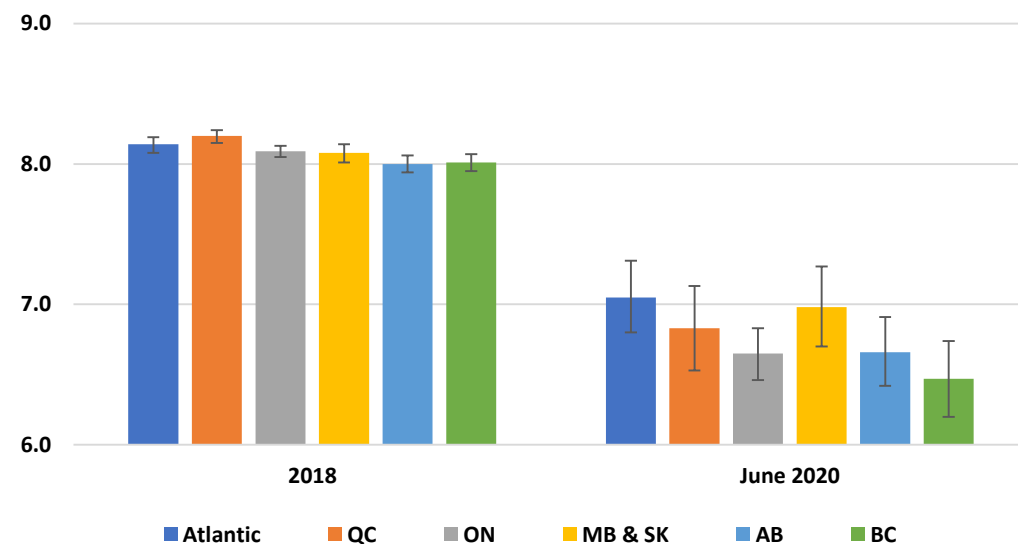
While declines in quality of life are experienced across the country – some regions affected more than others

Declines in average life satisfaction have been smaller in Atlantic Canada and in Manitoba/ Saskatchewan (at -1.1 points) and larger in British Columbia (at -1.5 points).

Initial estimates based on a small set of explanatory variables indicate that about one-third of the decline in life satisfaction in Canada is attributable to an unemployment effect.

Life satisfaction is a valuable umbrella measure for gauging quality of life. Ongoing data collection (e.g. *Canadian Perspectives Survey Series*) allows quality of life to be monitored through the pandemic.

Average life satisfaction rating, by province/region, Canada, 2018 and June 2020



Sources: 2018 CCHS and June 2020 CPSS

Impacts on Mental Health

Impacts on Mental Health

Key messages:

- Youth have experienced the greatest declines since the pandemic began.
- Those already experiencing poor mental health before COVID-19 were impacted even more by the pandemic – including those from the LGBTQ community.
- Visible minority groups were more likely than Whites to report poor mental health (27.8% vs. 22.9%) and symptoms consistent with “moderate” or “severe” generalized anxiety disorder (30.0% vs. 24.2%).
- Those reporting poor mental are up to 4 times more likely to report increased substance use since the pandemic began.

The pandemic has impacted the mental health of Canadians, with youth experiencing the greatest declines

Since COVID-19, fewer Canadians report having excellent or very good mental health – **55% (July 2020) down from 68% (2019)**.

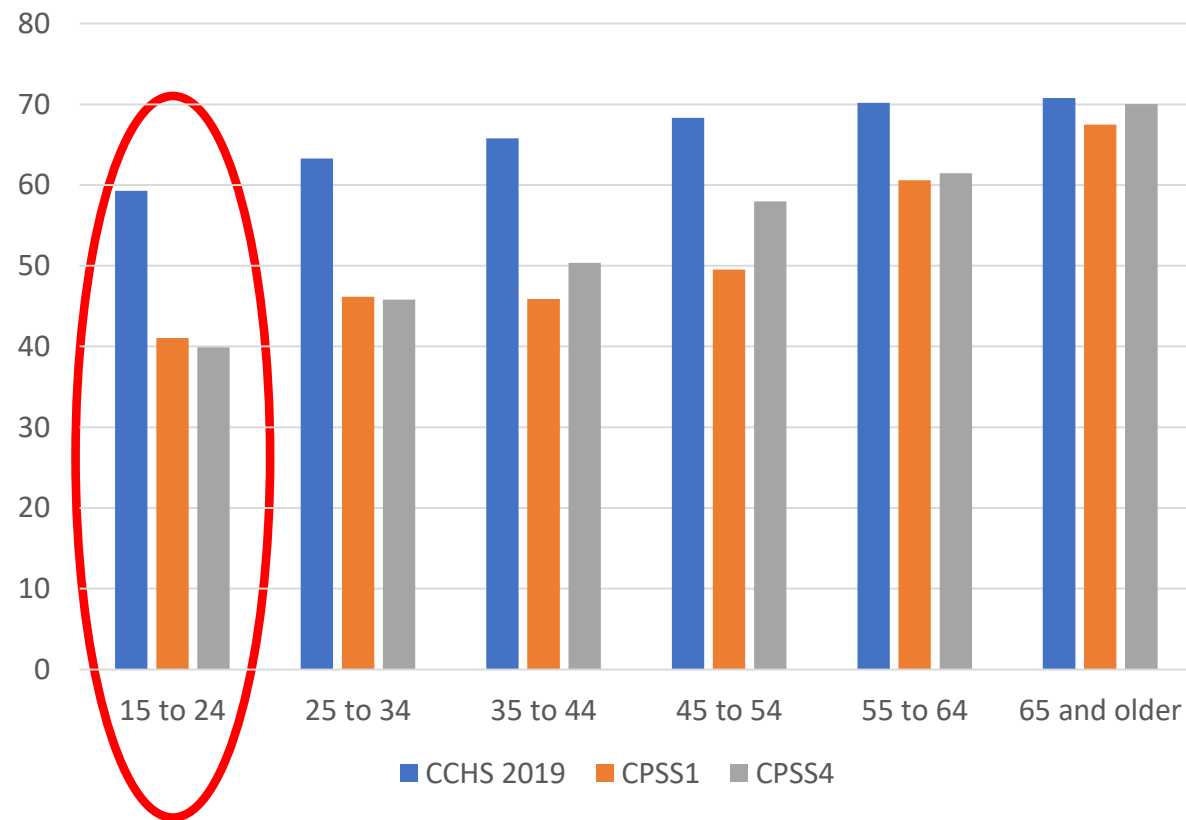
Prior to COVID-19, youth aged 15-24 were the least likely to report excellent or very good mental health.

- They report the greatest declines - **20 percentage point reduction from 60% (pre-COVID) to 40% (July 2020)**

Seniors aged 65 and older are the only group to date who have not experienced declines in mental health since the pandemic began.

Women continue to report lower levels of mental health compared with men – **52% vs 58%**.

Proportion of Canadians reporting excellent or very good mental health pre and post COVID by age group, Canada, 2019, March and July 2020*



Sources: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey, 2019; Canadian Perspectives Survey Series 1; Canadian Perspectives Survey Series 4; *not seasonally adjusted.

Those already experiencing poor mental health before COVID-19 were impacted even more by the pandemic

Prior to the pandemic, LGBTQ were at higher risk of mood disorder.

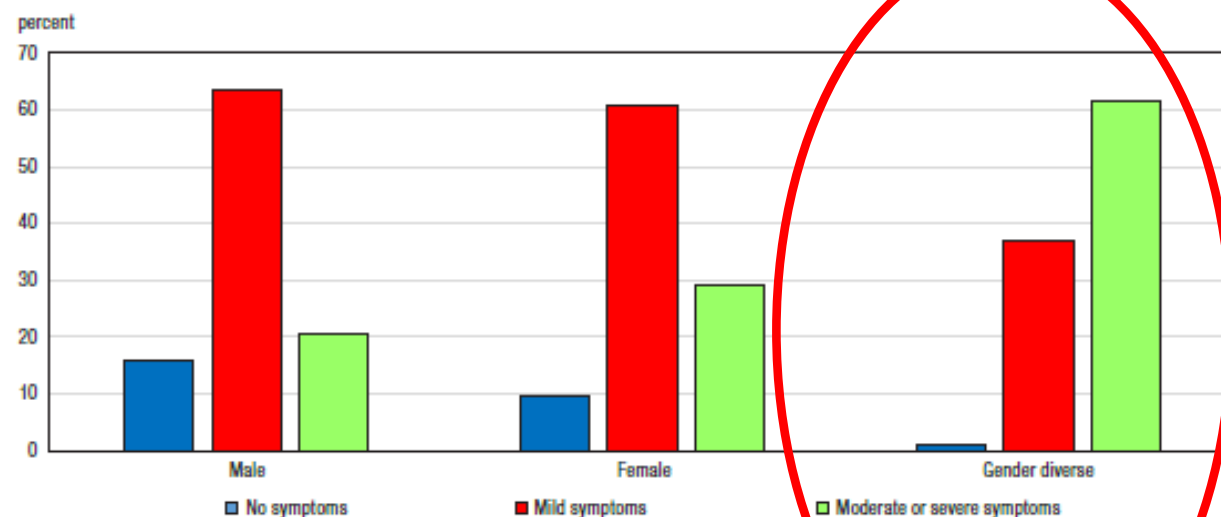
Since the pandemic, among respondents to a crowdsourcing survey, gender diverse individuals were...

- More likely to report fair/poor mental health (70%), compared with female (25.5%) and male participants (21.2%)
- **Twice** as likely as females and three times as likely as males to report symptoms consistent with moderate/severe GAD (62%, 29%, 21%).

These differences can be explained in part by...

- Younger age among gender diverse individuals;
- Gender diverse participants were more likely to be very/extremely concerned about the potential impacts of COVID-19; and
- Greater likelihood of job loss and inadequate financial resources.

General anxiety level disorder levels among respondents to a crowdsourcing survey by gender identity, Canada, June 2020



Source: Statistics Canada, Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians - Mental Health.

Generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) is a condition characterized by a pattern of frequent, persistent worry and excessive anxiety about several events or activities.

Mental health outcomes differ across visible-minority groups who are more likely to report poor mental health and impacts on ability to meet financial obligations

Since the pandemic, among respondents to a crowdsourcing survey, members of visible minority groups* were more likely than Whites to...

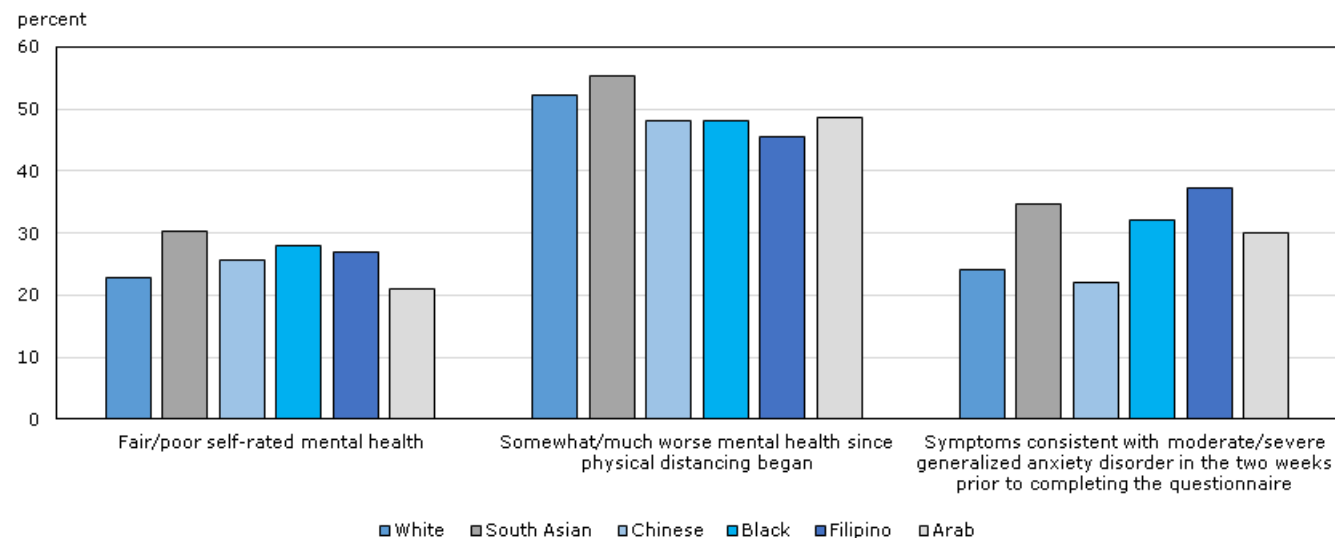
- Report “fair” or “poor” self-rated mental health (27.8% vs. 22.9%).
- Report symptoms consistent with “moderate” or “severe” GAD (30.0% vs. 24.2%).

Visible minority groups were also more likely to report that the pandemic has had a “moderate” or “major” impact on their ability to meet their financial obligations compared with Whites (35.0% vs. 22.1%) rates highest among...

- South Asian – 44%
- Black – 38%
- Filipino – 36%

* Visible minority groups include South Asian, Chinese, Black, Filipino, and Arab

Proportion of participants by mental health outcomes and specific population groups designated as visible minorities



Source: *Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians - Your Mental Health* (April 24 to May 11, 2020).

Declines in mental health observed by employment status

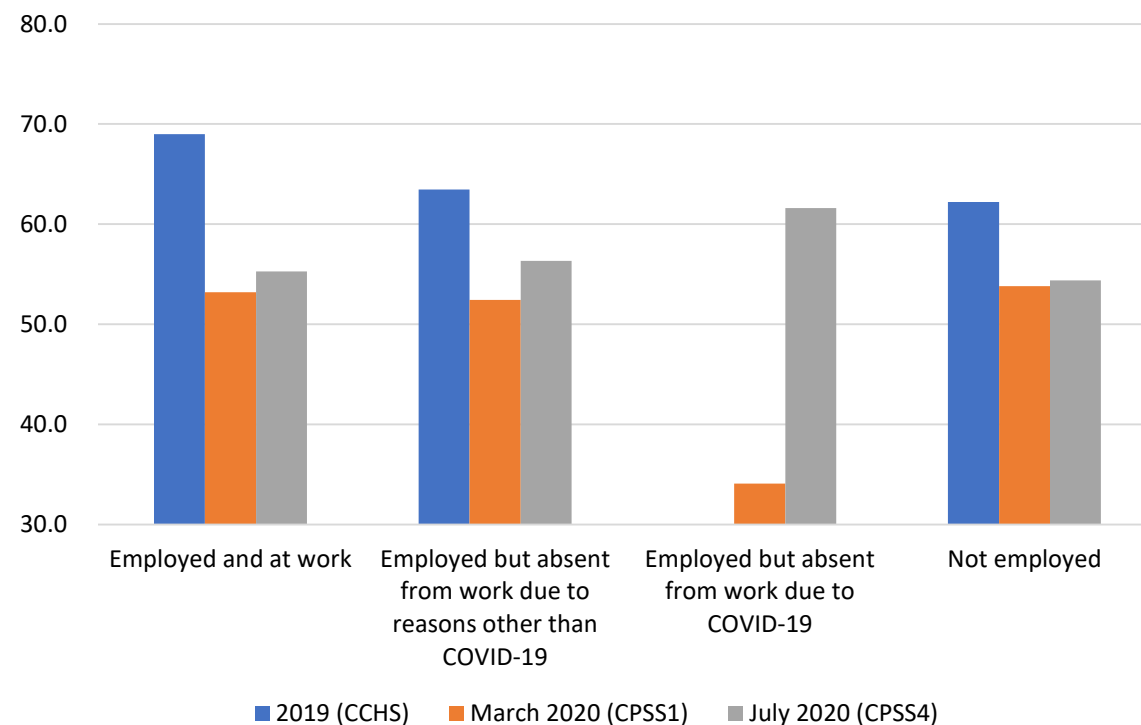
Evidence suggests a link between economic downturns and changes in mental health.

Since COVID, significant declines in mental health is observed among all employment groups compared to pre-COVID levels.

At the start of the pandemic (March), those not working due to COVID reported the lowest levels of excellent or very good mental health reported among (34%).

- But this group reported the largest increase in July at 61% - possibly reflecting the impacts of support programs.

Proportion of Canadians reporting excellent or very good mental health pre and post COVID by employment status, Canada, 2019, March and July 2020



Sources: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey, 2019 and Canadian Perspectives Survey Series 4.

Those reporting poor mental are up to 4 times more likely to report increased substance use since the pandemic began

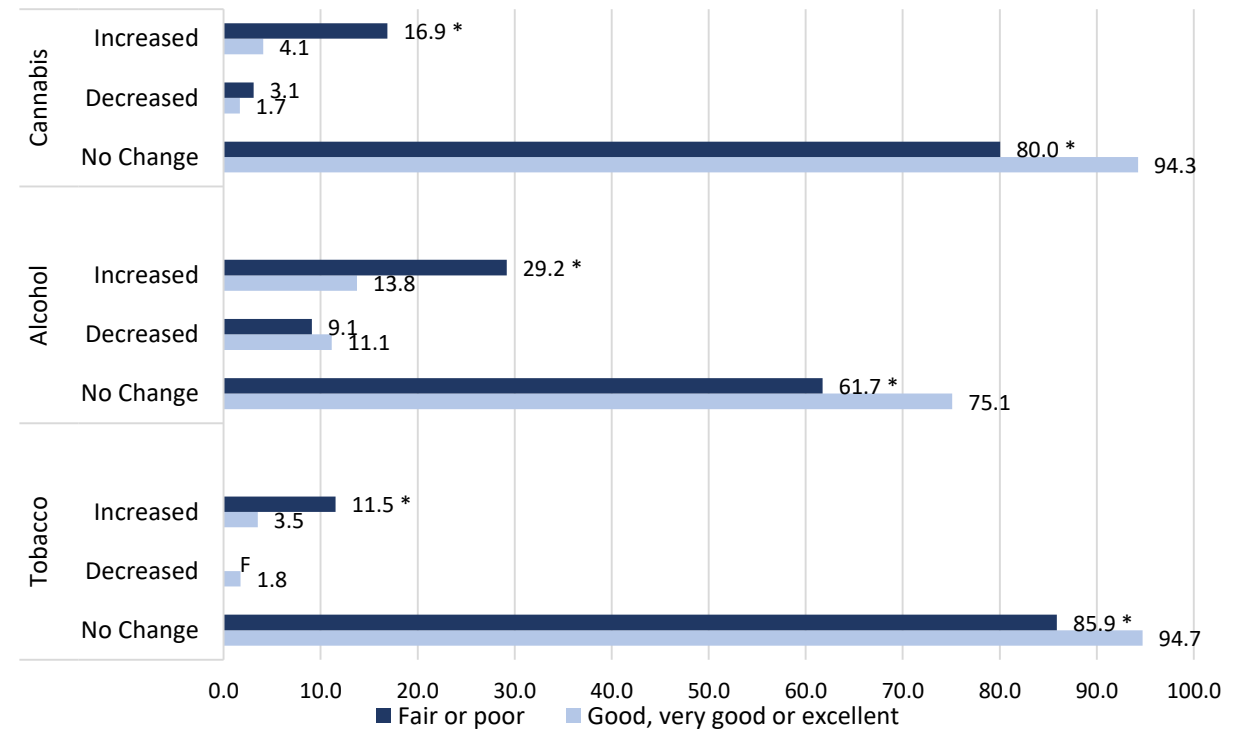
Prior to COVID...

- **14%** of Canadians report consuming cannabis
- Heavy drinking behaviours have remained relative stable– rates are highest among **young males (33%)**.

Since COVID-19, some Canadians continue to report increases in their alcohol (16.2%), cannabis (**6.1%**) and tobacco (4.8%) consumption.

- Increase in cannabis use highest among youth aged 15 to 35 (12%).
- Increase in alcohol use highest among those 35 to 54.
- Patterns were similar between males and females.

Proportion of Canadians reporting increase in substance use by mental health, Canada, 2020



Source: Statistics Canada. CPSS Wave 4, July 20-26, 2020.

Looking forward

- Mental health impact of COVID-19 pandemic needs to be followed over time to see the long-term impact of physical distancing (mental health effects often last much longer than the actual event).
- Youth are particularly at risk given the many changes that occur in this life stage (education, early employment) and the high dependence on social connections.
- More research on other subgroups who may be particularly impacted is necessary, e.g., mental health of parents who are continuing to balance work, school, and home life.

Excess Mortality

Excess Mortality

Key messages:

Excess mortality occurs when there are more deaths during a period of time than what would be expected for that period, if there was no pandemic.

- Measures direct and indirect impacts of COVID-19.
- Statistics Canada continues to modernize vital statistics program to meet demand for more timely information on mortality in Canada.

Excess mortality was observed across Canada since the start of the pandemic.

- The number of deaths in Canada was higher than expected starting in March and returned to normal levels in June.
- The largest provinces of Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia all experienced varying levels of excess mortality over this period.
- Excess mortality has been similar for both sexes and has disproportionately affected those over the age of 85.

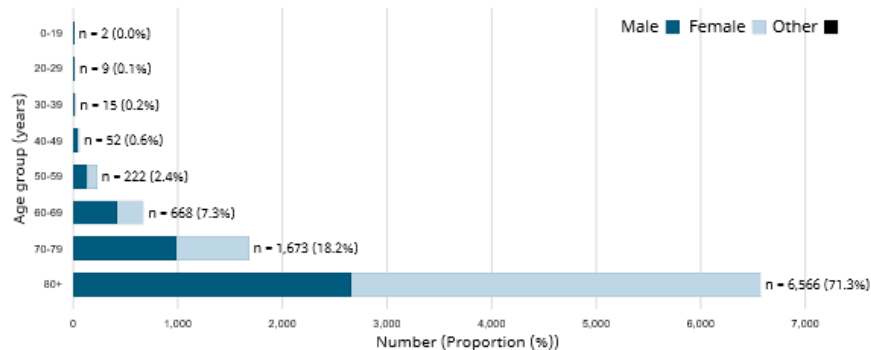
COVID-19 has claimed over 9,000 Canadian lives

COVID-19 continues to impact Canadians - many have lost family members and friends to the pandemic.

As of September 27, 2020, there were 9,268 deaths due to COVID in Canada.

- Death rate, among confirmed cases, of 6.1%
- 71% of deaths occurred among those 80+ years of age – many who were living in long-term care settings

Figure 4. Age and gender distribution of COVID-19 cases deceased in Canada as of September 27, 2020, 7 pm EDT (n=9,207)



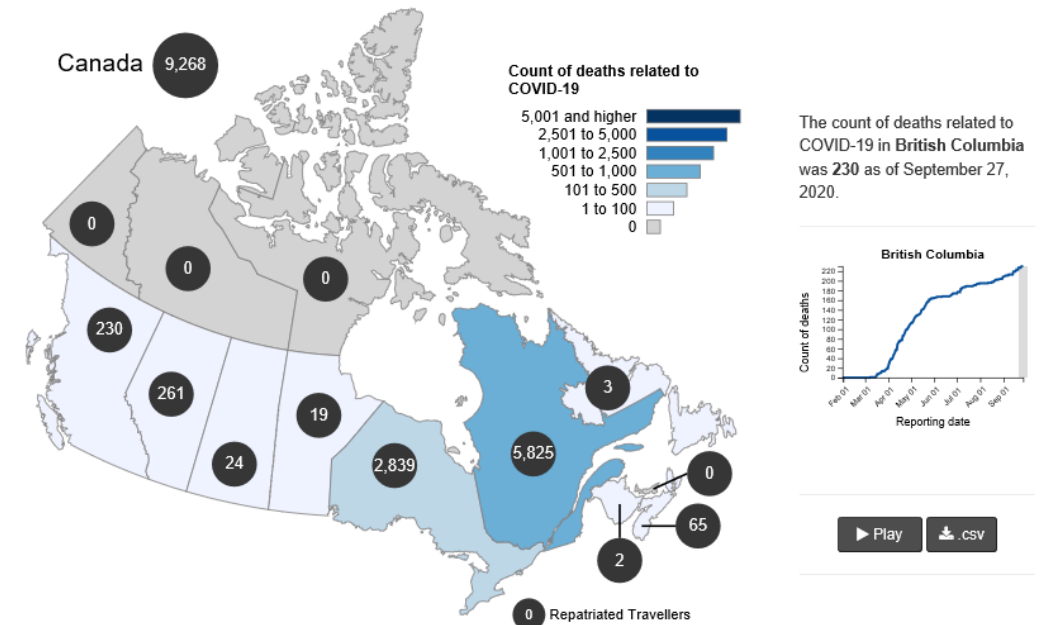
Source: Public Health Agency of Canada.

Current situation

Count of **deaths** related to COVID-19 in Canada as of September 27, 2020

Last data update 2020-09-27 19:00 EDT

Hover over provinces and territories to see total cases, active cases, recovered cases, number of people tested or deaths in Canada over time. Click the play button to animate the map.



This information is based on data from our provincial and territorial partners. It is current as of September 27, 2020, 7 pm EDT. For the most up to date data for any province, territory or city, please visit their web site.

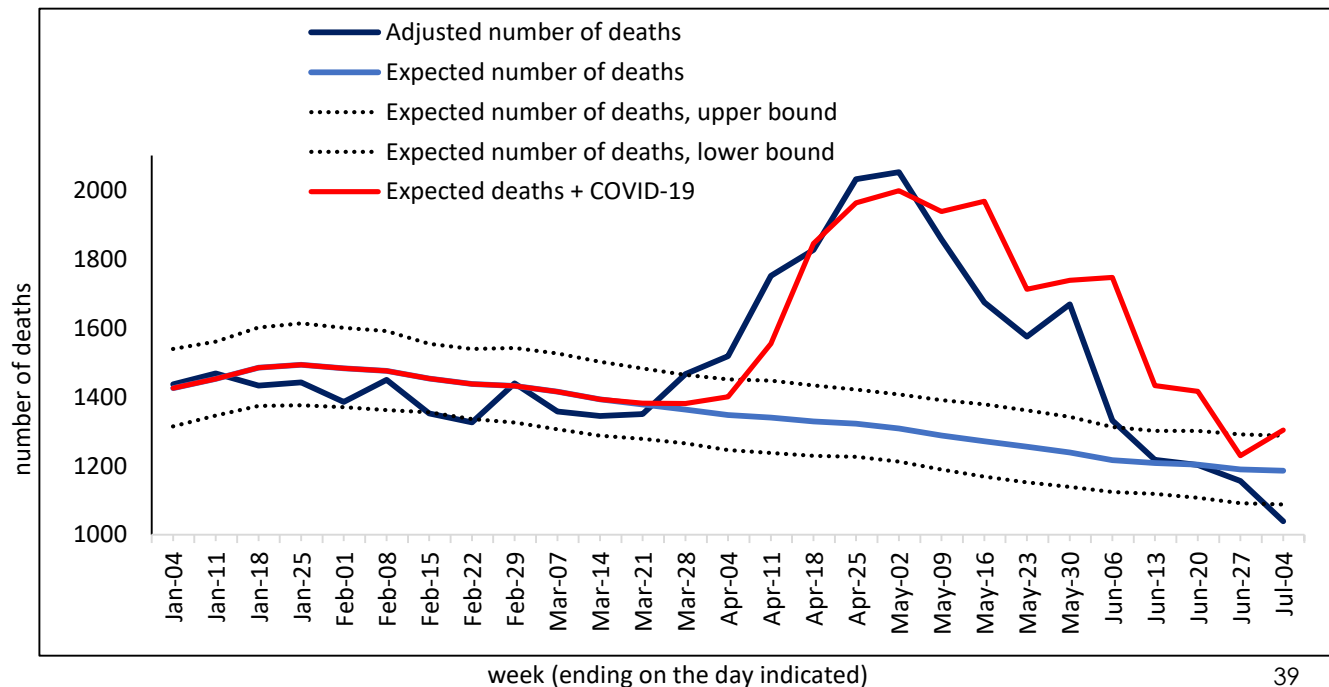
Excess mortality in the time of COVID-19 – measuring the direct and indirect impact on Canadian lives due to the pandemic

Excess mortality - the number of deaths in Canada was higher than expected starting in March 2020 and returned to normal levels in June 2020.

- The largest provinces of Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia all experienced varying levels of excess mortality over this period.
- Excess mortality has been similar for both sexes and has disproportionately affected those over the age of 85.

Excess mortality occurs when there are more deaths during a period of time than what would be expected for that period, if there was no pandemic.

Provisional adjusted weekly number of deaths, expected number of deaths and COVID-19-related deaths, Quebec



Indirect impacts - Non-COVID related deaths account for some of the excess mortality during the pandemic

Excess non-COVID related deaths may occur due to measures put in place to address the pandemic such as missed or delayed medical interventions and other possible changes in behaviour such as increased substance use.

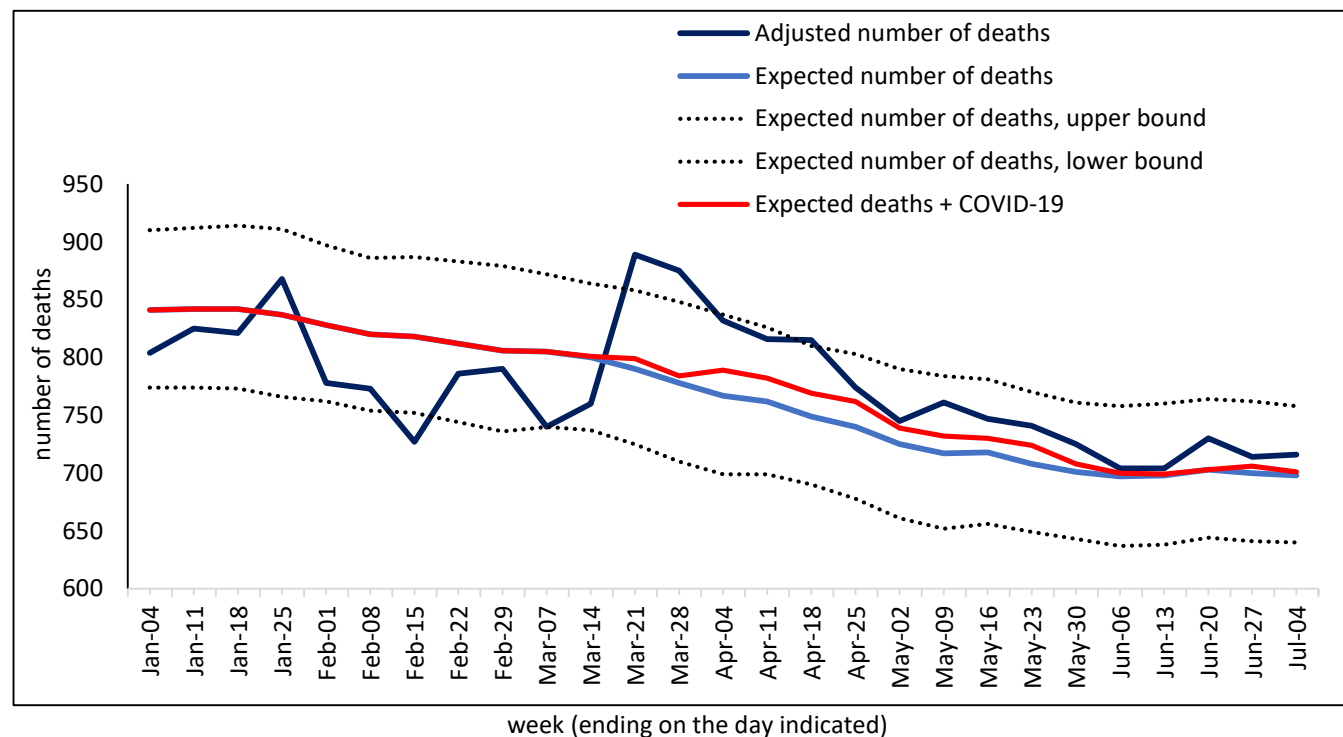
- In British Columbia, there were 336 more deaths than expected from the middle of March to the end of April - 232 more than the 104 deaths reportedly attributed to COVID-19 over the same period.
- These excess deaths, not directly attributed to COVID-19, may be due to underreporting in the early phases of the pandemic or to indirect consequences.

British Columbia, Ontario and Alberta — have reported increases in overdose fatalities since the pandemic began.

Increase in fatal overdoses may be due to...

- Closing of support services such as safe injection sites
- Increase in fentanyl concentrations

Provisional adjusted weekly number of deaths, expected number of deaths and COVID-19-related deaths, British Columbia



130% increase in overdose deaths in B.C. in June 2020 compared to June of 2019 (Global news)

Looking forward

- Continued monthly releases on excess mortality
- New insights looking at causes of death
 - Excess deaths by cause
 - Disaggregation of deaths caused by COVID-19

Economic Impacts and Recovery Related to the Pandemic

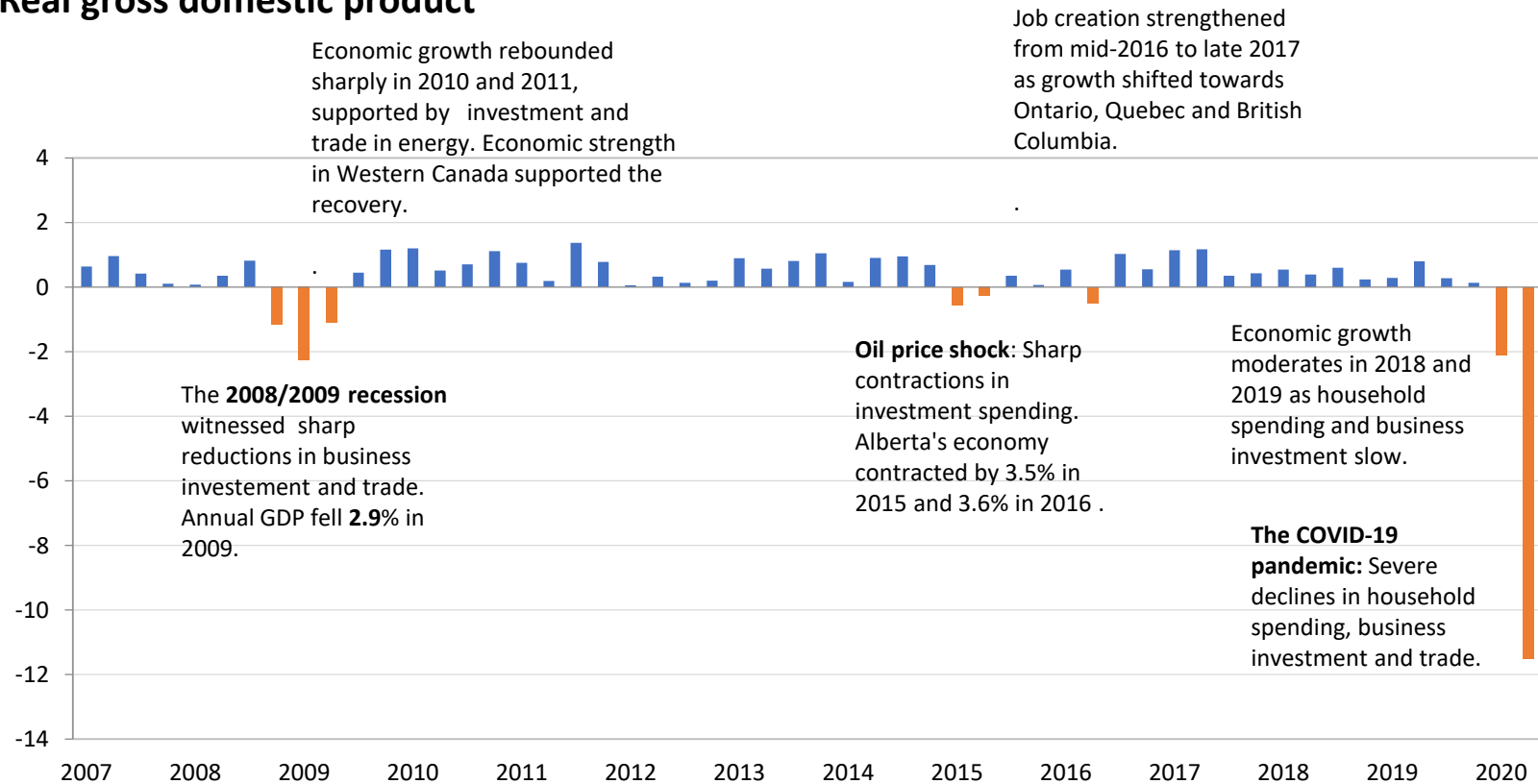
Economic Impacts and Recovery Related to the Pandemic

Key messages:

- Output is recovering as businesses reopen – but stark differences across sectors. Output in accommodation and food services in June was at 55% of its pre-pandemic level.
- Employment is recovering, but steep losses remain in certain highly impacted sectors. Youth, less educated workers, women, recent immigrants, and temporary employees have been hit harder.
- Prior to the pandemic, firm creation was on a upswing and the financial position of firms was improving. Closures rose dramatically during the shutdowns as employees left payrolls - 62,600 business closures were observed in May, 29% less than in April but still 59% higher than pre-COVID-19 levels observed in February.
- Structural challenges in heavily affected sectors - The retail sector rebounded quickly from storefront closures as companies developed or enhanced their on-line platforms.
- Digitalization will be a driver of structural change in the economy. The share of businesses with at least 10% of their workforce teleworking doubled from February to May 2020, from 16.6% to 32.6%.

Unprecedented declines in output

Real gross domestic product



Job creation strengthened from mid-2016 to late 2017 as growth shifted towards Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia.

As a purposeful, policy-based response to a health crisis, the COVID-19 restrictions brought about severe contractions in most industrial sectors, including in **many service-based industries** that typically support the economy during conventional downturns.

The road to recovery will involve major adaptations for businesses and households, which poses challenges for an equitable and resilient recovery.

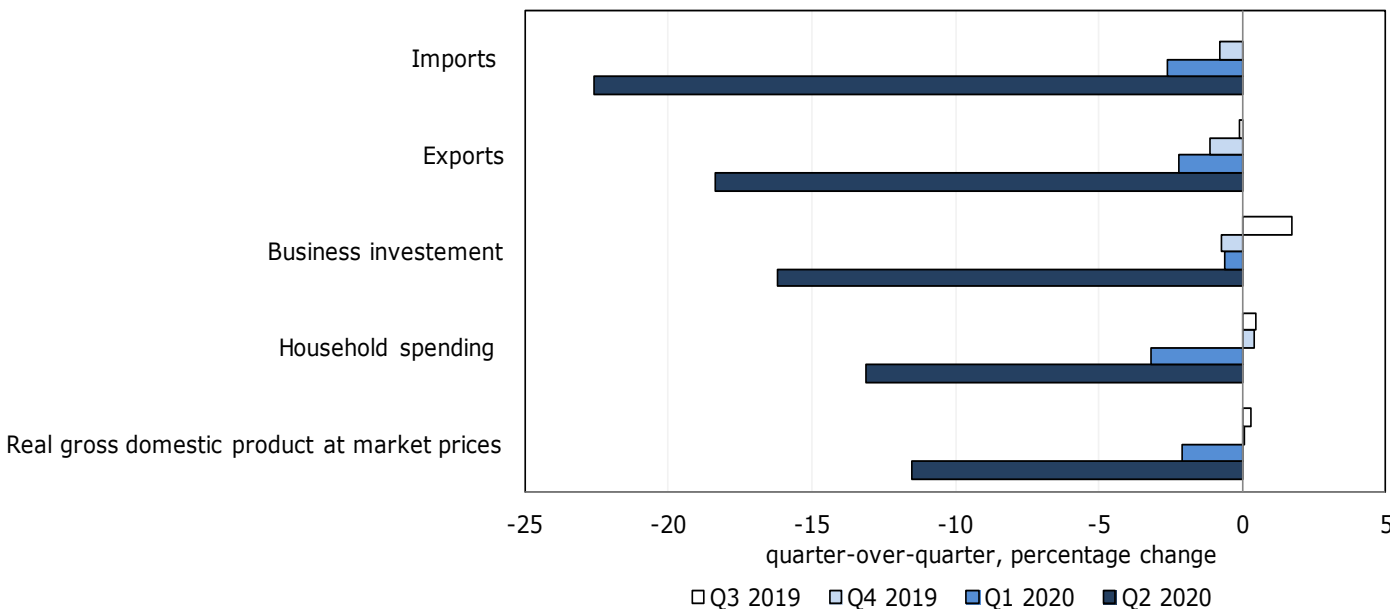
Note: Data available on CODR. Quarter over quarter percent changes derived and presented in the graph.

Source: Statistics Canada, table 36-10-0104.

Severe declines in most types of economic activity

Historic declines in household spending, business investment, and international trade as the economy contracted by 11.5% in the second quarter

Real GDP and selected components



Source: Statistics Canada table 36-10-0104-01.

During Q2, household spending fell by a record 13% as families faced heightened levels of job and income uncertainty.

Employment earnings fell by almost 9% in the second quarter. At the same time, household **disposable income rose by almost 11%**, because of the transfers and income supports provided by governments. Higher disposable income, coupled with lower spending...

...pushed the household savings rate to just over 28%, up from about 8% in the first quarter.

Many different aspects of the economy, from trade to investment to consumer spending, will need to rebound if the recovery is to be robust.

Strong retail numbers in May and June and housing numbers in July **indicate consumers are opening their pocket books**, but questions about the long term impact of the pandemic on mid and lower income households remain. The **outlook on business investment remains weak** and the **outlook on trade is mixed**, depending largely on developments in the U.S.

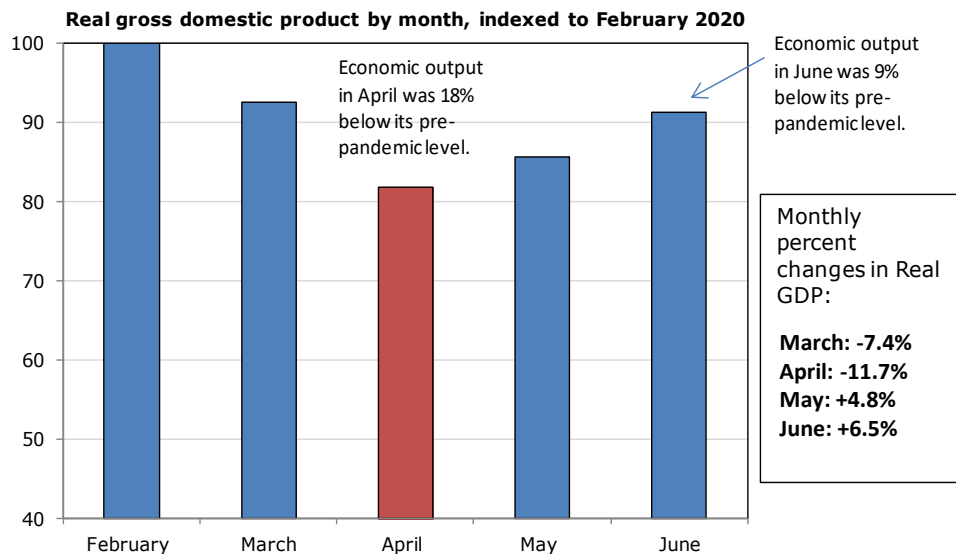
Output is recovering as businesses reopen – but stark differences across sectors

Many consumer-facing services face **major logistical challenges and adaptation costs**, particularly those directly involved in tourism and hospitality.

But, the recovery, especially in services, is very uneven, with many professional services rebounding quickly while other services struggle to recover.

Output in accommodation and food services in June was at 55% of its pre-pandemic level.

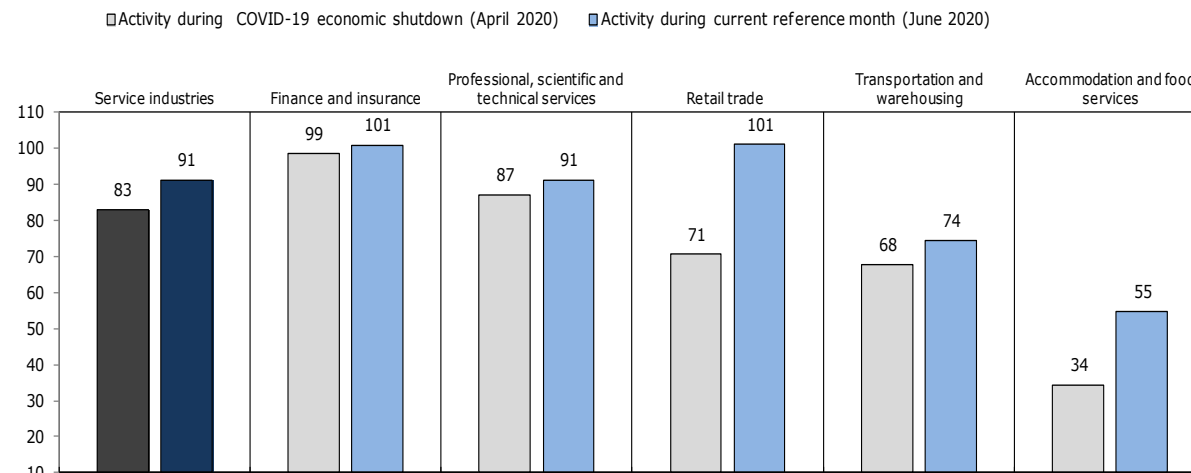
Economic output continues to rebound as more businesses reopen



Source: Statistical Canada table 36-10-0434-01.

Real gross domestic product, expressed as a percentage of pre-COVID levels, selected service industries

index (February 2020=100)



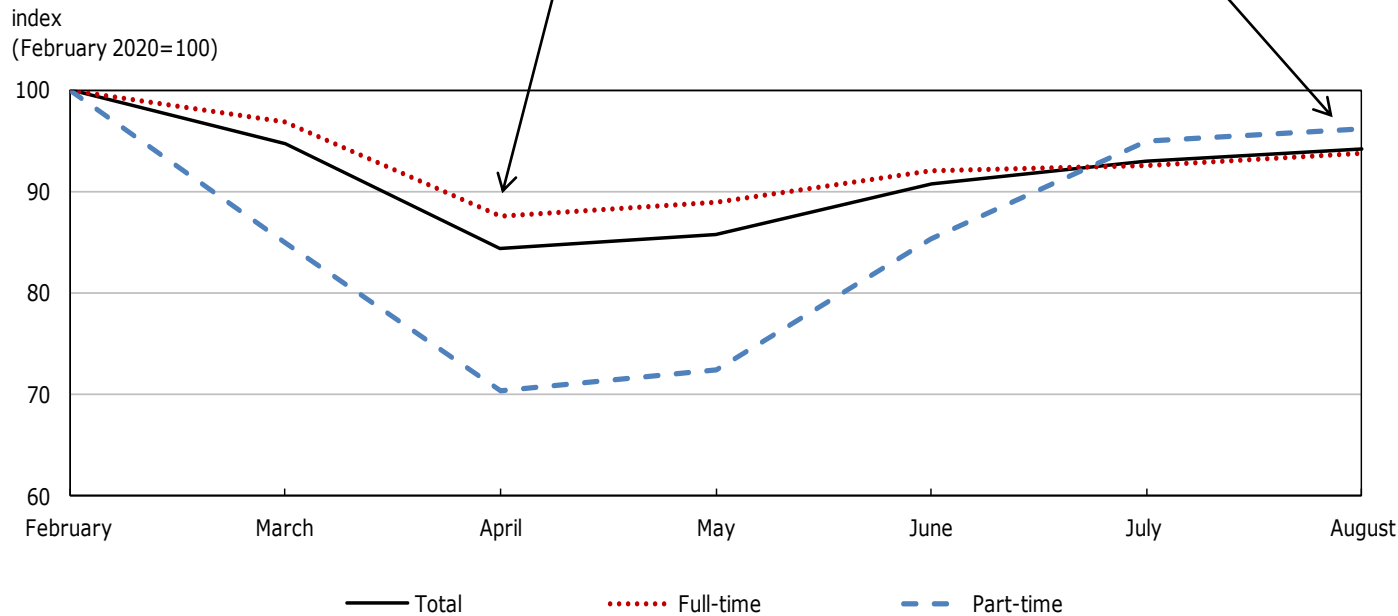
Source: Statistics Canada, table 36-10-0434-01.

Historic declines in labour market activity

Employment losses totaled 3 million from February to April, almost 2 million of which were in full-time work.

Employment rose by 1.9 million from April to August. **Total employment in August was 5.3% below its pre-pandemic level.**

Employment, by type of work



Labour market indicators:

Unemployment rate:

- 10.2% (August)
- 10.9% (July)
- 13.7% (May)
- 5.6% (February)

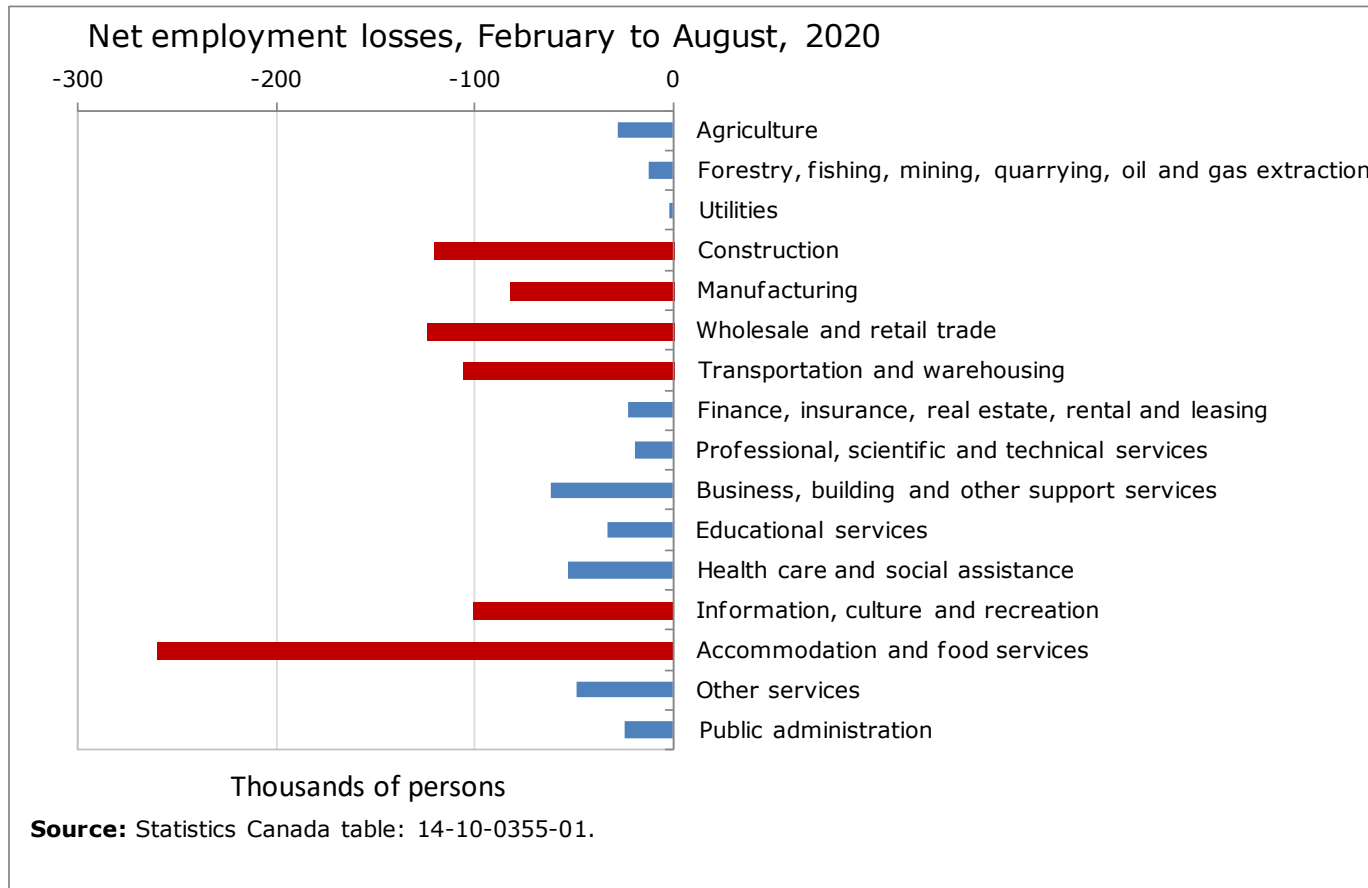
Employment rate

- 58.0% (August)
- 57.3% (July)
- 52.1% (April)
- 61.8% (February)

Assessing the recovery to date: From February to April, **5.5 million** Canadian workers were affected by the COVID-19 economic shutdown. By August, the number of impacted workers had fallen to **1.8 million**.

Source: Statistics Canada, table 14-10-0287-01.

Employment is recovering, but steep losses remain in certain highly impacted sectors



Employment in several heavily impacted industries (e.g., construction, manufacturing) has rebounded to more than 90% of pre-COVID levels as businesses reopen...

...By contrast, overall **employment in accommodation and food services remains over 20% below** levels in February.

However, payroll employment (a stricter measure of employment based on the number of workers receiving pay or benefits) yields a different perspective on the financial challenges facing many workers, especially those in lower earning occupations.

Severe declines in payroll employment among hourly paid workers



- As of July, there had been only a modest recovery in the number of payroll jobs (based on the number of workers receiving pay or benefits in that month).
- Overall payroll employment **was down 1.9 million from February levels, with hourly paid workers accounting for two-thirds of overall losses.** Payroll employment in accommodation and food services was about two-thirds of its pre-COVID-19 level.
- Among hourly paid workers, payroll employment in July remained about 13% below February's level.

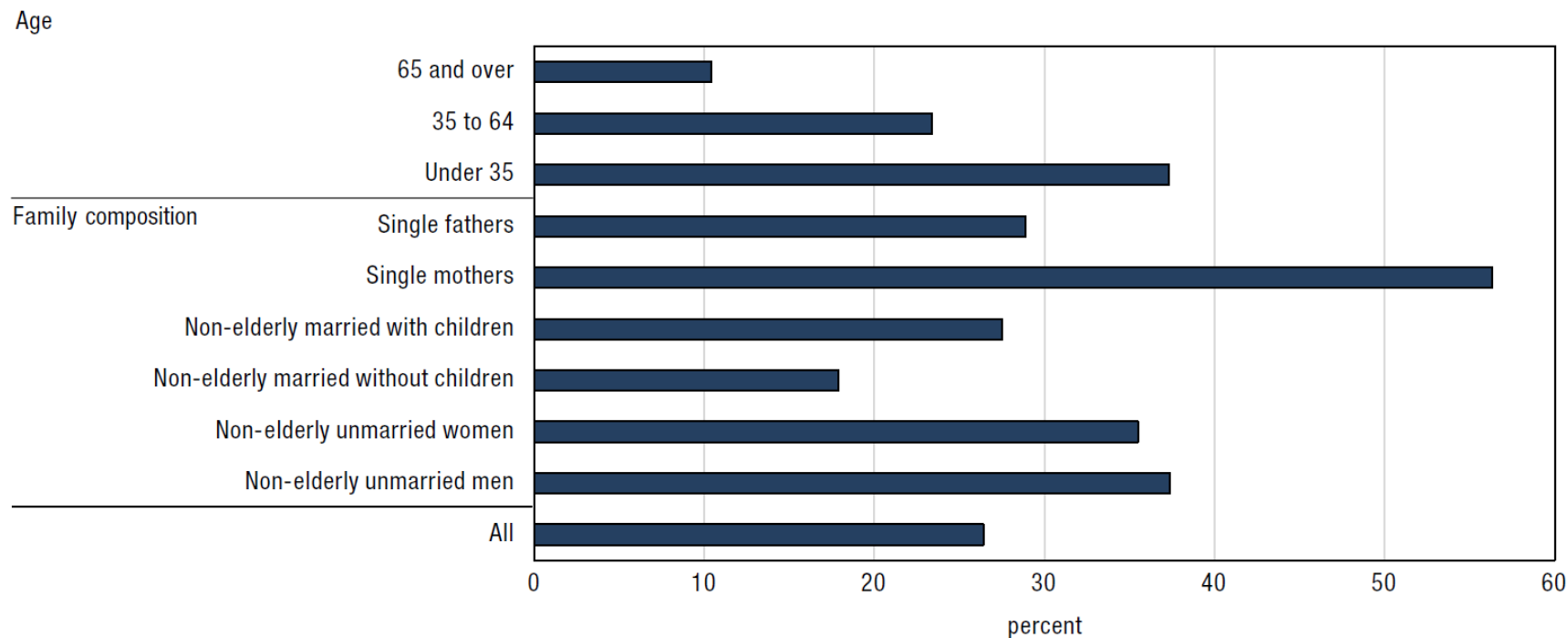
Economic impacts - Unequal impacts on Canadian workers

Challenges for robust, inclusive growth - Unequal impacts on Canadian households

- Prior to Covid-19, Canadian families were unequal in their ability to deal with a lockdown, as many had little savings or financial reserves to rely on during extended work stoppages.
- Facing a two-month work stoppage, about one in four families did not have enough savings to avoid falling into poverty in the absence of government transfers.
- New Canadians, lower educated workers, and diverse population groups are among those at most risk.

Unequal impacts - Financial vulnerabilities among working families prior to COVID-19

Financial vulnerability, by age and family type



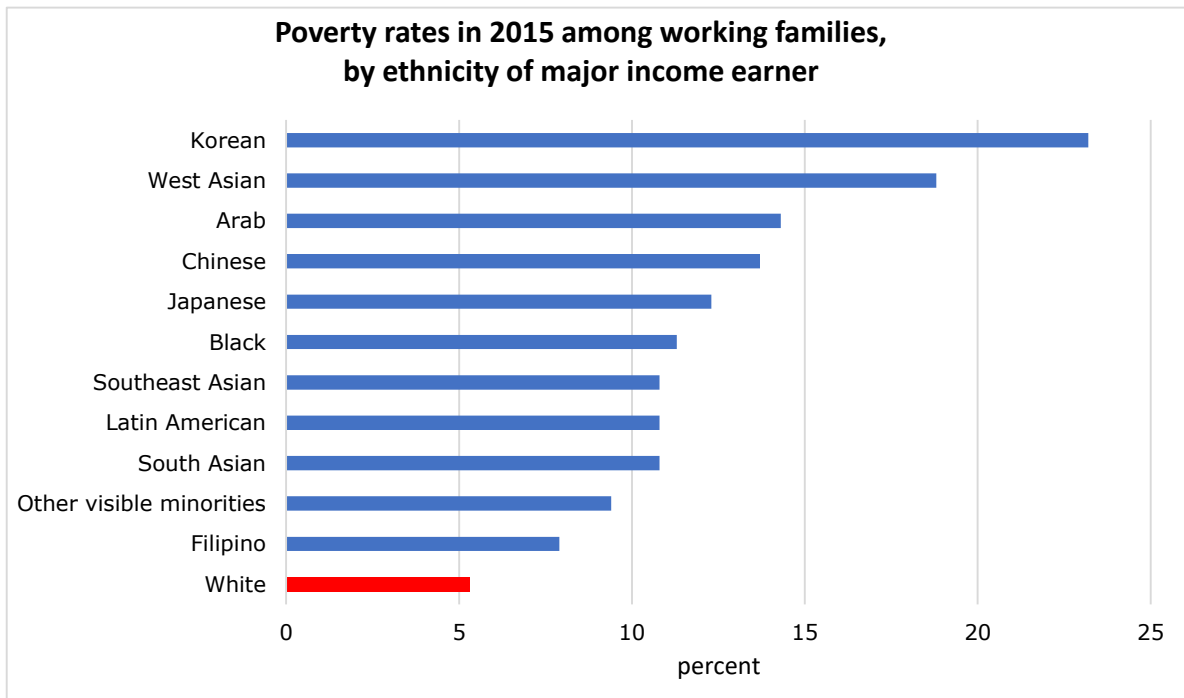
Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Financial Security, 2016.

Without government transfers, financially vulnerable families would have needed, on average, **\$3,500** over 2 months to stay above low income.

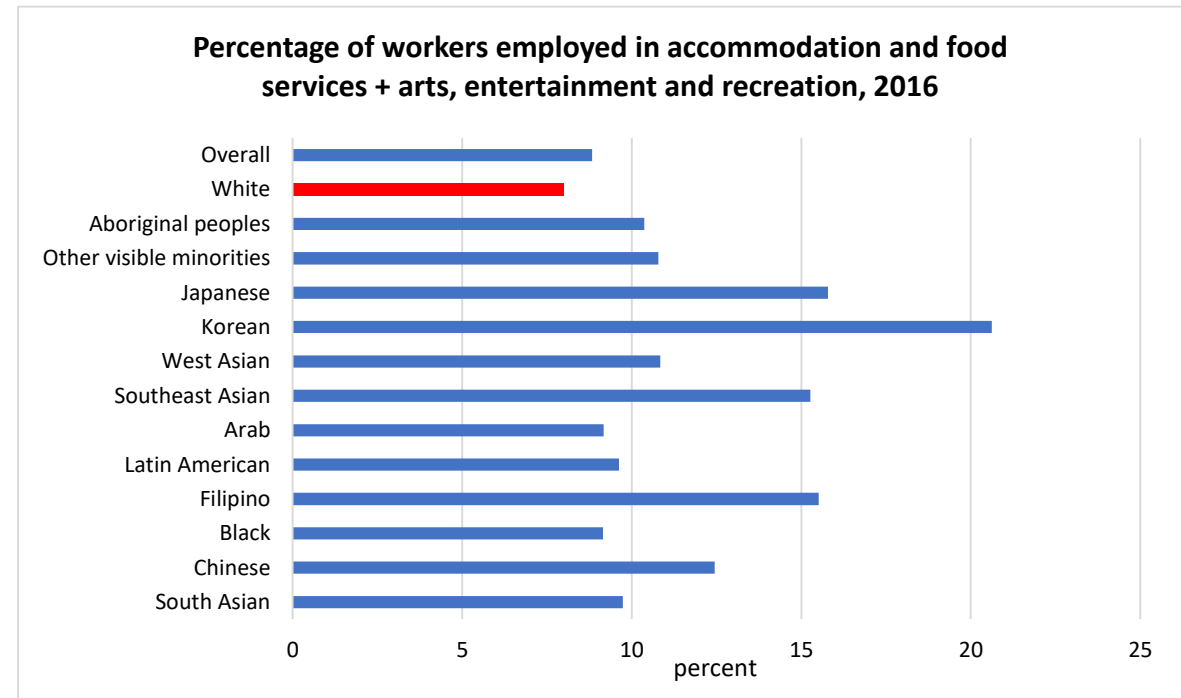
1 in 3 Canadians did not have enough savings to handle a **3-month** work stoppage.

Unequal impacts - Visible minority groups face much higher risks from work stoppages

Recent immigrants were more likely than Canadian-born workers to move out of employment in March and April, mainly because of their shorter job tenure and over-representation in lower-wage jobs.

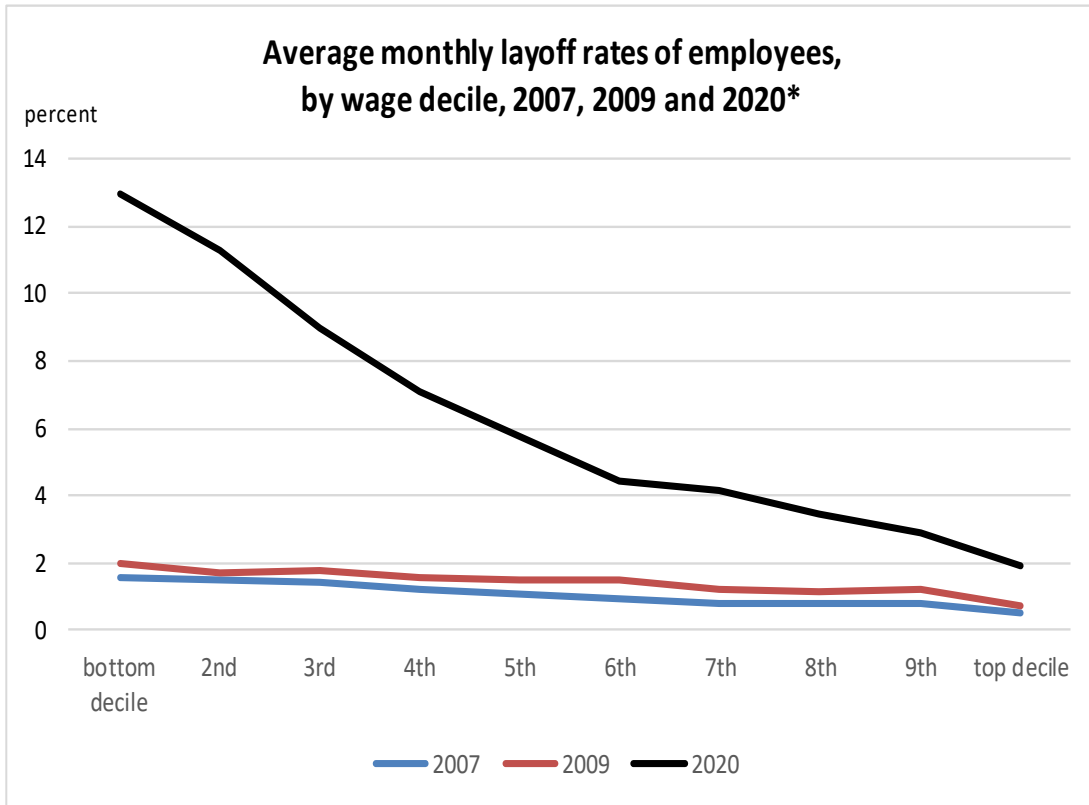


Note: People not designated as a visible minority are identified with the colour red.
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population of 2016.



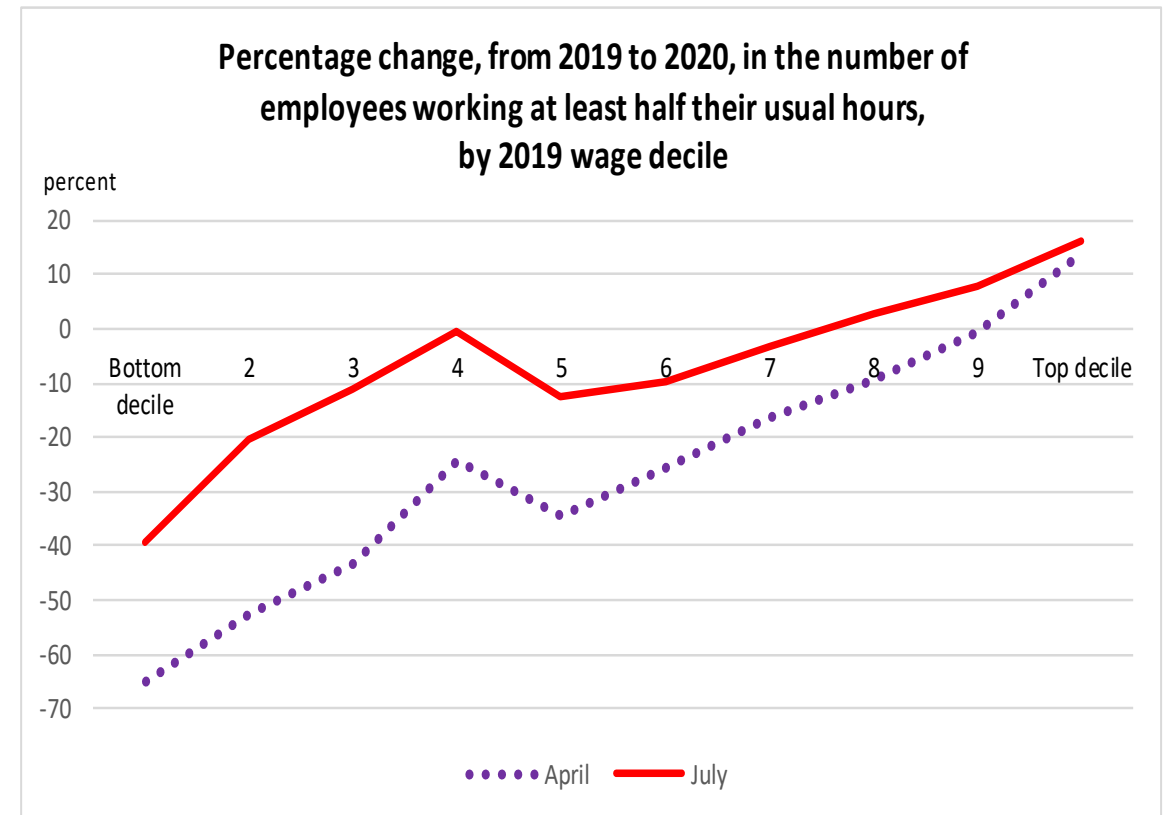
Note: People not designated as a visible minority are identified with the colour red.
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population of 2016.

Unequal impacts - Low-wage workers have been affected to a far greater extent than during the 2008-2009 recession



* February-March, March-April and April-May 2020; all pairs of months for 2007 and 2009.

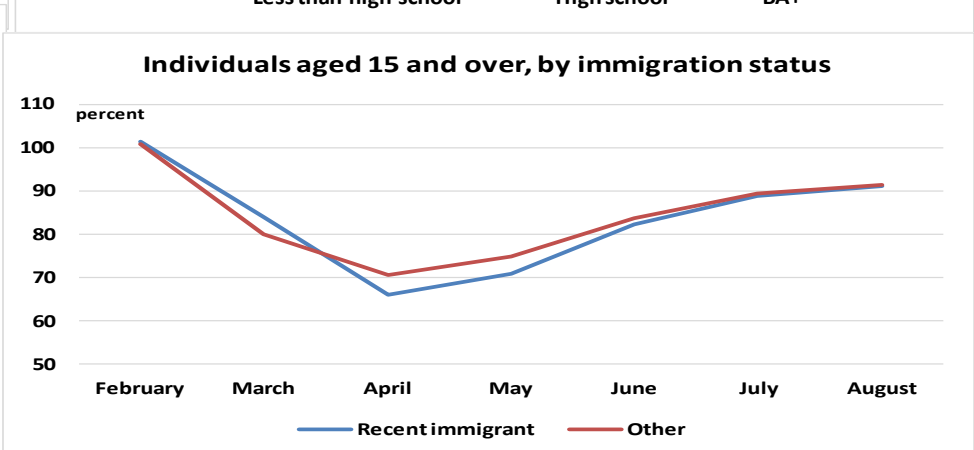
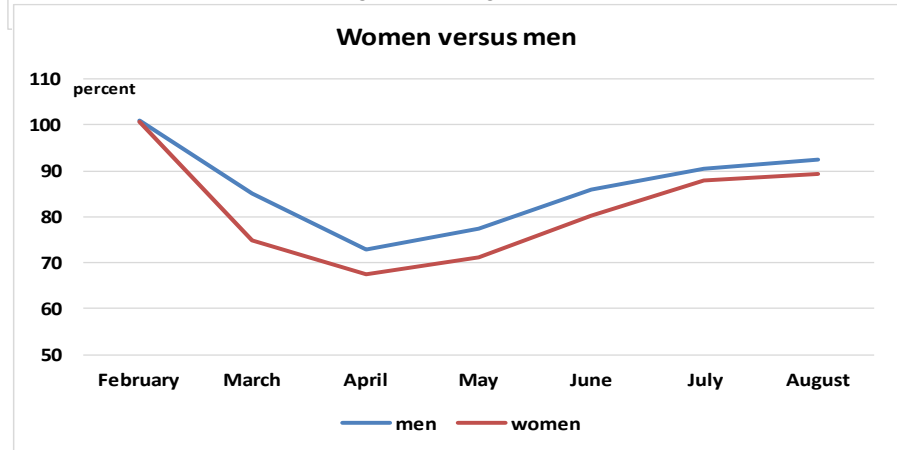
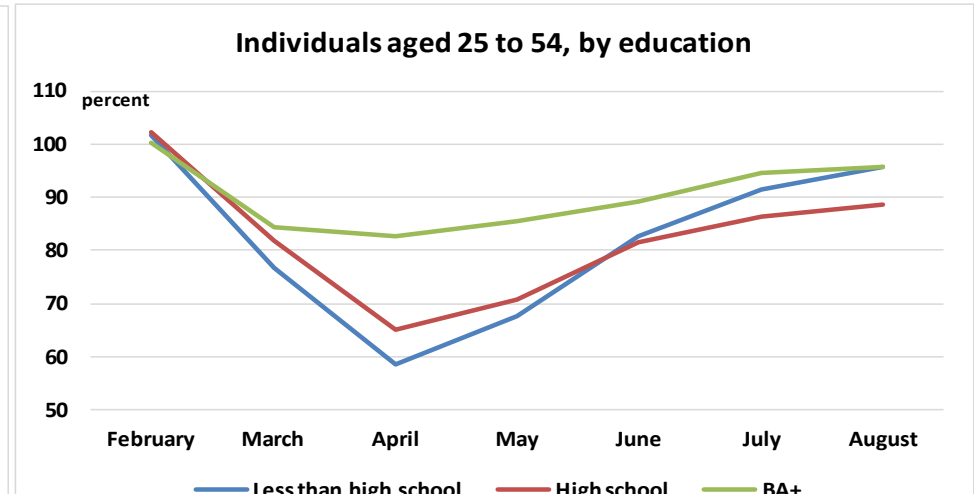
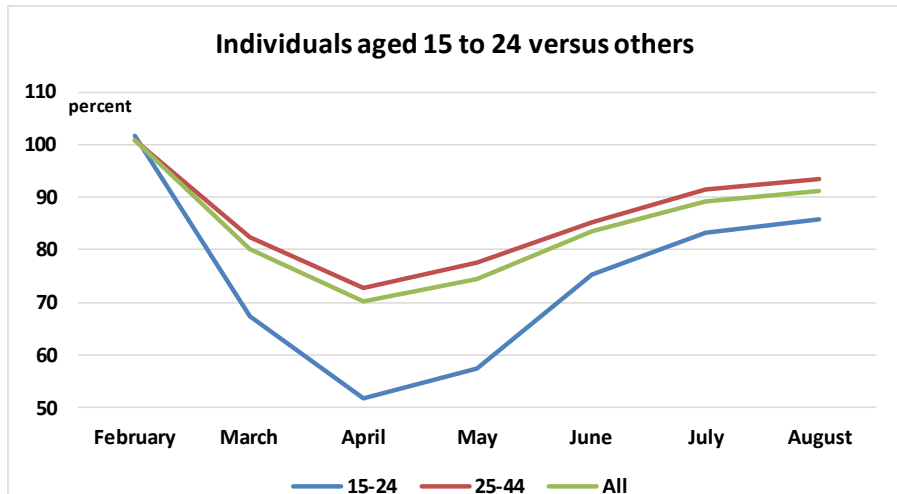
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Unequal impacts - Youth, less educated workers, women, recent immigrants, and temporary employees have been hit harder

Percentage change in the proportion of population employed and working at least half of their usual hours



Among **temporary** employees aged 25-54, employment at significant hours was 20% lower in August 2020 than in August 2019.

Among **permanent** employees aged 25-54, the corresponding gap was 3%.

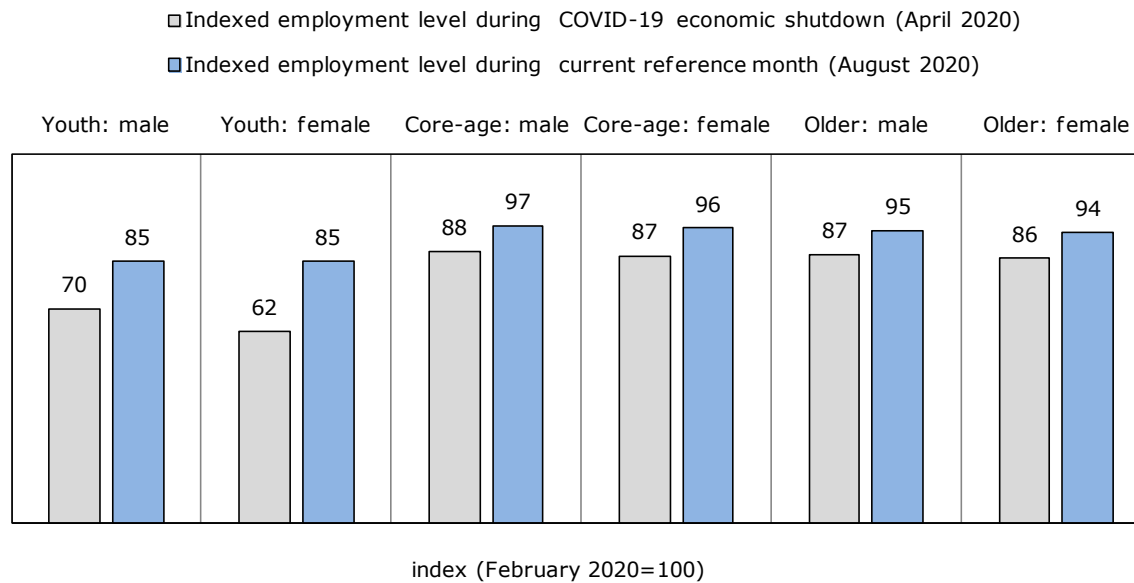
Employees holding jobs that can be done from home have generally fared better.

Source: Statistics Canada, Special tabulations, Labour Force Survey.

Unequal impacts - Women and youth

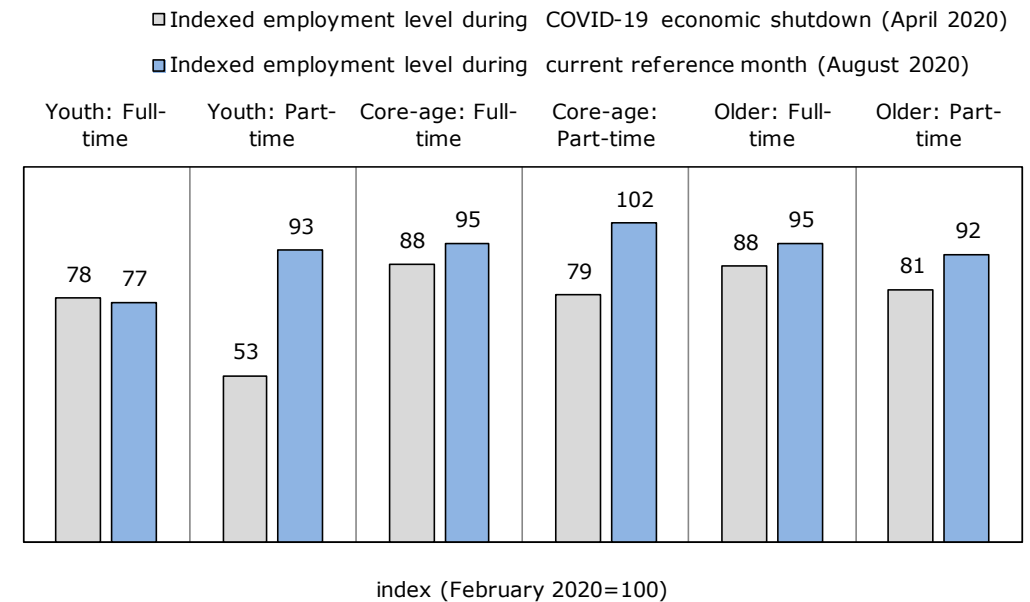
Employment losses among youth were severe during the containment phase (totaling over 870,000). Since April, youth employment has rebounded by 483,000.

Employment, expressed as a percentage of pre-COVID levels, by age group and sex



Notes: Youth: 15 to 24 year-olds; Core-age: 25 to 54 year-olds; Older: 55 year-olds and over.
Source: Statistics Canada, table 14-10-0287-01.

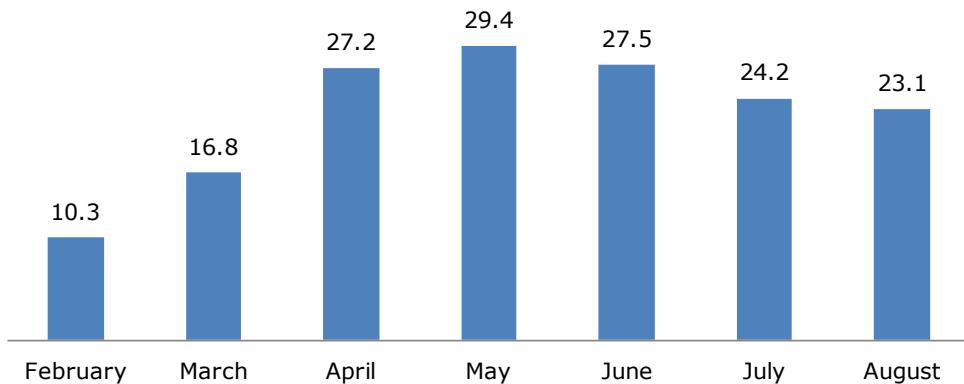
Employment, expressed as a percentage of pre-COVID-19 levels, by type of work



Notes: Youth: 15 to 24 year olds; Core-age: 25 to 54 year olds; Older: 55 year olds and over.
Source: Statistics Canada, table 14-10-0287-01.

Unequal impacts - A weaker recovery among young Canadians

Unemployment rate, 15 to 24 year-olds, February to August, 2020

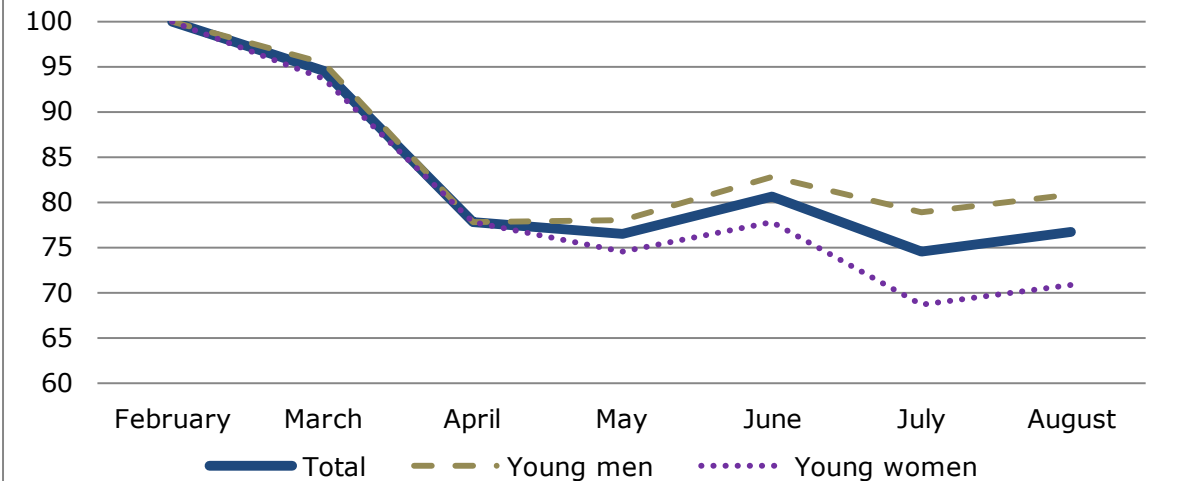


Source: Statistics Canada, table 14-10-0287-01.

Youth employment was much slower to recover, particularly in terms of full-time work, especially among women. **The youth unemployment rate in August was 23.1%, compared to 10.3% in February.**

The partial recovery in youth employment since April, has all been in part-time work. **Full-time work among young Canadians is down 23% from pre-COVID levels. Among young women, it's down almost 30%.**

Full-time employment, 15 to 24 year-olds, February to August, 2020



Source: Statistics Canada, table 14-10-0287-01.

Unequal impacts - Larger impacts on women and youth

Distribution of employment across industries

	All persons	Men	Women	Young men	Young women
Agriculture	2.4	3.3	1.5	3.3	1.6
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	1.5	2.3	0.6	1.2	0.3
Utilities	0.7	1.1	0.4	0.5	0.2
Construction	7.5	12.6	1.9	11.2	1.2
Manufacturing	8.7	12.1	5.1	8.0	3.0
Wholesale	3.6	4.7	2.5	2.9	1.3
Retail	11.6	10.3	12.9	21.7	26.3
Transportation and warehousing	4.8	6.9	2.5	3.3	1.1
Information and cultural	2.3	2.6	2.0	2.0	1.8
Finance and insurance	4.3	3.4	5.3	1.8	2.4
Real estate, rental and leasing	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.1	0.8
Professional, scientific and technical	7.3	7.8	6.8	3.7	3.8
Management of companies	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Administrative and support services	4.4	4.9	3.9	6.2	3.0
Education	7.4	4.4	10.6	3.1	5.9
Health care and social services	11.7	4.0	20.1	2.1	10.8
Arts, entertainment and recreation	2.1	2.0	2.1	4.1	4.5
Accommodation and food	7.0	5.6	8.6	16.6	24.6
Other services	4.5	3.9	5.1	3.6	4.1
Public administration	6.2	6.2	6.2	3.7	3.3

"Pandemic threatens decades of women's labour force gains" – RBC Economics, July 16

About 50% of young employed women work in either retail or accommodation and food, compared to 38% of young men.

Decline in labour force participation rate, February to August:

Men: -0.5 percentage points

Women: -1.4 percentage points

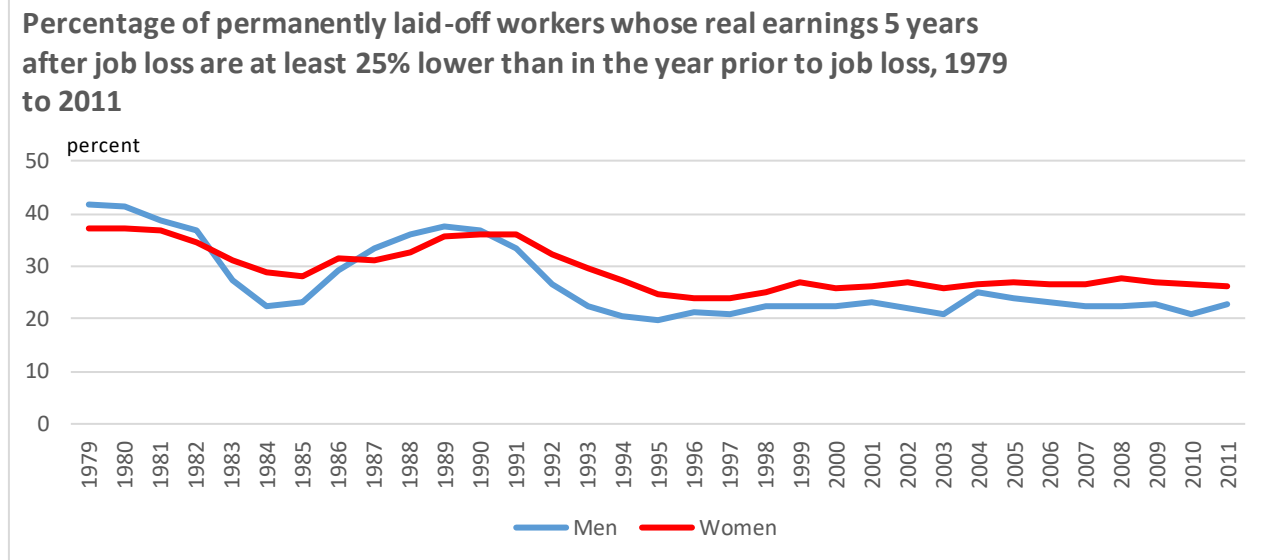
Unequal impacts - Earning losses over time

Long-term effects of COVID-19 will depend critically on the degree to which layoffs become permanent job losses

Selected statistics --- current and previous labour market downturns				
Labour market downturn	Average monthly layoff rates			
	1981 to 1982	1990 to 1992	2008 to 2009	February-March and March-April 2020
	percent			
Overall	3.5	3.4	2.5	12.4
Men	3.9	4.1	3.3	12.2
Women	2.9	2.5	1.8	12.6
Educational attainment				
Below Bachelor's degree	3.8	3.8	3.0	15.1
Bachelor's degree or higher	1.2	0.8	1.1	7.2
Age group				
15 to 24	5.2	4.8	4.1	25.1
25 to 44	2.9	3.1	2.1	10.7
45 to 64	2.8	2.9	2.3	9.9
Permanently laid-off workers as a percentage of all laid-off workers	46.2	46.4	44.6	...
...not applicable				
Notes: Paid workers aged 15 to 64. Monthly layoff rates include temporary layoffs and permanent layoffs and are computed for the first two pairs of months of each labour market downturn.				
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey and Longitudinal Worker File.				

In the 3 previous downturns, 45% of laid-off workers ended up losing their job.

Of those who lost their job, one in five had substantial (25% or more) earnings declines 5 years after job loss, when EI benefits no longer apply.

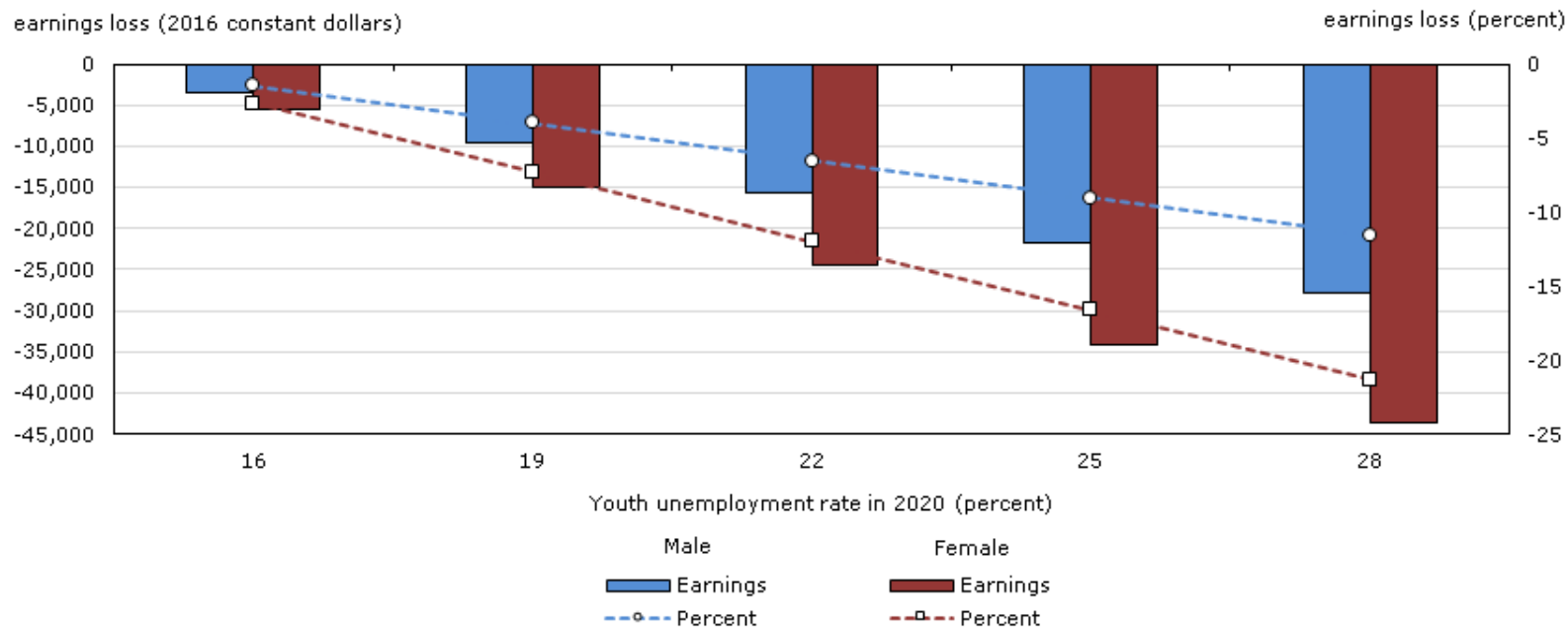


Note: Laid-off workers aged 25 to 44 with real annual earnings of at least \$10,000 (2016 dollars) in the year prior to job loss and with positive earnings 5 years after job loss.

Source: Statistics Canada, Longitudinal Worker File.

Unequal impacts - Young workers entering the labour market will take an earnings hit

Chart 1
Cumulative five-year earnings loss after graduation due to economic downturn
(Bachelor's degree graduates in 2020 by gender)



If this year's youth unemployment rate roughly matches the historical high at 19.0%, potential losses could range from about \$8,000 to \$15,000.

Notes: Shown are the cumulative earnings loss in dollars and percent over the first five years following graduation under different scenarios of the youth unemployment in 2020, compared to historical average earnings in first five years following graduation.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population and Labour Force Survey.

Unequal impacts - Lower wage growth, more job displacement, increases in teleworking and automation?

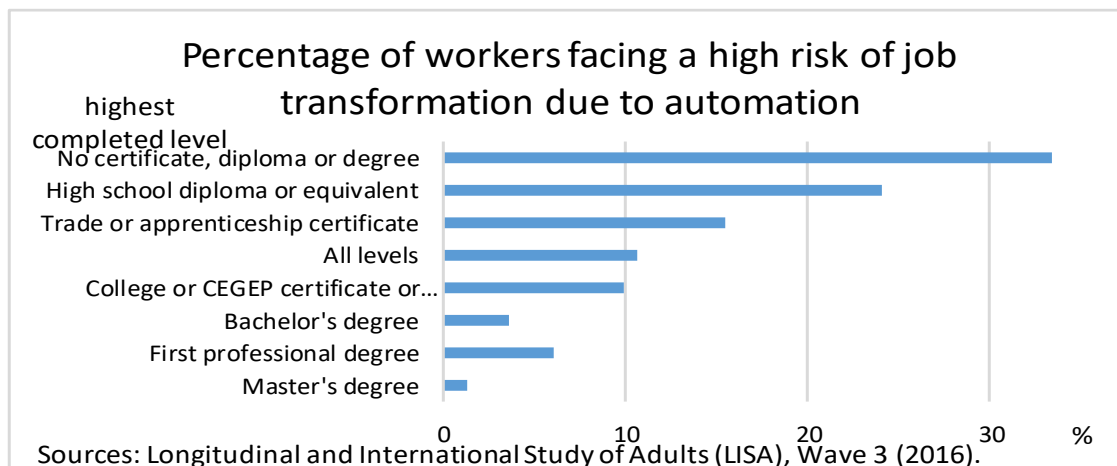
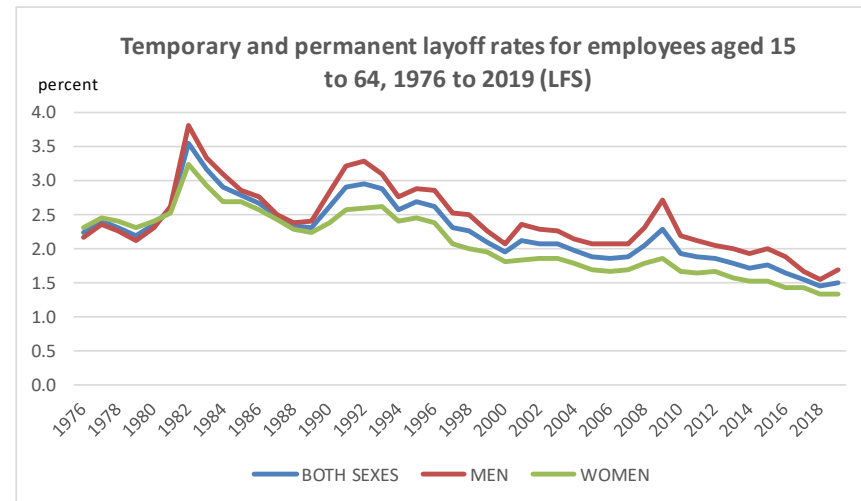
From 2000 to 2018, between **10% and 14%** of employees worked at home.

Estimates suggest that between **30% and 50%** of workers might have worked from home at the end of March 2020.

The density of industrial robots in Canada increased by **49.5%** between 2010 and 2015.

Potential impacts of COVID-19:

- Teleworking - The growth in telework will likely persist and may contribute to gender equality in the labour market.
- Automation - To manage future risks of pandemic, firms might not only increase their capacity to do telework: they might also choose to speed up the automation of certain tasks - This may impact predominantly less educated workers.



Economic impacts - Business uncertainty in the recovery phase

Business uncertainty - Steep challenges facing many firms

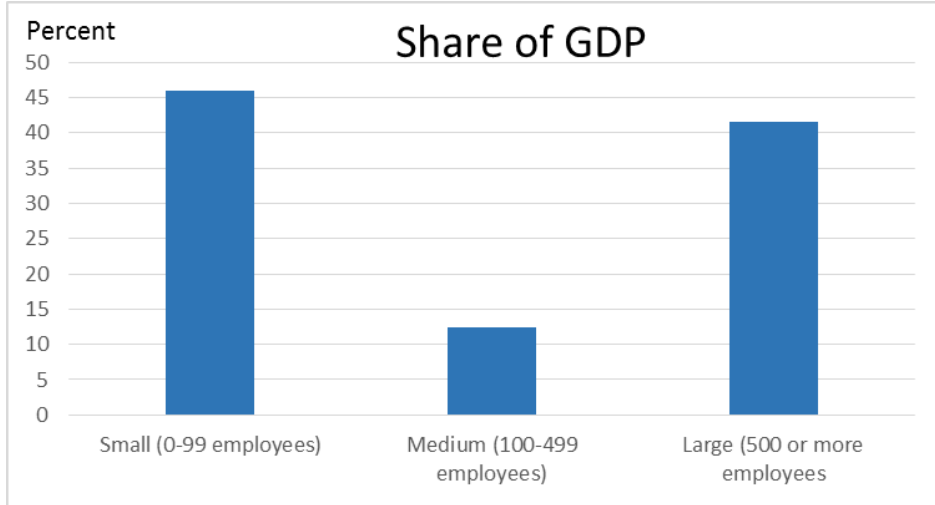
- Uncertain business conditions will likely persist for an extended period as debt-deferrals, wage supports and preferential access to financing begin to wind down. As of May 2020, **nearly one-quarter of businesses with rent or mortgage payments have been granted deferrals.**
- Many businesses will be reluctant to invest in the near term as they focus on their protecting their balance sheets and debt-servicing. Private-sector capital intentions, based on data collected by Statistics Canada in June and July, **point to a 17% annual decrease in private sector capital spending in 2020**, with substantial pull-backs across many sectors.
- Small service-based companies were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. According to the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, **“three quarters of small businesses have taken on debt as a result of COVID-19** and a majority of those with debt (68 per cent) estimate it will take more than a year to pay off”.

Business uncertainty - Prior to the pandemic, firm creation was on a upswing and the financial position of firms was improving

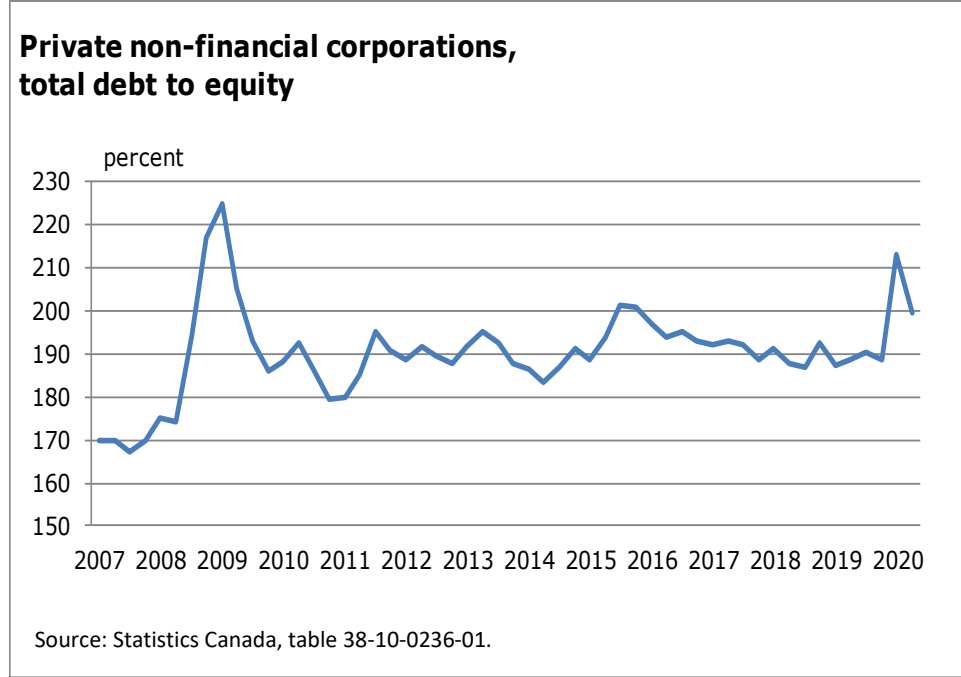
Since 2015, the number of active firms has increased. In the last two years, the economy added an average of **16,500 firms each quarter**.

The **potential rates of business failures, especially among small firms, that may occur in the wake of the shutdowns dwarf the entry and exit rates** observed over the last two decades.

Small firms (with less than 100 employees) account for about 45% of GDP.



Source: Statistics Canada, Special tabulations, National Accounts Longitudinal Microdata file.

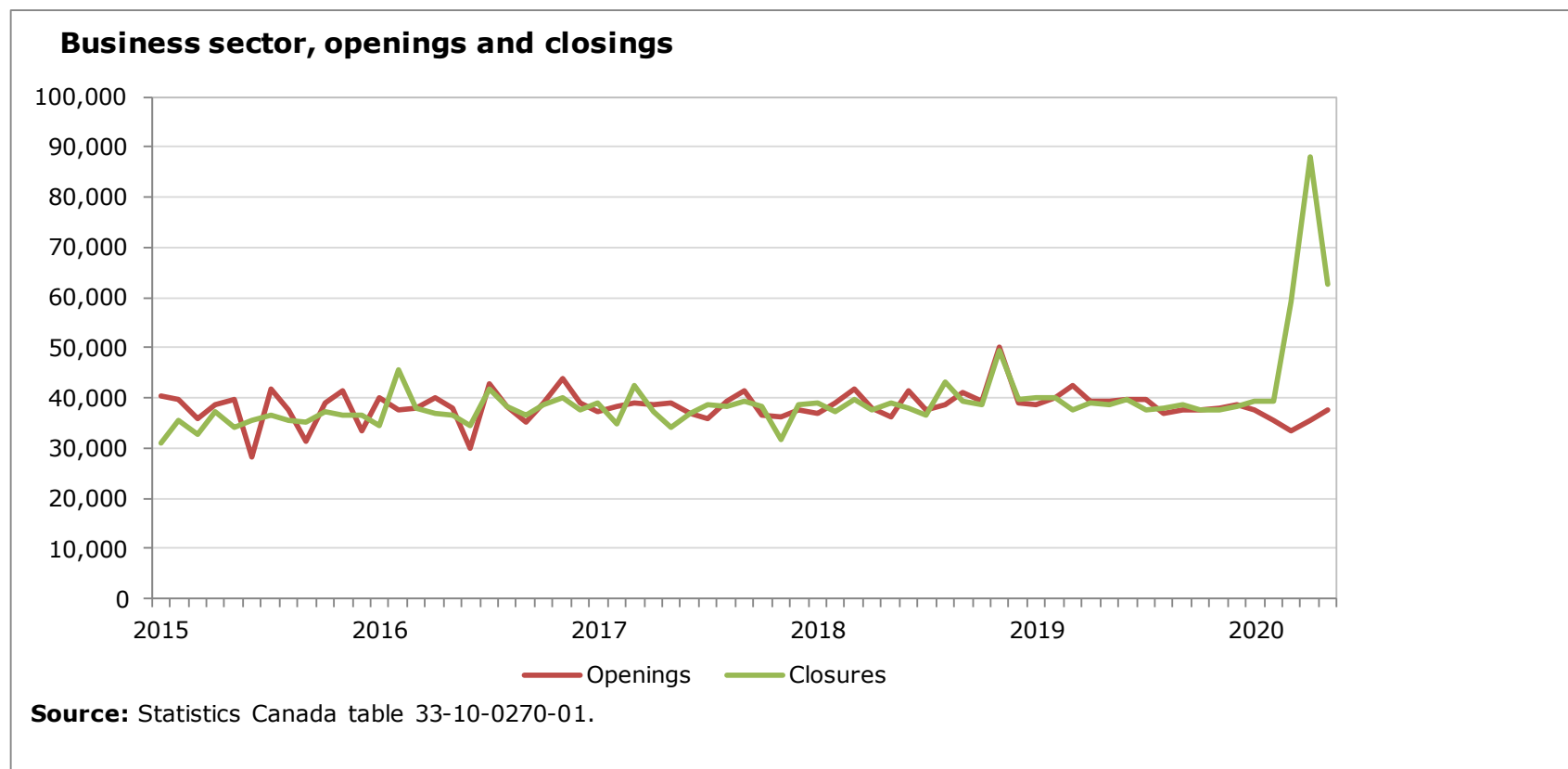


Source: Statistics Canada, table 38-10-0236-01.

Since mid-2015, the debt to equity ratio for larger firms has been declining, indicating lower debt and interest expenses.

Business uncertainty - Closures rose dramatically during the shutdowns as employees left payrolls

Closures are businesses that did not have payroll employment in the current month, but did have payroll employment in the previous month.

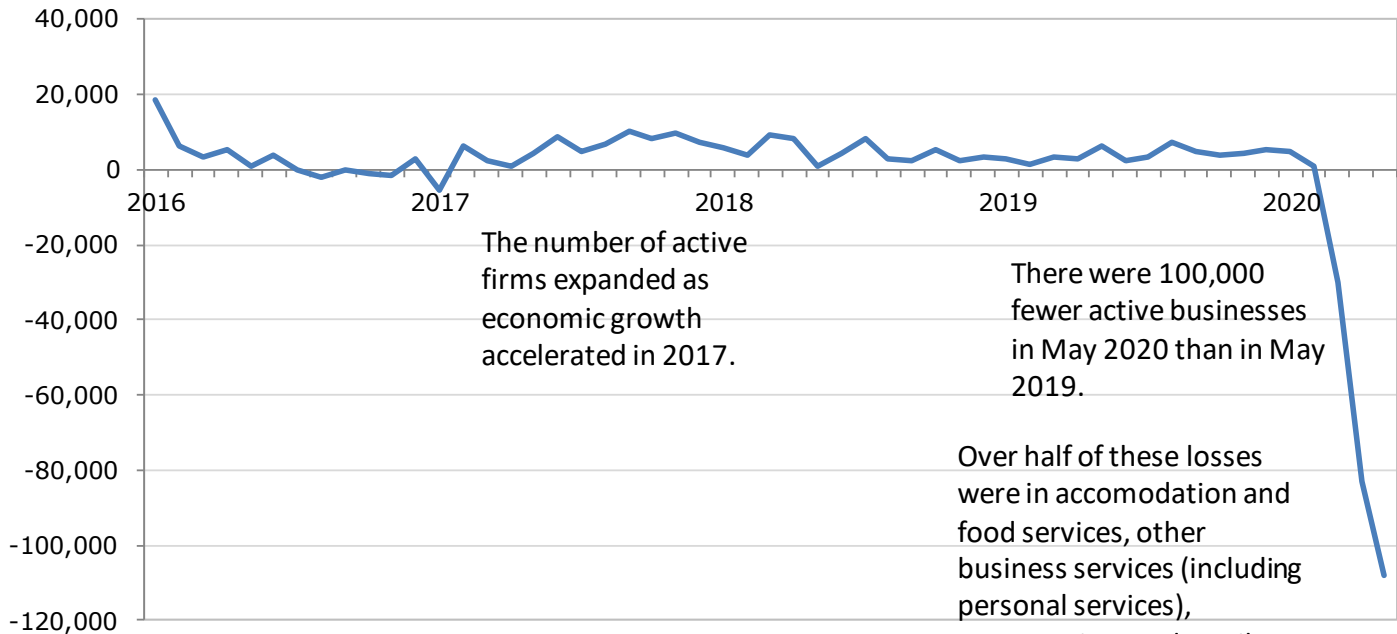


Business closures more than doubled to 88,000 in April, led by closures in construction, retail trade and accommodation and food services.

62,600 business closures were observed in May, 29% less than in April but still 59% higher than pre-COVID-19 levels observed in February.

Business uncertainty - Historic declines in the number of active firms

Business sector, change in the number of active firms, year-over-year



The number of active firms expanded as economic growth accelerated in 2017.

There were 100,000 fewer active businesses in May 2020 than in May 2019.

Over half of these losses were in accommodation and food services, other business services (including personal services), construction, and retail trade.

Source: Statistics Canada table 33-10-0270.

The number of active firms fell sharply on a year-over-year basis in April (-10.4%) and May (-13.5%).

The pace of the job recovery will depend in large part on the extent to which many affected companies, especially small service-providing firms, can remain viable over the coming months.

Uncertain consumer demand for non-essential discretionary items, in light of heightened income uncertainty and concerns over safety, may limit the recovery for many businesses.

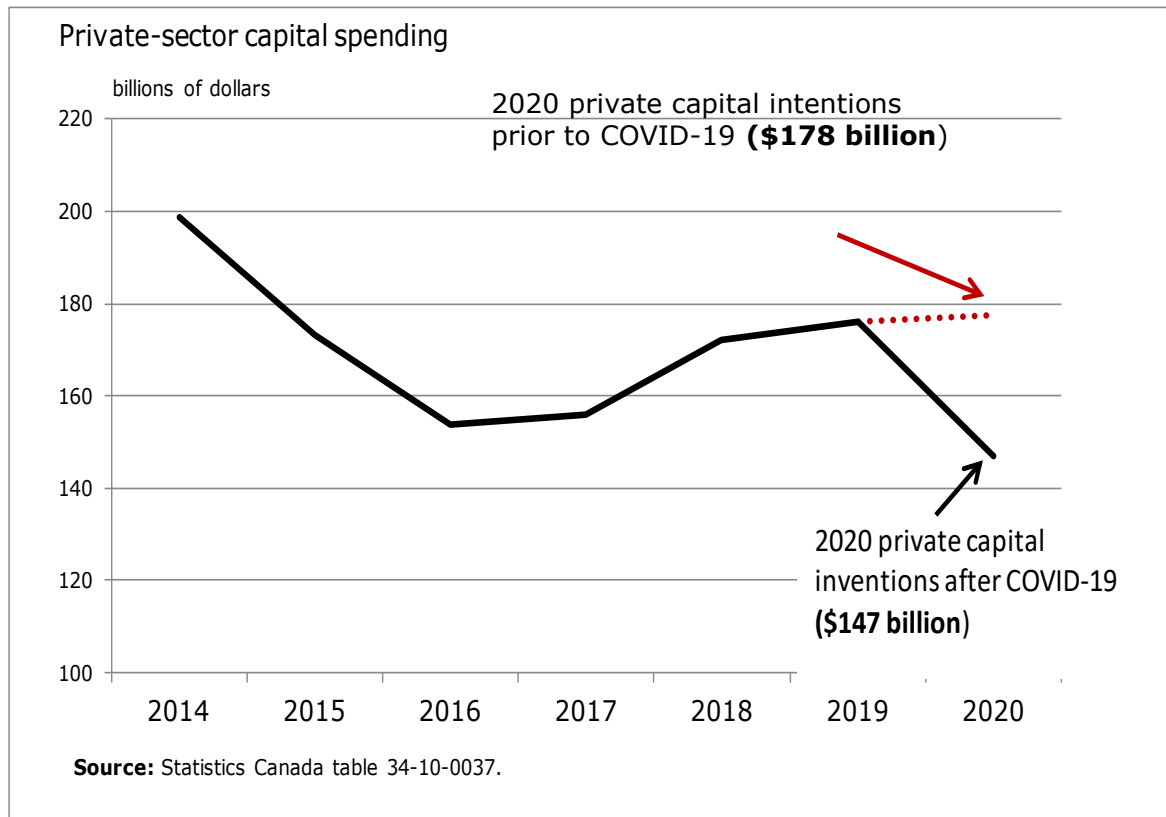
Business uncertainty - Operating costs and weak demand cloud the outlook for many affected businesses

- According to the **Survey on Business Conditions (SBC)** for reference month May, **over 50% of businesses in accommodation and food services** with mortgage or rent payments **have had their payments deferred**.
 - This compares to less than one-quarter of construction and retail businesses.
- Of businesses with mortgage or rent payments, **24% of small companies have had payments deferred** as have **34% of new companies** (those two years old or newer).
- The SBC also found that **8% of companies could continue to operate for less than three months** at current revenue and expenditure levels before having to consider **further staffing action, closure or bankruptcy**.
 - Among businesses that provide **food and accommodation, or arts, entertainment or recreation**, the number was **18%**.
 - The risk of needing to consider staffing action, closure or bankruptcy in the near term was also **slightly elevated for newer businesses** and **women-owned firms**.

Business uncertainty - Firms sharply downgrade capital spending plans and focus on protecting balance sheets

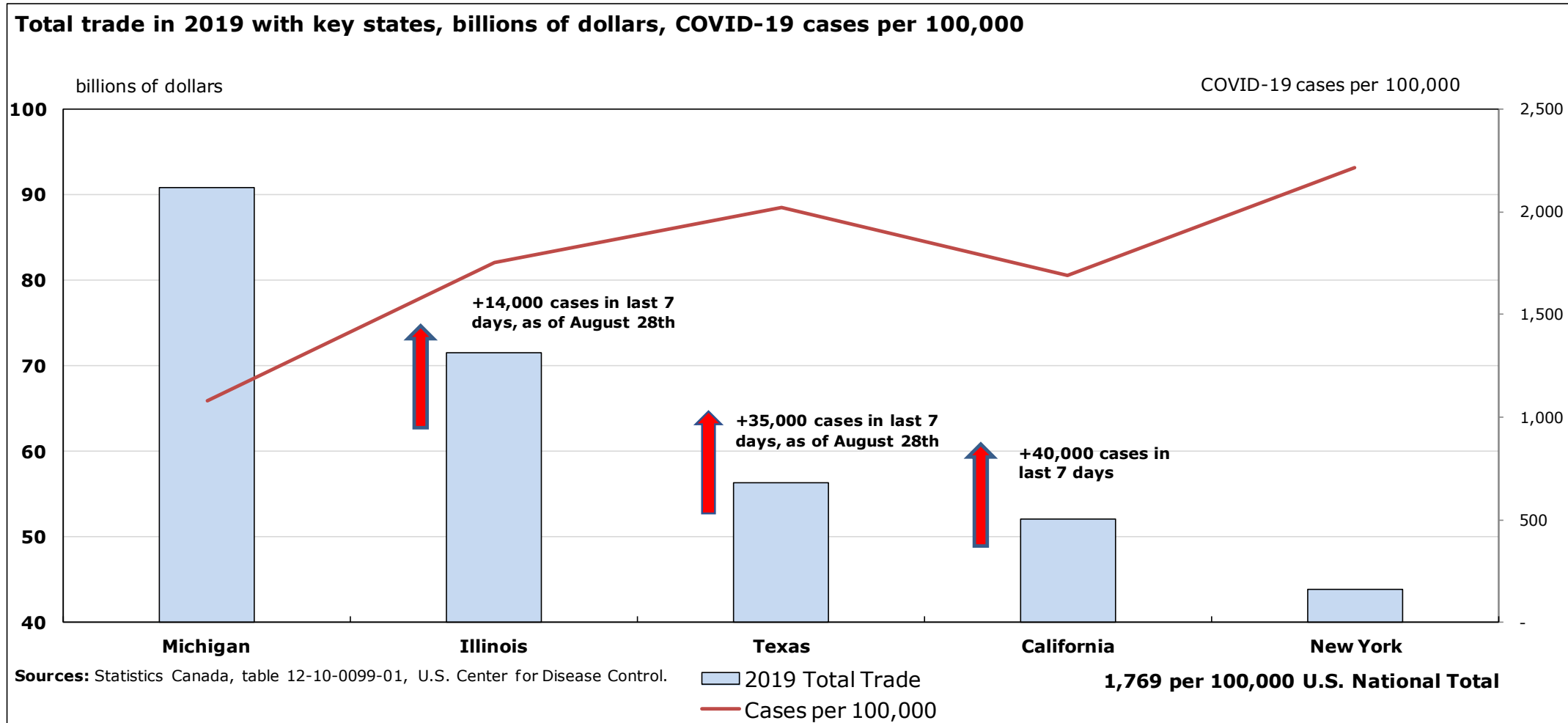
Businesses across most sectors of the economy revised their spending plans in light of heightened uncertainty.

As of May, about 1 and 6 businesses has had mortgage or rental payments deferred.



2020 capital intentions	Percent change from 2019 levels
All industries	-9.5
Private sector	-16.6
Public sector	4.2
Mining and oil and gas extraction	-27.2
Manufacturing	-18.5
Construction	-10.1
Accommodation and food	-39.2
Retail	-11.9
Real estate and rental	-27.0

Business uncertainty - The recovery in Canadian trade may be influenced



Economic impacts - Structural challenges in heavily affected sectors

Structural impacts - Severe implications for transportation and tourism



- The transportation system provides a key foundation for the Canadian economy; with truckers and transport equipment operators the largest occupational group in the country.
- The transportation and warehousing sector employs roughly one million Canadians - many of these jobs are at risk as the movement of people and goods dwindles.



- In 2019, Canada welcomed 22.1 million tourists from abroad (excluding U.S. day trips) – These foreign travellers spent over \$22.0 billion while visiting Canada with overseas visitors averaging \$1,640 per trip in 2018.
- About half of all the employment generated through tourism is in accommodation and food services.

Structural challenges in heavily impacted sectors - transportation

Disruptions to the Canadian airline industry are unprecedented

Year over year percentage change in passengers

2001 – September 11 events in the United States



2003 – SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) outbreak

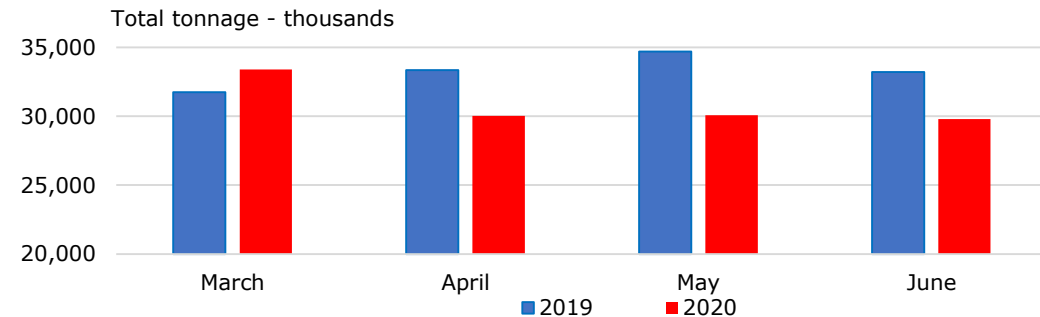


2020 – COVID-19 pandemic a steeper and deeper decline



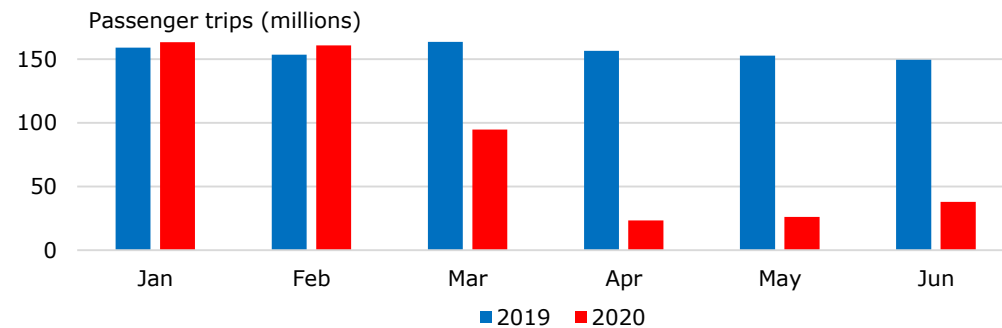
Source: Monthly Civil Aviation Survey (5026), table 23-10-0079-01

Because of weaker demand for energy and autos, Canadian railways were hauling few tonnes of freight



Source: Statistics Canada, table 23-10-0216-01.

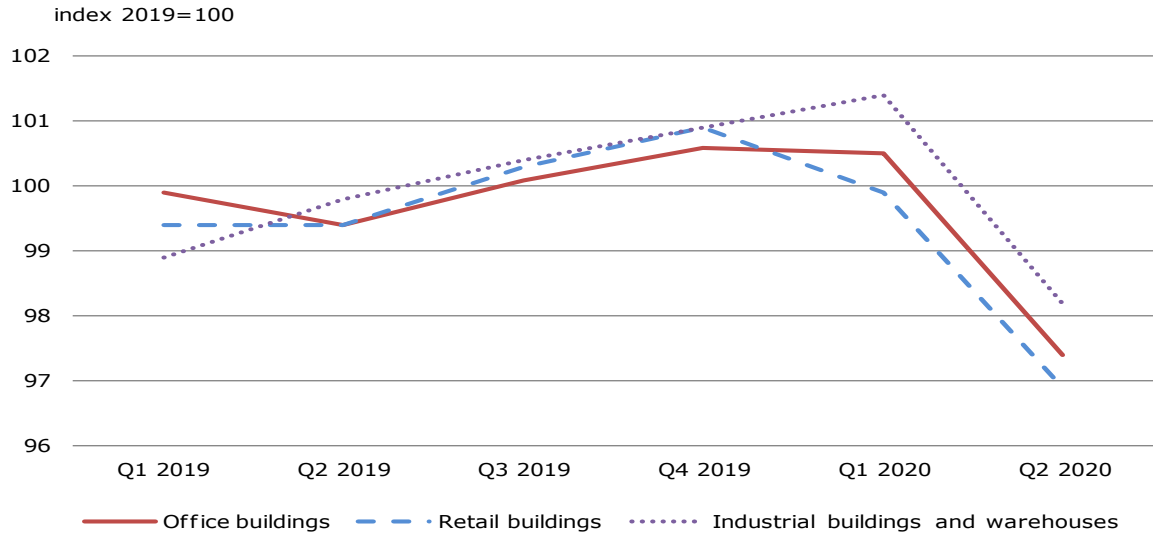
Public transit made a tepid recovery



Source: Statistics Canada, table 23-10-0521-01.

Structural challenges in heavily affected sectors – commercial real estate

The pandemic pulled down commercial rents across Canada



Source: Statistics Canada, table 18-10-0260-01.

- Commercial rents fell 3.1% in the second quarter of 2020, after edging down 0.2% in the first.
- Declines in Q2 were widespread across building types and reflected lower commercial rents in every province and territory.

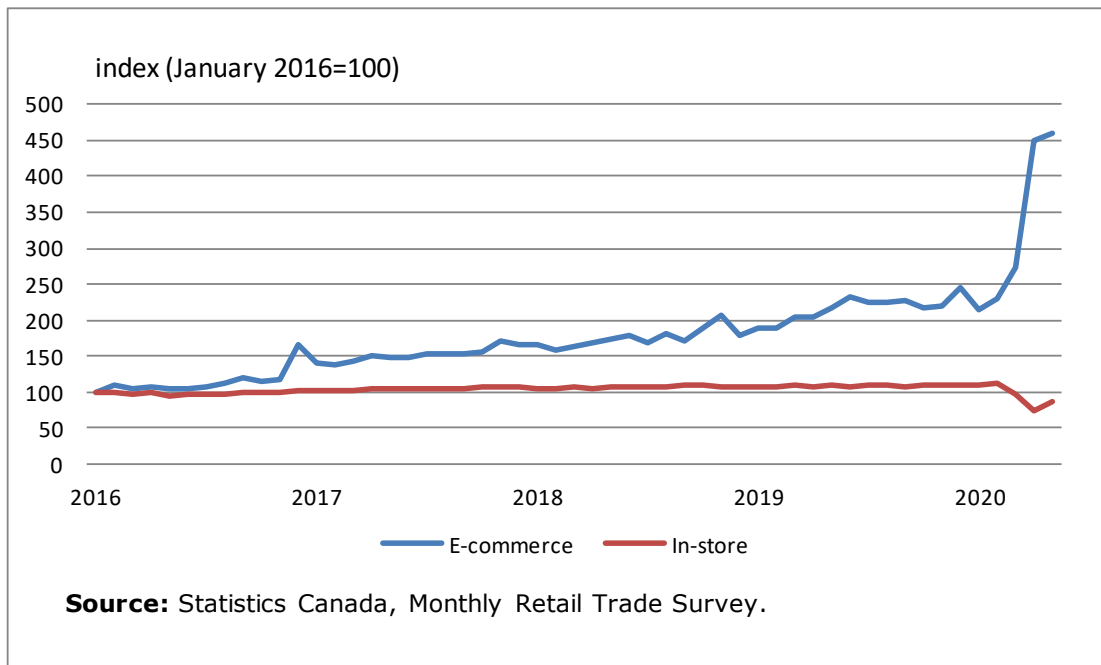
As of the end of the second quarter, a small percentage of commercial property owners indicated that they applied for the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) program on behalf of their tenants.

The long-term outlook of the commercial real estate market remains in flux as building tenants assess their future office space needs as large numbers of corporate employees continue to work from home . This could put further downward pressure on new office building lease rates.

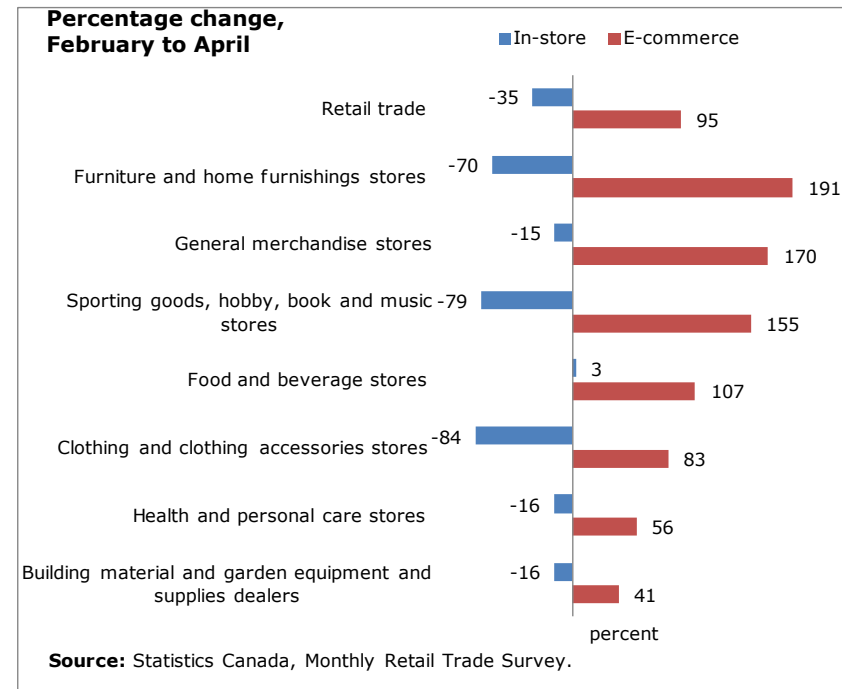
Structural challenges in heavily affected sectors – retail trade

The retail sector rebounded quickly from storefront closures as companies developed or enhanced their on-line platforms. By June, the volume of retail activity had surpassed pre-COVID levels, while payroll employment in retail industries was 15% below levels in February.

Retail e-commerce sales soar to all-time high



E-commerce sales increased more among non-essential retailers



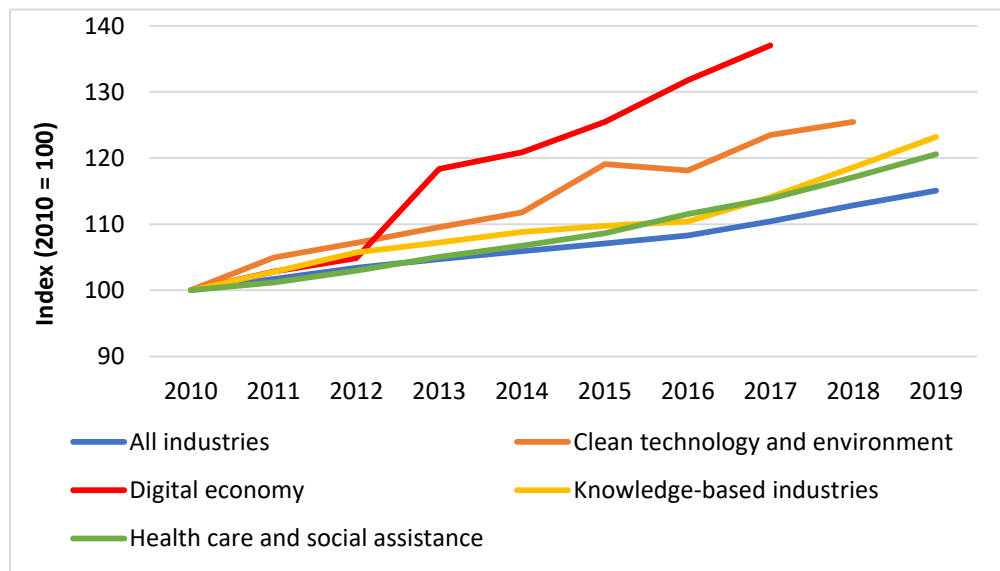
From February to May 2020, total retail sales fell by 18% while retail e-commerce sales doubled.

Economic impacts - Investing in resilience and growth

Investing in resilience and growth - Digitalization a driver of structural change in the economy

Employment growth in the **digital economy** and in **clean technology and environmental production** has outpaced even high growth areas in the service sector.

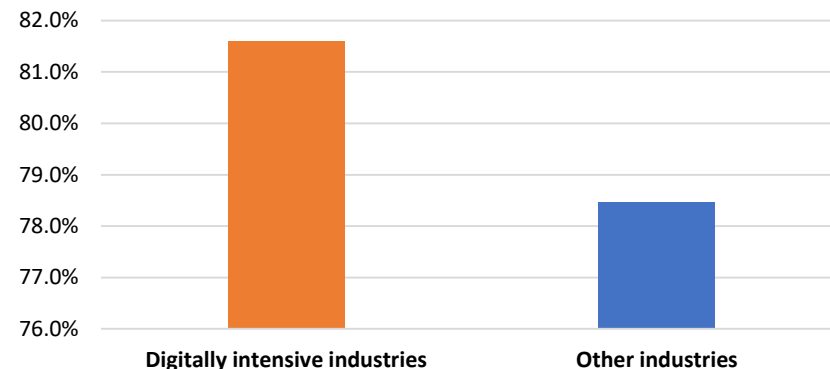
Employment growth in selected sectors since the 2008-2009 recession



Digitally intensive industries have higher rates of innovation and more high growth firms than other sectors.

Sources: Statistics Canada, Special tabulations, Measuring digital economic activities in Canada: Initial estimates; Environmental and Clean Technology Products Economic Account; and Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours.

Percentage of innovative enterprises, 2017



Source: Statistics Canada, Special tabulations, Survey of Innovation and Business Strategy.

Percentage of High-Growth Firms by Industry



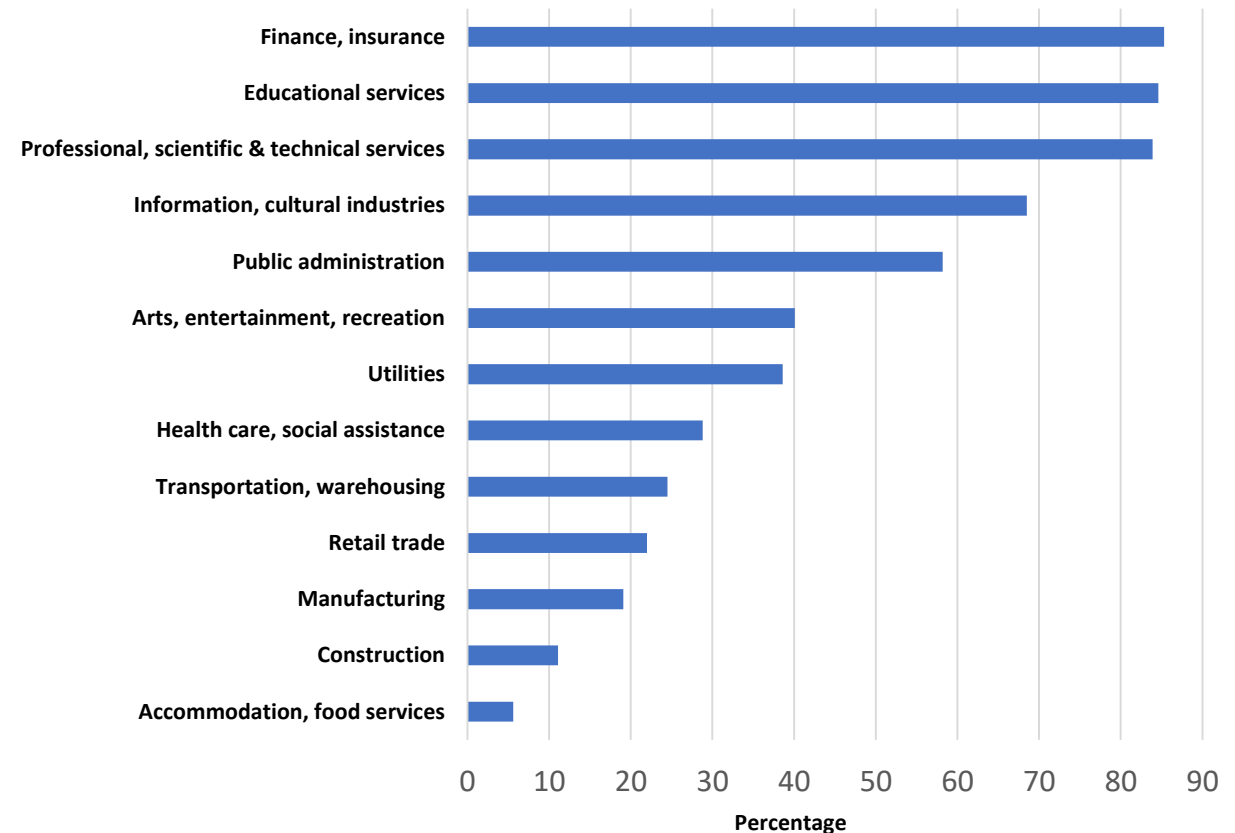
Source: Statistics Canada, Special tabulations, National Accounts Longitudinal Microdata file.

Investing in resilience and growth - Digitalization accelerated during the pandemic

The share of businesses with at least 10% of their workforce teleworking doubled from February to May 2020, from 16.6% to 32.6%.

Over one-fifth of businesses (22.5%) expect at least 10% of their workforce to continue teleworking after the pandemic.

Telework capacity, selected industries, 2019

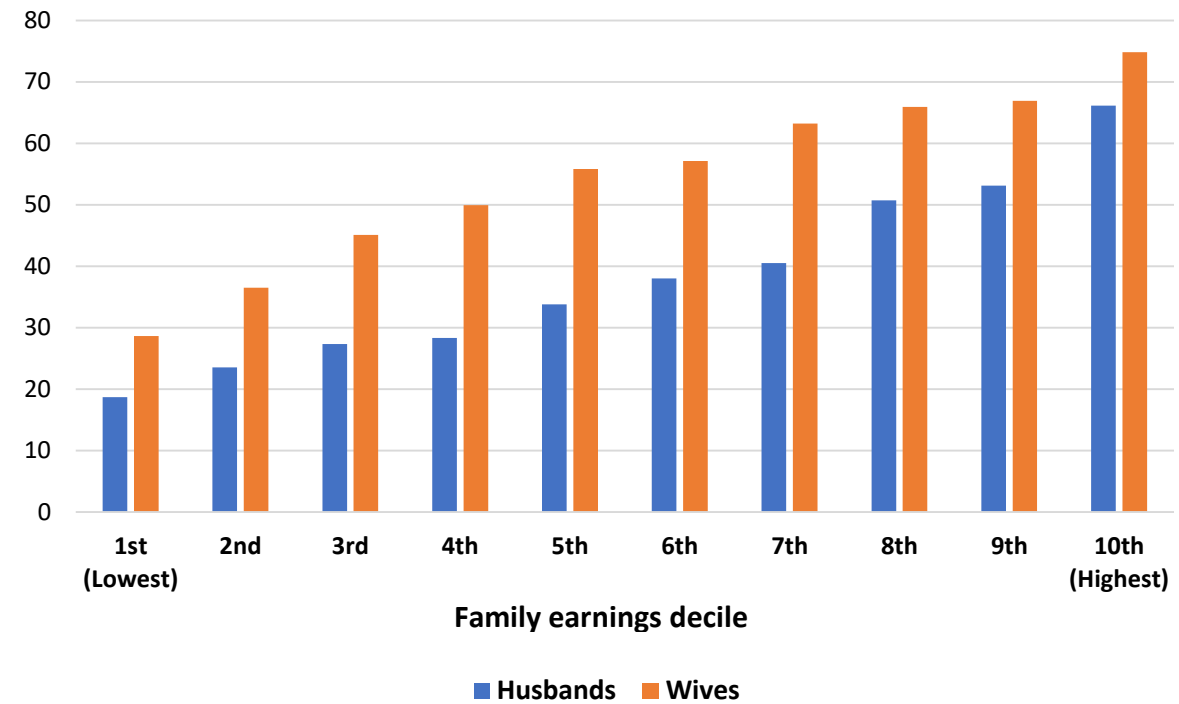
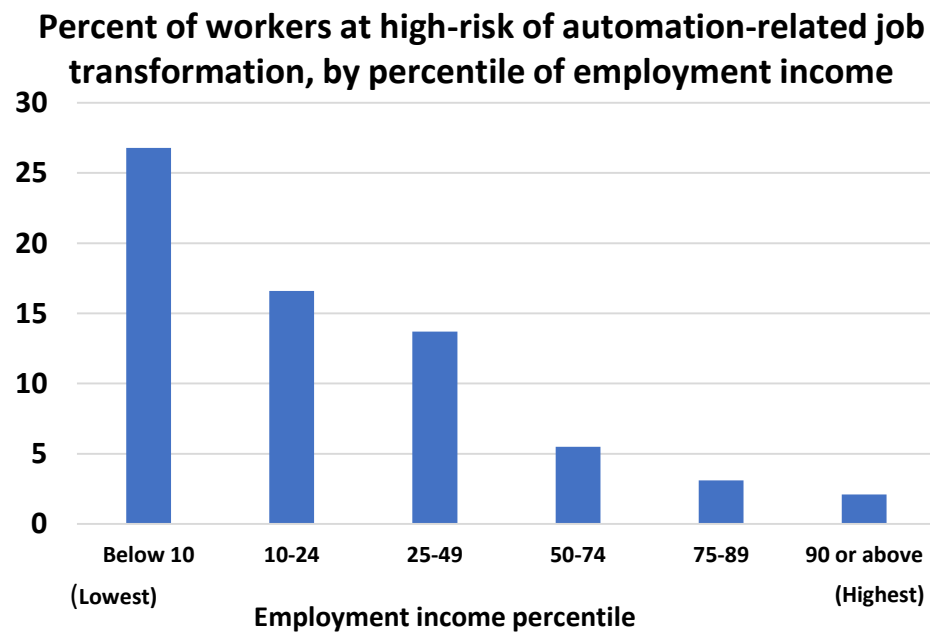


Source: Statistics Canada, Special Tabulations, Labour Force Survey, Occupational Information Network (O*NET).

Investing in resilience and growth - Risks and opportunities associated with digitalization in the workplace are unevenly distributed

Workers at the bottom of the earnings distribution have greater risk of job automation and less opportunity for telework.

Percent of adults in jobs that can be done from home, by family earnings decline, dual-earner families, 2019



Sources: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, 2019 and Longitudinal and International Study of Adults, 2016.

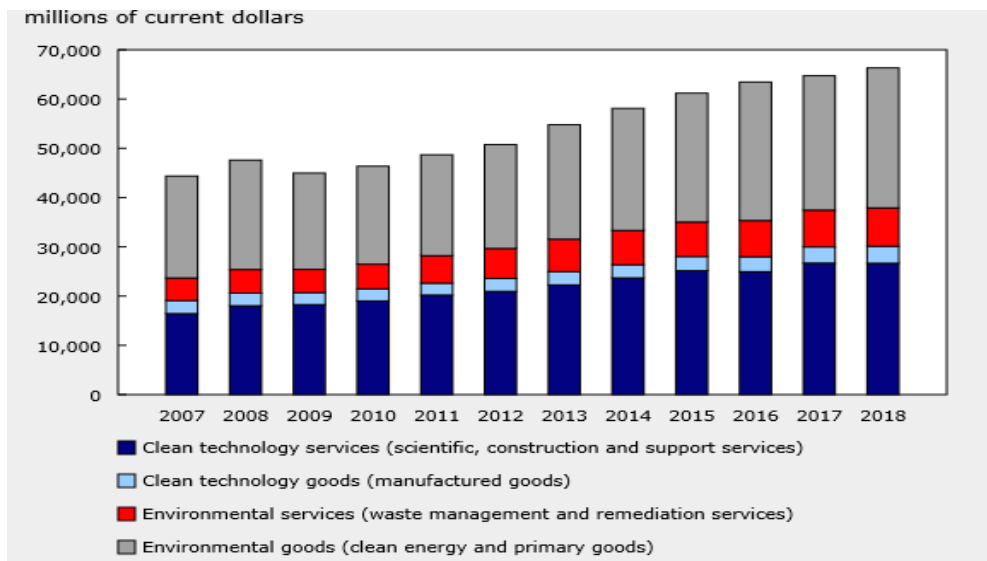
Source: Statistics Canada, Special Tabulations, Labour Force Survey, Occupational Information Network (O*NET).

Investing in resilience and growth - Environmental and clean technology (ECT) products and services

ECT products and services include clean electricity, clean-technology manufactured goods, scientific services, research and development services, construction services and support services. Examples include solar panels or the design and construction of energy-efficient buildings.

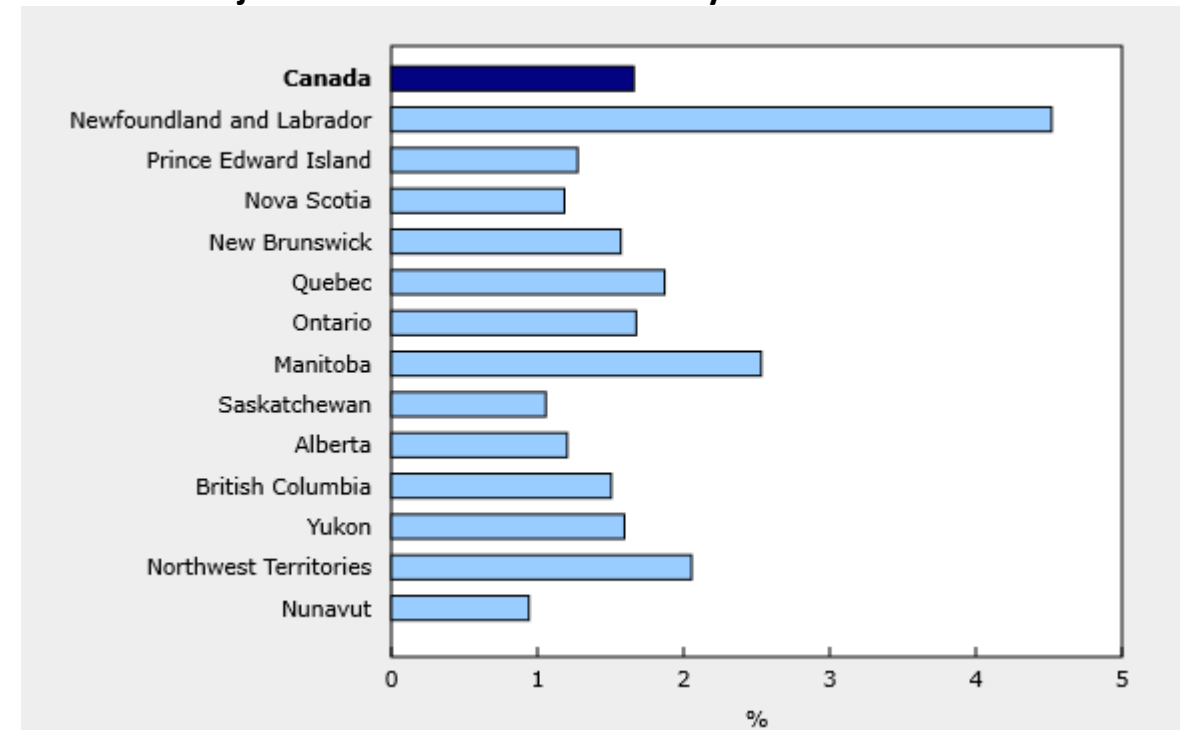
- ECT products and services account for **3.2% of GDP** and just under 1.9 % of Canadian exports and 2.6% of Canadian imports.
- Clean electricity production accounts for over 40% of GDP in this sector.
- ECT activity accounts for about 320,000 jobs.

Gross domestic product, ECT activities



Source: Statistics Canada, Environmental and Clean Technology Products Economic Account.

Share of total jobs attributable to ECT activity

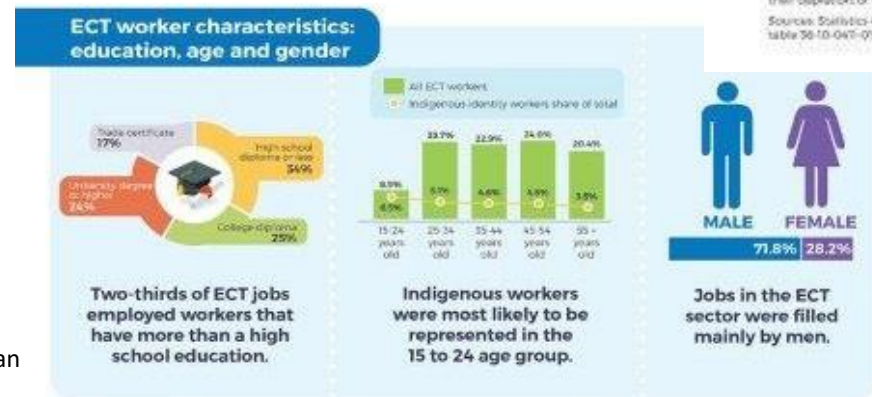


Source: Statistics Canada, Environmental and Clean Technology Products Economic Account.

Investing in resilience and growth - Many environmental and clean technology (ECT) jobs are relatively high paying and high skilled



Average annual wages for ECT jobs were higher for than for non-ECT jobs across comparable educational levels.



Two-thirds of ECT jobs employ workers with some post-secondary education.

Engineering positions are relatively well represented in the ECT sector.

Source: Statistics Canada, Portrait of environmental and clean technology jobs in Canada, 2017.

Impacts on Immigrants and People Designated as Visible Minorities

Impacts on Immigrants and People Designated as Visible Minorities

Key messages:

- Immigrants are disproportionately represented in jobs with greater exposure to COVID-19 – 34% of front-line/essential service workers identify as visible minorities (compared with 21% in other sectors).
- Visible minorities are also more likely to work in industries worst affected by the pandemic, such as food and accommodation services – compounding health and economic risks.
- Impact of COVID-19 on immigrants' employment could reverse gains made in recent years to close the gap
- Immigrants and visible minorities are more likely to report facing harassment, attacks, and stigma.
- Immigrants are more concerned with their health and social consequences of the pandemic and are more likely to take precautions, but less likely to get a vaccine.

Evidence of differential rates of COVID among visible minorities in Canada – highlighting the need for more data on diverse populations

Concerns regarding differential impacts of COVID have prompted calls for the collection of race-based health data in Canada.

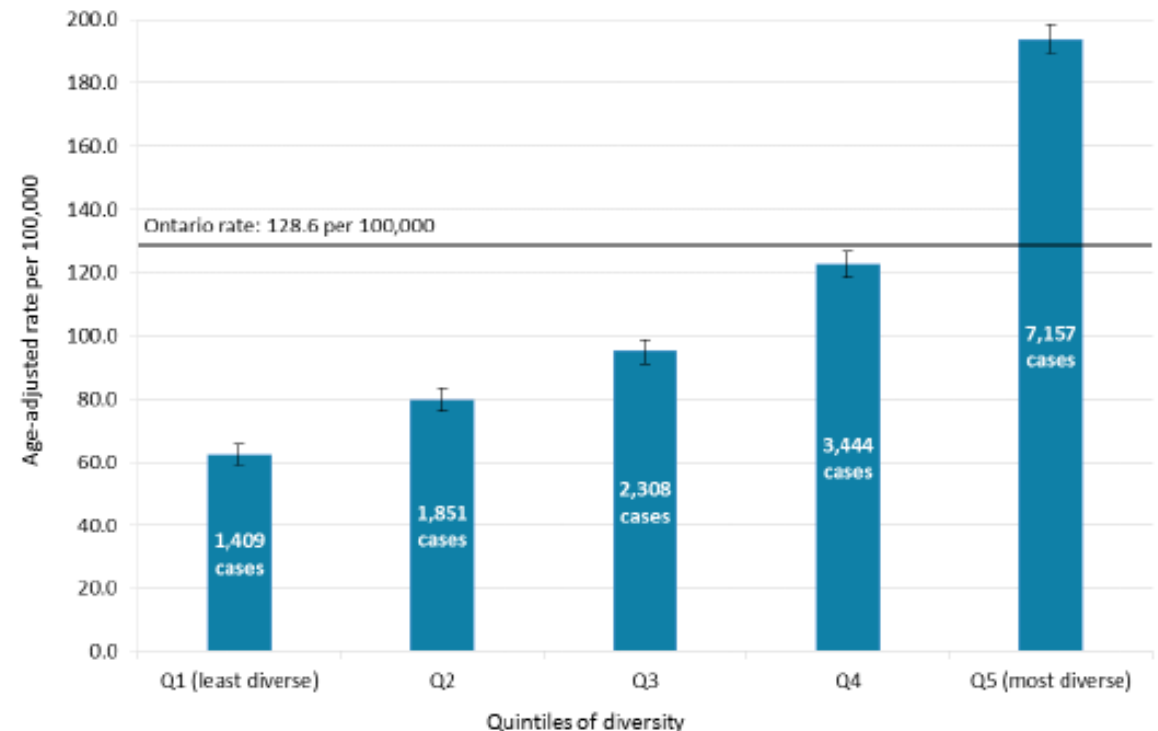
Currently, there is no requirement to collect race-based data in Canada related to COVID-19.

In Ontario, Census data were used to analyze the distribution of COVID cases across neighbourhoods with higher vs lower concentration of visible minorities. The findings show that the rate of...

- COVID-19 infections were **three times higher**
- hospitalizations rates were **four times higher** and
- deaths were **twice as high**

...among individuals living in the most diverse neighbourhoods compared with the least diverse neighbourhoods. Most diverse neighbourhoods tend to be in large urban areas.

Figure 1. Age-adjusted rate and number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 for each quintile of ethnic concentration: Ontario, January 15, 2020 to May 14, 2020

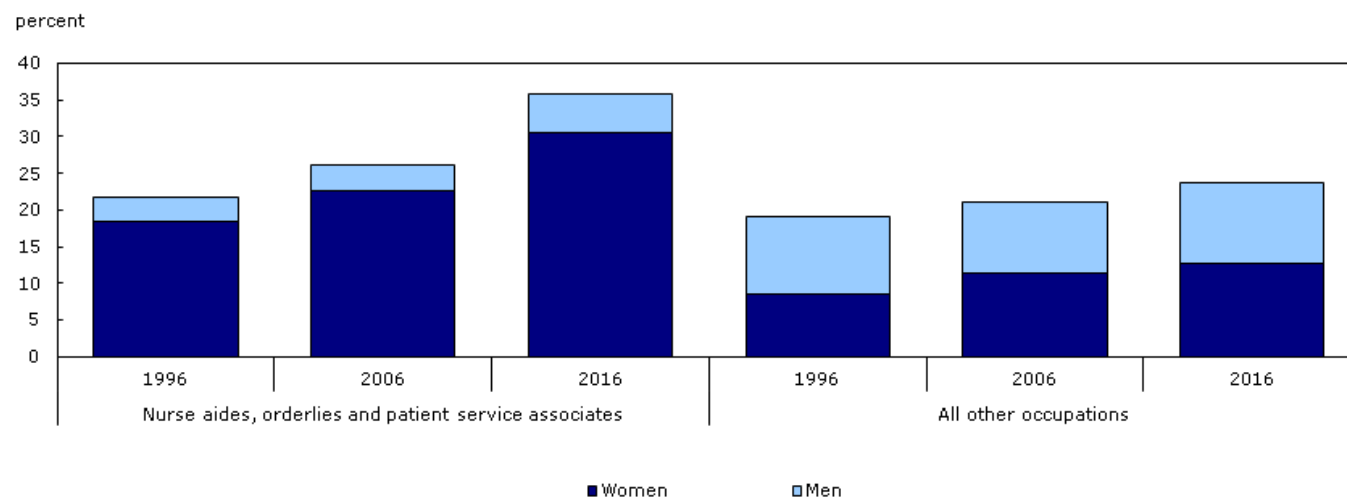


Source: Public Health Ontario. COVID-19 in Ontario – A Focus on Diversity, January 15, 2020 to May 14, 2020.

Higher risk – Immigrants are disproportionately represented in sectors with greater exposure to COVID-19 – front-line/essential service workers, including long-term care, where the majority of deaths in Canada have occurred

- The proportion of immigrants employed as nurse aides, orderlies and patient service associates rose from **22% to 36%** between 1996 and 2016.
- Prior to COVID, visible minorities were overrepresented in this sector – 34% of workers identifying as visible minorities (compared with 21% in other sectors).
- This trend has continued during COVID – in July, 24% of employed Filipino Canadians and 20% of employed Black Canadians worked in this industry compared with 14% of all workers.

Proportion of immigrants among nurse aides, orderlies and patient service associates, Canada, 1996, 2006 and 2016

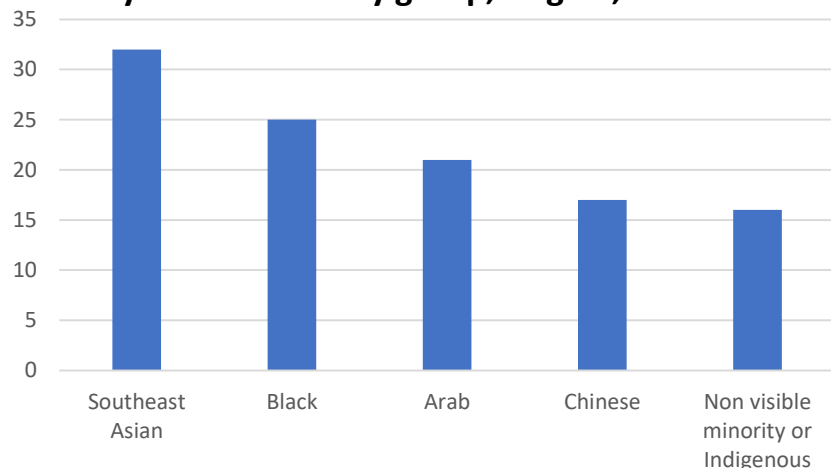


Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1996, 2006 and 2016.

Double jeopardy – Visible minorities are also more likely to work in industries worst affected by the pandemic, such as food and accommodation services – compounding health and economic risks

- Prior to COVID, visible minorities were overrepresented in the food accommodation sector – highest among Korean (19.1%), Filipino (14.2%) and Southeast Asian (14.0%) Canadians
- In August, the unemployment rate was significantly higher for several visible minority groups compared to the national rate (see Table) – this is in part due to over representation in hard hit sectors

Proportion of low wage employees (make less than \$16.03 per hour by visible minority group, August, 2020



Selected visible minority groups more likely to earn lower wages

Unemployment rate by visible minority status, August 2020

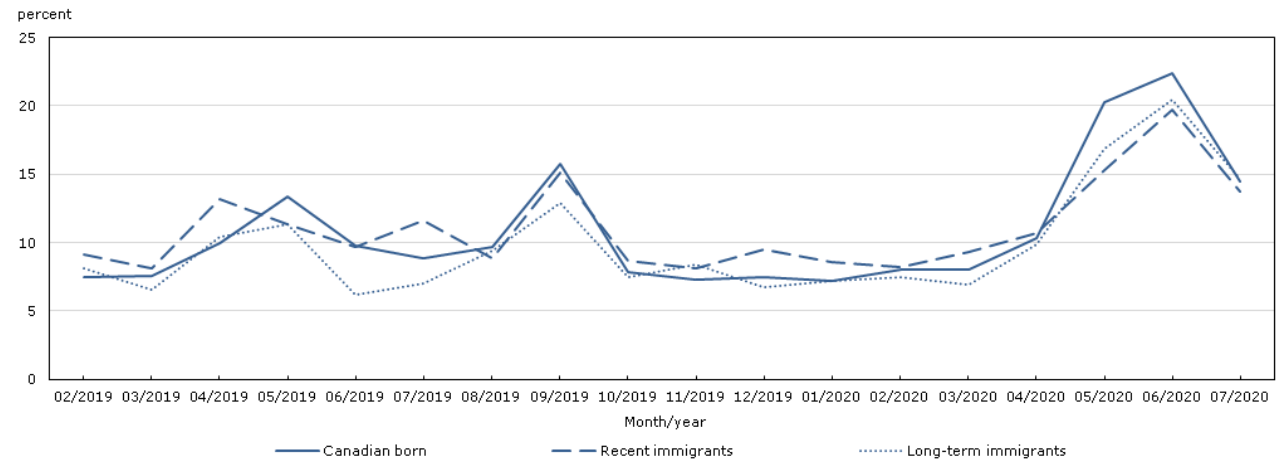
	%
Not a visible minority or Indigenous	9.4
Filipino	12.7
Chinese	13.2
Latin American	13.9
South Asian	14.9
Southeast Asian	16.6
Black	17.6
Arab	17.9

Source: Statistics Canada. Labour Force Survey, Supplement August 2020.

Double jeopardy – Impact of COVID-19 on immigrants’ employment could reverse gains made in recent years to close the gap

- Evidence in Canada echoes studies in the United States and Europe that suggest immigrants are often more severely affected by economic downturns than the native born.
- Prior to COVID, the rate of transition from employment to non-employment* was low and similar for immigrants and Canadian-born (2% to 4% from February 2019 to February 2020).
- As the pandemic hit, the rate-peaked in April at 17.3% for recent immigrants and 13.5% for the Canadian born and long-term immigrants.

Rates of transition from non-employment to employment among individuals aged 20 to 64, 2019-2020



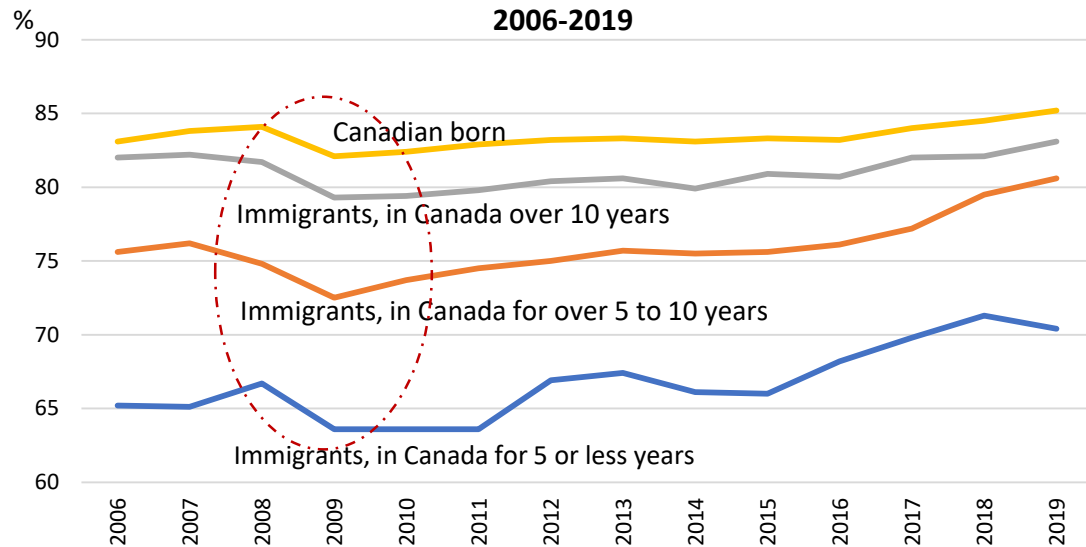
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

- As the transition to employment increased during the partial recovery, recent immigrants had rates of transition to employment that were 5 percentage points lower than those of Canadian-born individuals in May, 3 points lower in June, and 1 point lower in July.
 - Recent immigrant women displayed the largest gap with their Canadian-born counterparts, at 5 percentage points in both May and June, and 2 points in July.

*The rate of transition from employment (non-employment) to non-employment (employment) is the share of individuals employed (non-employed) in the previous month (e.g., February) who are not employed (employed) in the current month (e.g., March).

Source: Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0085-01.

Employment rate for immigrants and Canadian born aged 25 to 54, 2006-2019

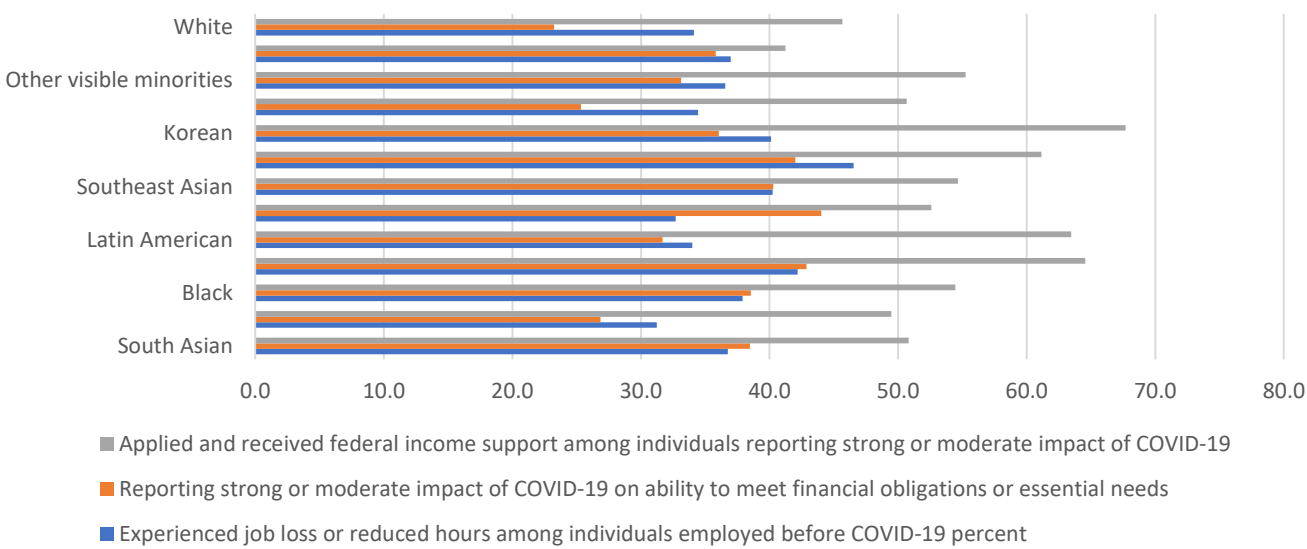


Double jeopardy – Visible minorities, already economically vulnerable, face greater financial impacts

Prior to COVID, most visible minority groups were more likely to live in poverty than the White population.

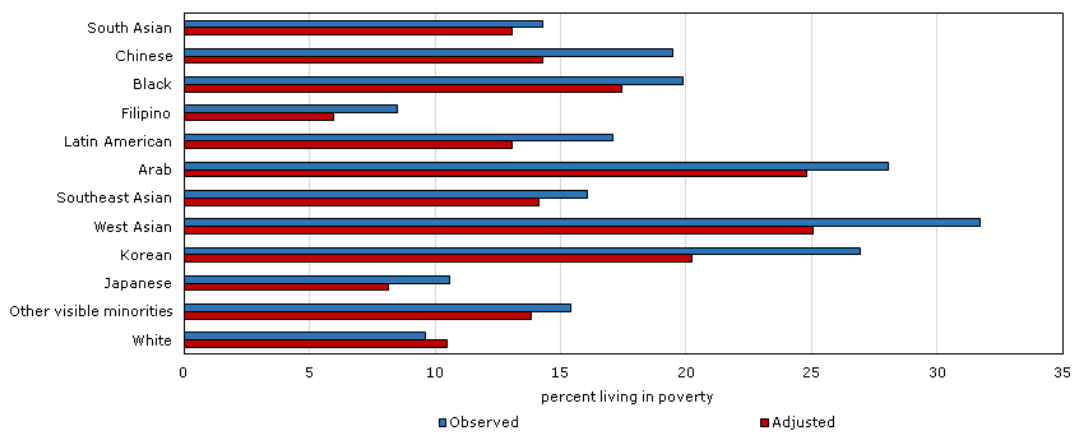
For Korean, Arab, and West Asian Canadians, the poverty rate ranged from 27% to 32% and among Black and Chinese-Canadians, the poverty rate reached 20%.

Self-reported employment and financial impacts of COVID and use of federal income support among crowdsourcing participants by population groups, Canada, May-June 2020



Source: Statistics Canada, Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians - Trust in Others.

Observed and adjusted poverty rates among individuals aged 15 and over, 2015



Note: The poverty rate is based on the Market Basket Measure. Temporary residents are excluded from the calculation. The adjusted rates take into account group differences in immigration status, official language, education, age, sex, family size, employment status, province of residence and city size.
Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population.

Among participants to a crowdsource survey who were employed prior to the shutdown, visible minority groups were more likely to report...

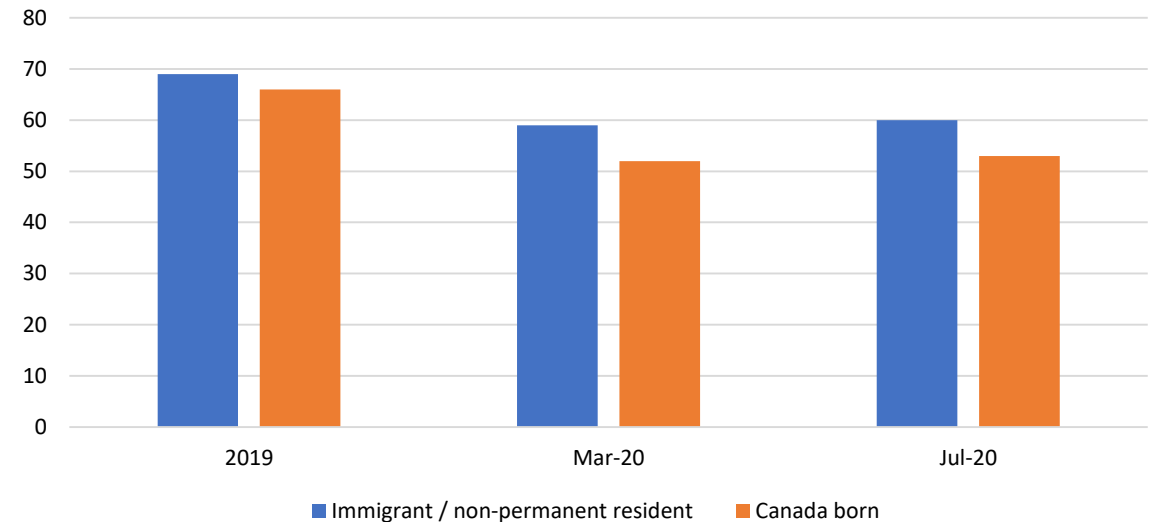
- Experiencing job loss or reduced work hours – Filipinos (42%) and West Asians (47%) compared with White respondents (34%).
- Not being able to meet financial obligations or essential needs – over 40% of Arabs, West Asians, and Filipinos respectively compared with 23% among Whites.

Double jeopardy – Impacts of COVID-19 likely contributing to lower mental health levels among immigrants

Prior to COVID, immigrants generally reported similar levels of positive mental health compared with Canadian born (69% vs 66%).

Since COVID, positive mental health declined for both immigrants and Canadian-born, but positive mental health appears to be higher among immigrants (60% vs 53%).

Proportion of Canadians reporting excellent or very good mental health pre and post COVID by immigration status, Canada, 2019, March and July 2020

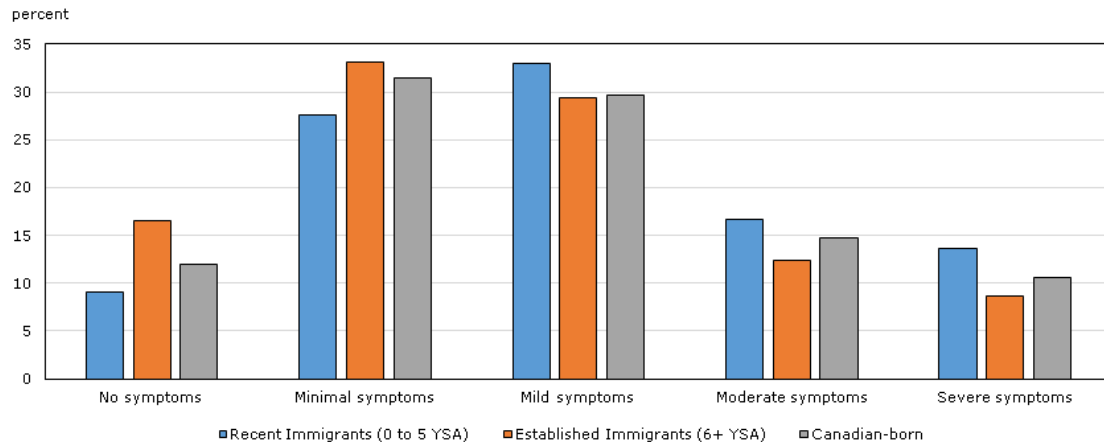


Sources: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey, 2019; Canadian Perspectives Survey Series 1; Canadian Perspectives Survey Series 4.

Recent immigrants responding to a crowdsourcing survey were more likely to report symptoms consistent with moderate to severe generalized anxiety disorder (GAD) more often (30%) than established immigrant (21%) or Canadian-born participants (26%).

- Recent female immigrants were more likely to do so compared with male respondents (39% vs 26%) – results were similar among established immigrants and Canadian-born participants.

Level of anxiety (GAD-7) of participants by immigrant status and period of immigration



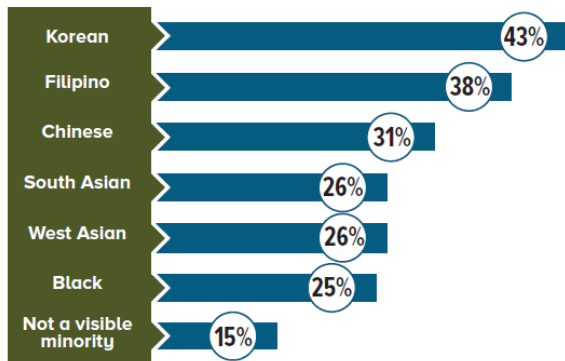
Source: Statistics Canada, Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians – Your mental health.

Triple jeopardy – immigrants and visible minorities more likely to report facing an increase risk of harassment, attacks, and stigma – for some, adding to the health and economic impacts of COVID-19

Prior to the pandemic, **44%** of hate crimes were motivated by hatred of a race or ethnicity (2018).

Since COVID, visible minority participants of a crowdsourc survey were **three times more likely** to report a perceived increase in the frequency of harassment or attacks based on race, ethnicity or skin colour compared with the rest of respondent (18% and 6%).

- This difference was most pronounced among Chinese, Korean, and Southeast Asian participants.

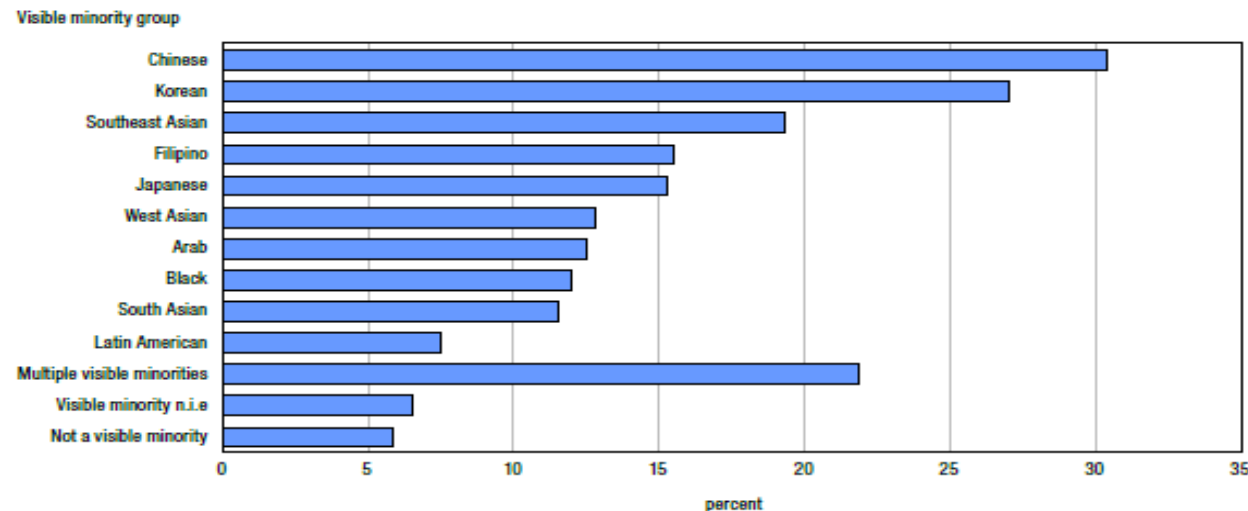


% who feel unsafe

27% of visible minority participants reported feeling **very or somewhat unsafe** when walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark, compared with **15%** of participants who are not designated as visible minorities.

Among visible minority participants, more than **1 in 3 women** felt unsafe when walking alone after dark, compared with **1 in 5 men**.

Perceived increase in harassment or attacks on the basis of race, ethnicity, or skin colour in neighbourhood since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, by visible minority group, Canada, 2020



n.i.e. not indicated elsewhere
Source: Statistics Canada, Crowdsourcing on perceptions of safety, May 12-25, 2020.

Immigrants were **almost twice as likely** as the Canadian born to report that they were afraid of being the target of unwanted behaviours (29% vs 17%) - among these individuals, immigrants were significantly more likely to report that they feared being stigmatized because of their racial identity (42% vs 9%).

Managing the pandemic moving forward – Immigrants are more concerned with their health and social consequences of the pandemic and more likely to take precautions, but less likely to get a vaccine

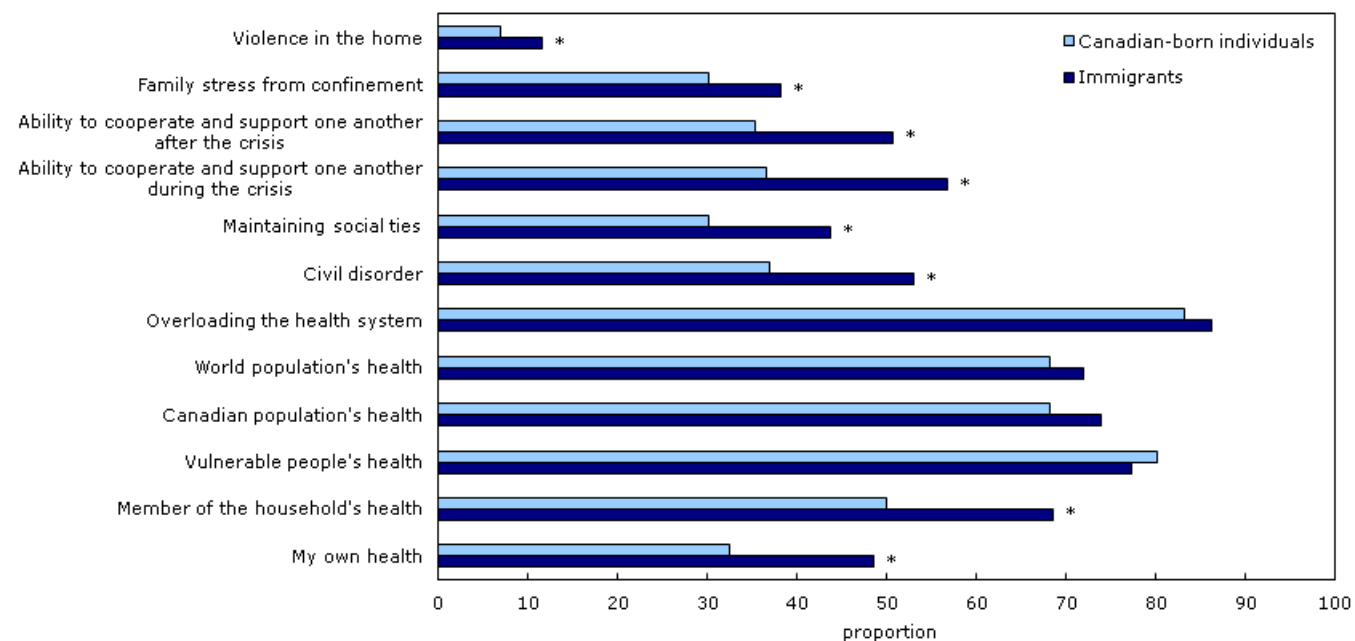
Immigrants were generally more concerned than Canadian-born individuals about the health risks of resuming activities.

Immigrants are more likely than Canadian-born individuals to continue taking precautions as COVID-19 safety measures are relaxed...

- wear masks (80% vs. 61%)
- avoid crowds and large gatherings (93% vs. 81%), and
- keep a 2 metre distance from others (89% vs. 78%).

Despite these trends, immigrants were **less likely** than those born in Canada to report that they would use a vaccine (52% vs 59%).

Proportion of immigrants and Canadian-born individuals aged 15 and older who reported that they were "very" or "extremely" concerned about selected social issues



* significantly different from Canadian-born individuals ($p < 0.05$)

Source: Canadian Perspectives Survey Series, March and April 2020.

Looking forward

- With the decline in immigration flows resulting from the pandemic, finding workers in front-line/essential service sectors could be a challenge.
 - Only 34,260 immigrants entered Canada in the second quarter of 2020 (compared with 94,280 in the second quarter of 2019) (Source: IRCC Admission of Permanent Residents Monthly Updates).
- Economic downturns may result in larger employment gaps between new immigrants and the Canadian-born population – eroding gains made in recent years, although the negative impact of recessions may be partially offset by the reduced number of new immigrants.
- New data development at Statistics Canada provides more timely data on the labour market outcomes and health status of immigrants and visible minorities.
- Accelerated digitalization after COVID-19 may create opportunities for skilled immigrants and visible minorities.
 - about 50% of adult recent immigrants had at least a bachelor's degree, compared with 28% among Canadian-born adult population.
 - among those with a university degree, 37% of adult immigrants were educated in a STEM field, compared with 18% among the Canadian born.

Impacts on Indigenous Peoples

Impacts on Indigenous Peoples

Key messages:

- Crowdsourced data indicate disproportionate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on First Nations people, Métis and Inuit.
 - Indigenous participants report greater impact on their ability to meet financial obligations or essential needs than non-Indigenous participants.
 - Indigenous participants report worsening mental health.
 - Indigenous women participants, in particular, report strong impacts on economic well-being and mental health.
- Stronger adverse impacts linked to pre-existing vulnerabilities, including longstanding and persistent disparities in socio-economic conditions.

Geographic isolation and high prevalence of pre-existing health conditions in the Indigenous population increases vulnerability

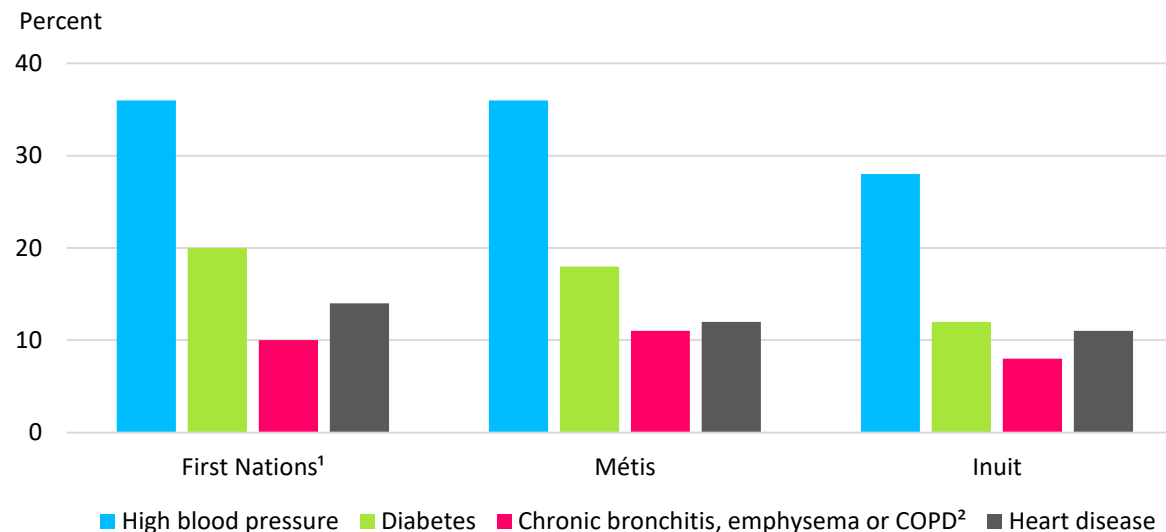
Many Indigenous people live in rural and remote communities where it is difficult to access medical care.

- Most Inuit (73%) live in Inuit Nunangat, where the vast majority of communities are accessible only by air.
- In 2017, 82% of Inuit in Inuit Nunangat reported that they did not have a family doctor. In comparison, less than one in five Canadians do not have a family doctor.

Pre-existing health conditions in the Indigenous population increase risk of COVID-19 complications.

- There are relatively high levels of pre-existing health conditions in the Indigenous population.

Proportion of First Nations people living off reserve, Métis and Inuit aged 50 years and over with selected pre-existing health conditions, 2017



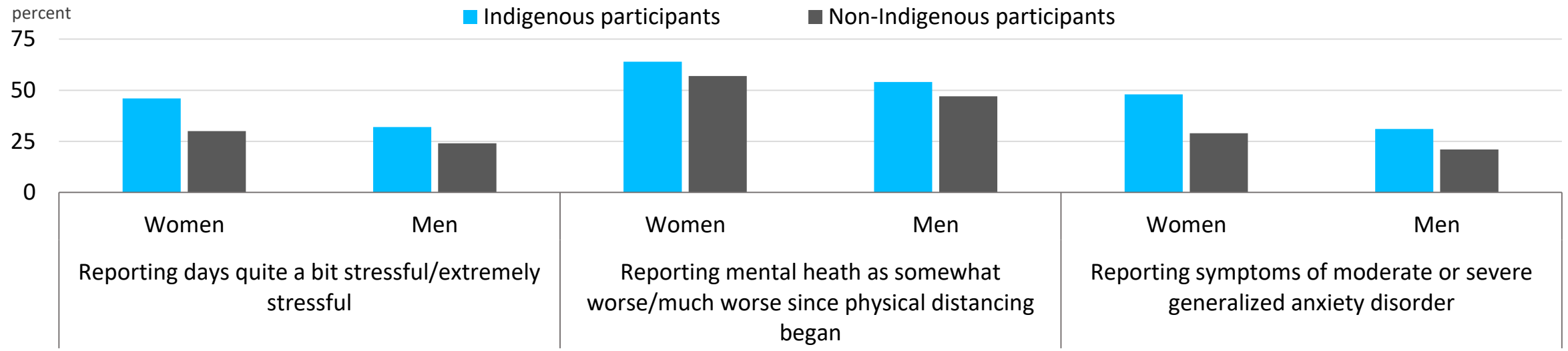
1. First Nations people living off reserve.
 2. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Source: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 2017

Indigenous people report worsening mental health since the start of COVID-19, including increases in anxiety and stress

- Relatively high percentages of Indigenous participants reported worsening mental health.
- Indigenous women particularly impacted: 46% reported that their days are quite a bit or extremely stressful and 48% reported symptoms consistent with moderate or severe generalized anxiety disorder.

Mental health impacts since the start of the pandemic, Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants by gender, April 24 to May 11, 2020



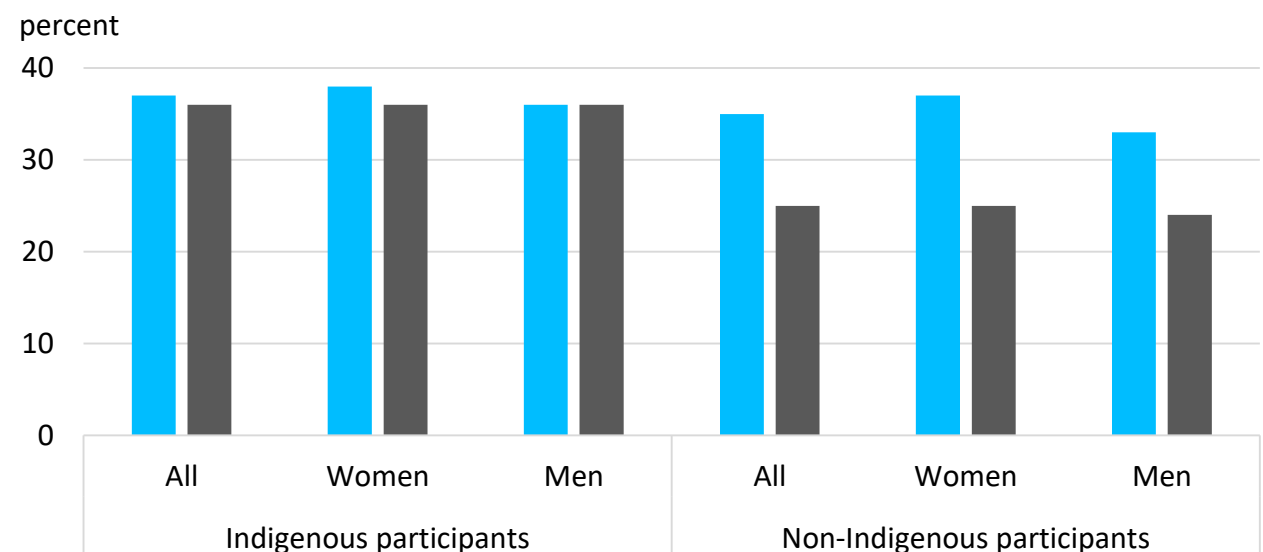
Source: Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians - Mental Health.

Crowdsourced data indicate that Indigenous people harder hit by the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic

While relative job losses have been similar, financial impacts are more sharply felt by Indigenous people.

- 37% of Indigenous participants experienced job loss or reduced work hours, compared to 35% of non-Indigenous participants.
- Over one-third (36%) of Indigenous participants reported that the COVID-19 pandemic had an impact on their ability to meet financial obligations or essential needs, compared to 25% of non-Indigenous participants.
- Among those who experienced job loss or reduced work hours, 65% of Indigenous participants reported a strong or moderate financial impact, compared to 56% among non-Indigenous participants.

Self-reported employment and financial impact of COVID-19, May 26 to June 8, 2020



■ Experienced job loss or reduced work hours among participants employed before COVID-19

■ Reporting a strong or moderate impact of COVID-19 on ability to meet financial obligations or essential needs

Source: Statistics Canada, Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians - Trust in Others

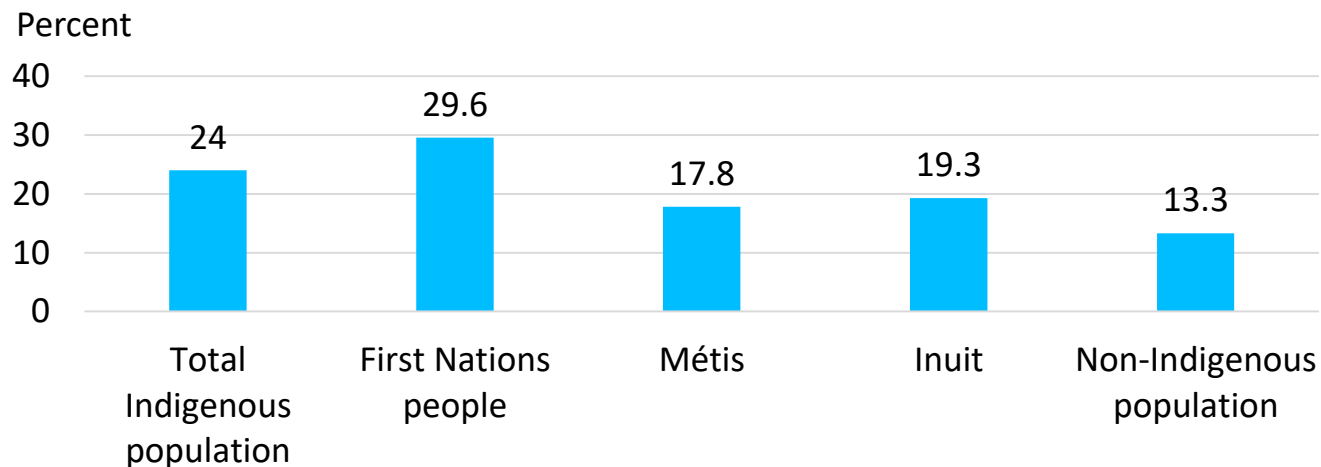
96

Economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic likely having a larger impact on Indigenous people because of greater pre-existing vulnerabilities

Families with few financial assets face significant income vulnerability.

- In 2016, 47% of those living in families headed by an Indigenous person (First Nations people living off reserve, Métis and Inuit) were unlikely to have enough liquid assets and other private sources of income to sustain themselves for a period of two months without employment income.

Percentage living below the poverty line (market basket measure) in urban areas, Canada (excluding the territories), 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population.

Concerns about safety heightened among Indigenous participants

- 17% of Indigenous participants reported that they believe crime has increased in their neighbourhood since the start of the pandemic, compared to 11% among non-Indigenous participants.
- 22% of Indigenous participants felt that people in their neighbourhood are being harassed or attacked “often” or “sometimes” because of their race, ethnicity or skin colour. This is compared with 11% of non-Indigenous participants.

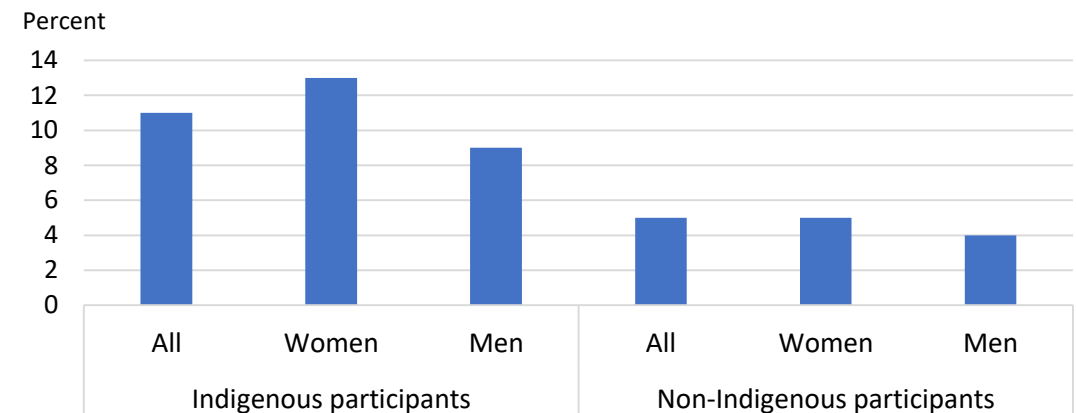
50% of Indigenous participants compared to 62% of non-Indigenous participants expressed a high level of trust in the federal government to make good decisions about when and how to reopen businesses and public spaces.

Source: [Economic impact of COVID-19 among Indigenous people](#).

When participants were asked about impacts of COVID-19:

- 47% of Indigenous women reported being “very” or “extremely” concerned about family stress due to confinement.
- 13% of Indigenous women reported some level of concern (somewhat/very/extremely) about violence in their home.

Percentage reporting some level of concern about the impact of COVID-19 on violence in their home, April 24 to May 11, 2020



Source: Statistics Canada, Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians - Mental Health.

Looking forward

Economic recovery may come more slowly for the Indigenous population (as it did following the 2008 recession).

- Employment increases have stalled for the off-reserve Indigenous population.

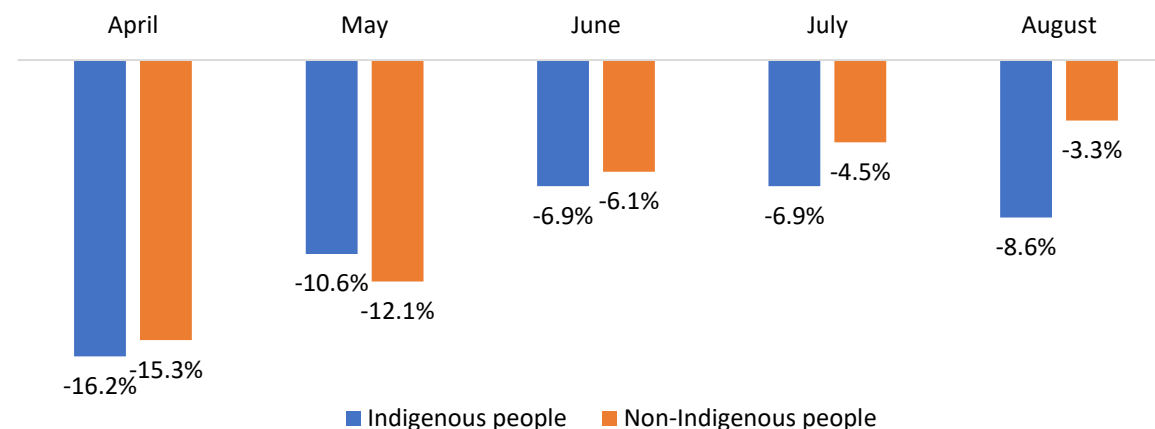
Indigenous youth may be at risk of leaving school without the proper supports.

- More than half of Indigenous participants reported being very or extremely concerned about the school year and academic success of their child due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Indigenous people overrepresented among the most vulnerable:

- Based on previous research, Indigenous people overrepresented among the homeless in urban areas.
- In residential facilities for victims of abuse, representation of Indigenous women was 5 times higher than their representation in the Canadian population (2017/2018).
- Indigenous adults accounted for 29% of admissions to federal custody, while representing approximately 4% of the Canadian adult population (2017/2018).

Change in employment counts relative to February 2020, Indigenous and non-Indigenous population aged 15 and older, Excluding those residing on reserve or in Territories, April - July 2020



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Impacts on Parents and Children

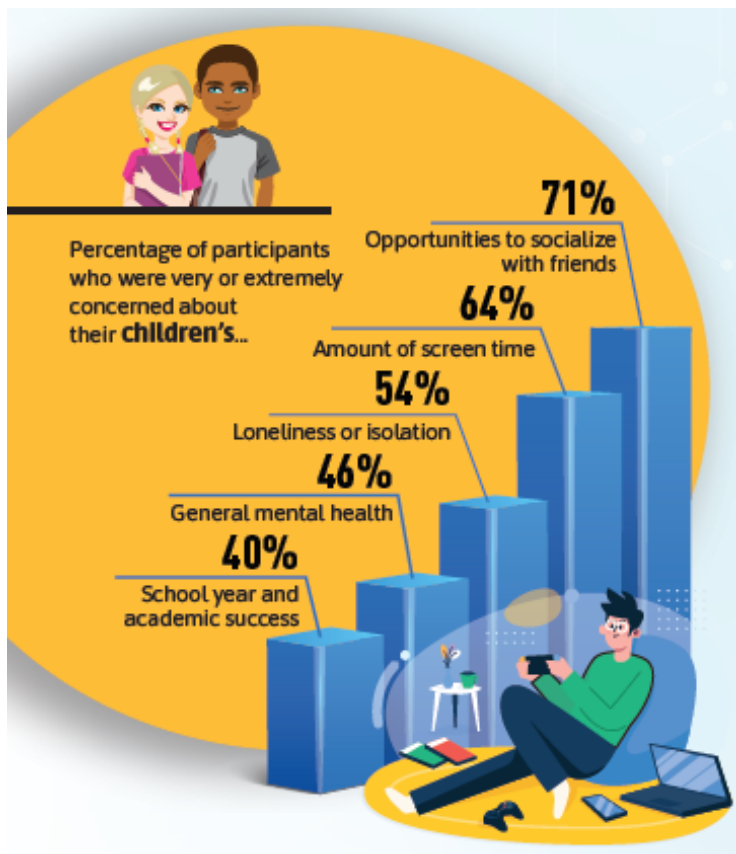
Impact on Parents and Children

Key messages:

- In June, Statistics Canada conducted a crowdsourcing survey - Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians – Parenting during the Pandemic – providing valuable information on the experience of parents and children.
- Since the pandemic, many parents have reported being very or extremely concerned about their children and their families – particularly the ability to balance child care, school, and work – rates were higher among parents with disabled children.
- Few parents used child care during the early part of the pandemic – Among those reporting that their children would resume child care, the majority report they require child care in order to work.
- Ready for school – Children of parents with a Bachelor's degree or higher were more likely to be engaged in academic activities 3 or more times a week compared to parents with a high school degree (88% vs 67%).

Since the pandemic, many parents have reported being very or extremely concerned about their children and their families – particularly the ability to balance child care, school, and work

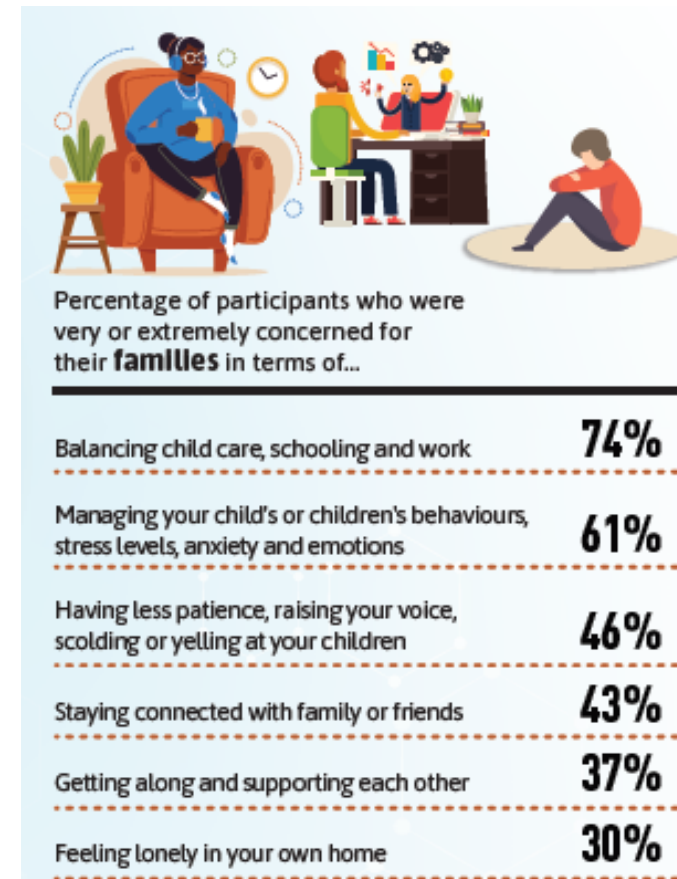
Concerns for their children:



Concerns about **balancing child care, schooling, and work** highest among those with school aged children aged 4 to 11...

Preschool-aged children only	70%
School-aged children aged 4 to 11	80%
School-aged children aged 12 to 14	55%
Children of various ages	76%

Concern for their families:



Source: Statistics Canada, Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians – Parenting during the Pandemic, June 2020.

Few parents were using child care during COVID – among those who did, almost half had different arrangements and fees

During COVID, 9% of children aged 0 to 14 were in child care

Use of any child care as reported by parents of children aged 0-14, crowdsource survey
Canada, June 2020

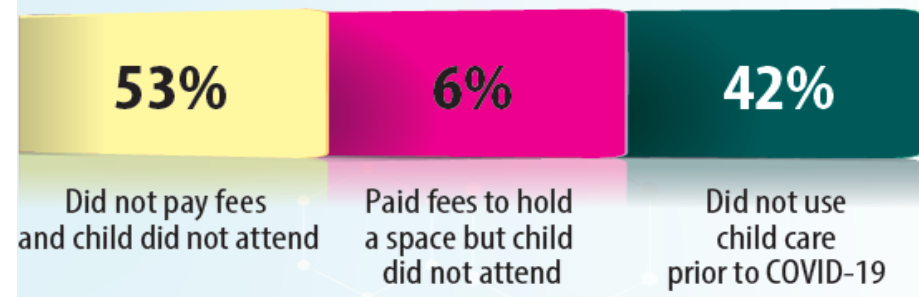
Child care use varied by province with a high of 30% in NWT and 5% in QC and 5% in ON



Among parents who were using child care during the pandemic...

46% had different and **35%** had the same arrangement and fees

Among parents who were not using child care during the pandemic



Sources: Statistics Canada, Survey of Early Learning and Child Care Arrangements (year); Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians – Parenting during the Pandemic, June 2020.

Reflecting concerns about balancing work and child care, majority of families require child care in order to work

When child care services reopen, will your child or children attend?

Preschoolers

Yes 56%
No 24%

Young School Age (4-11)

Yes 27%
No 30%



When asked why they will not send their kids to child care...

49%

I am concerned about the health of my child or another member of the household

13%

My family members or friends will take care of my child or children

6%

I can no longer afford child care services

32%

I will no longer need child care services

Among the one in three participants who said their children would resume attending...

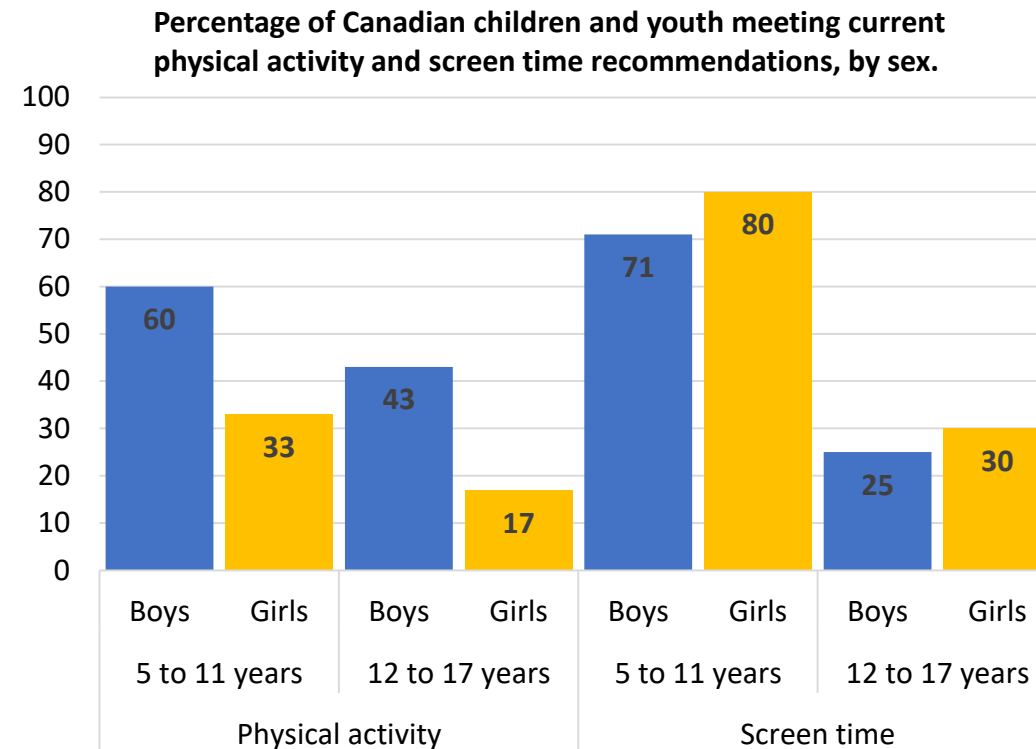
88% said that they required child care in order to work.

Sedentary activity and screen time increases for Canadian children and youth

The Canadian 24-Hour Movement Guidelines state that children and youth should accumulate 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity every day and limit screen time to 2 hours or less.

Prior to COVID, the most recent statistics from the Canadian Health Measures Survey (2016-2017) indicate that:

- 46% of children and 30% of youth were meeting the current physical activity recommendation.
- 76% of children and 28% of youth were meeting the current screen time recommendation.

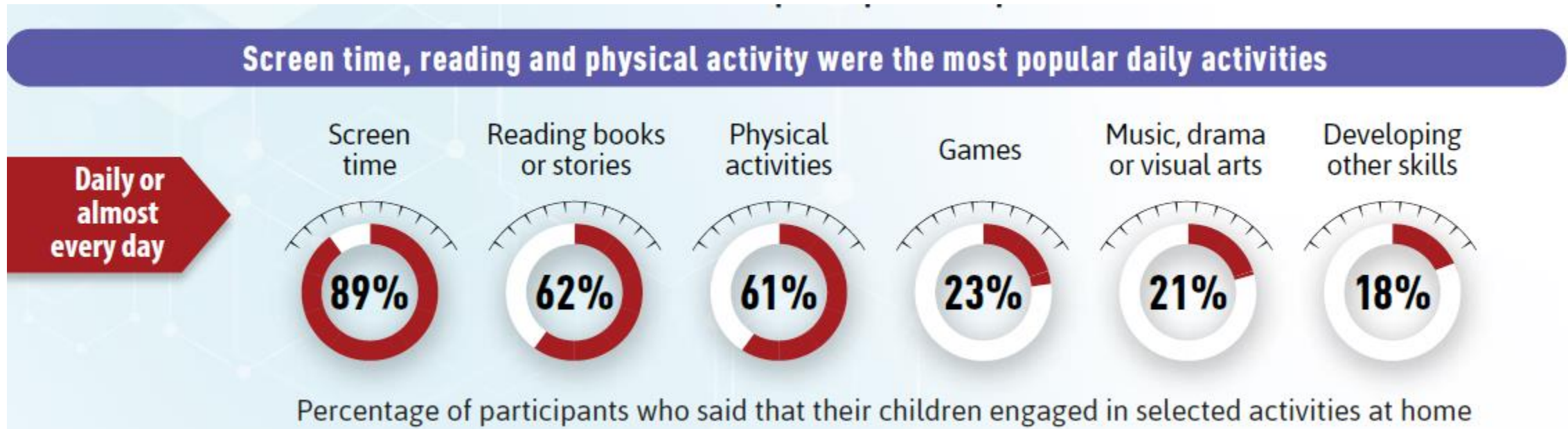


Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Health Measures Survey, 2016-2017.

During COVID-19 - A national survey conducted by ParticipACTION during the COVID-19 pandemic reported that children and youth were: less active, spending less time outdoors, more sedentary, engaging in more screen time and getting more sleep.

Source: Moore SA et al., Int J Behav Nutr Metab 2020; 17:85.

What are children doing during the pandemic? Most parents reported that their children were participating in screen time daily or almost every day



- Over half of parents (54%) reported that they were very or extremely concerned about the amount of screen time their children were engaging in.

Source: Statistics Canada, Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians – Parenting during the Pandemic, June 2020.

Getting ready for school - While most children were engaged in academic activities, differences exist by parents' education level

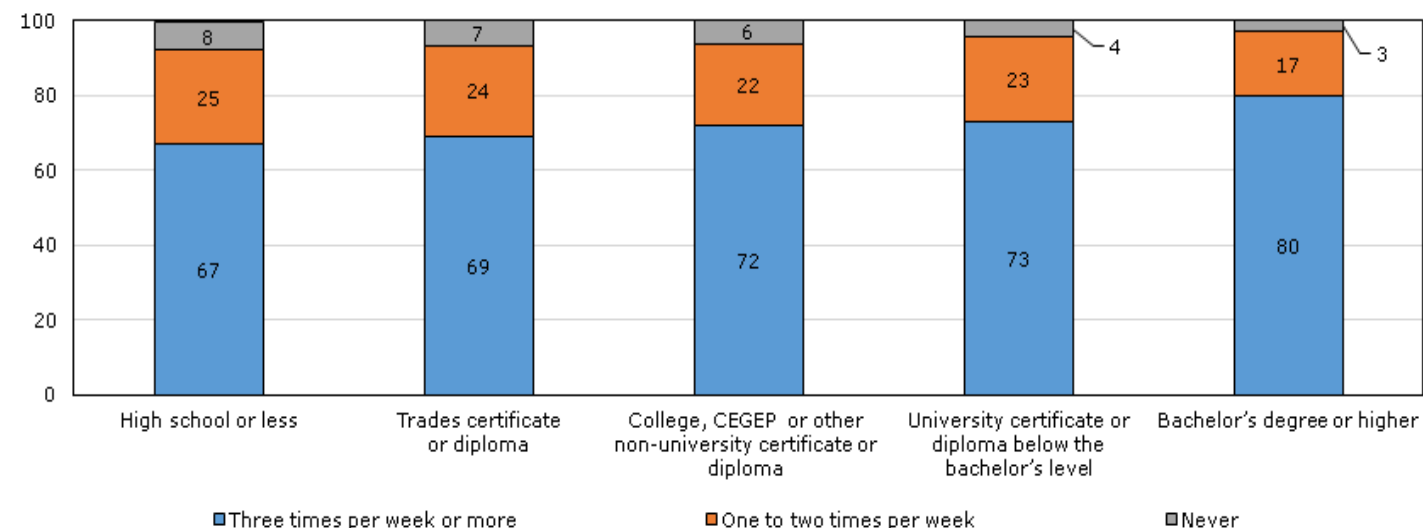
Parental education has been shown to be positively correlated with their children's academic performance... this remains true during COVID.

- While 77% of parents reported that their children engaged in academic activities 3 times per week or more, differences exist by level of education...
 - 80% among parents with a bachelor's degree compared with 67% of participants with a high school diploma or less.

Parents with only a high school education were almost three times more likely that parents with a bachelors degree to report their children never engaged in academic activities (8% vs 3%).

Frequency of children's participation in structured academic activities, by parental educational attainment

percent

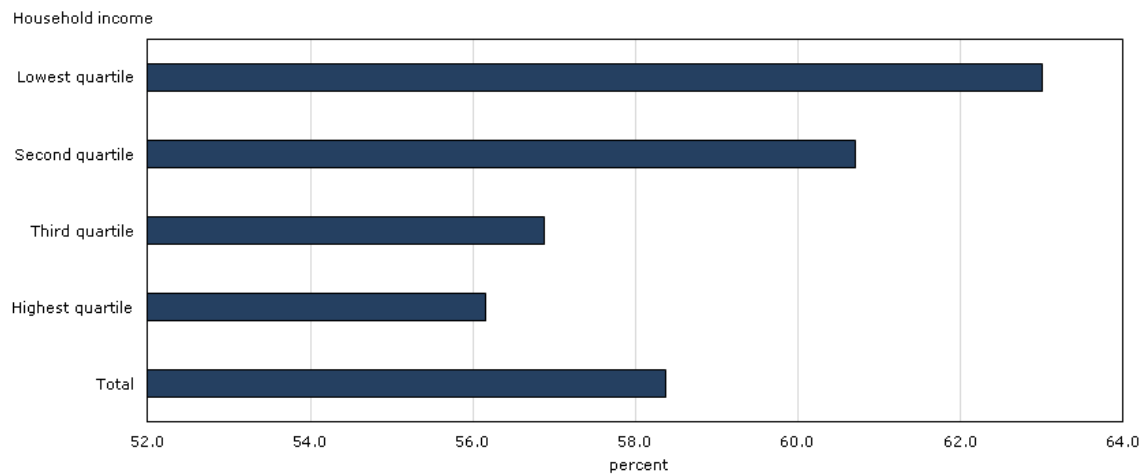


Source: Impacts of COVID - 19 on Canadians: Parenting during the Pandemic - Data Collection Series (5323).

As some schools move to online learning options, differential access to the internet and devices may further disadvantage children in low income households

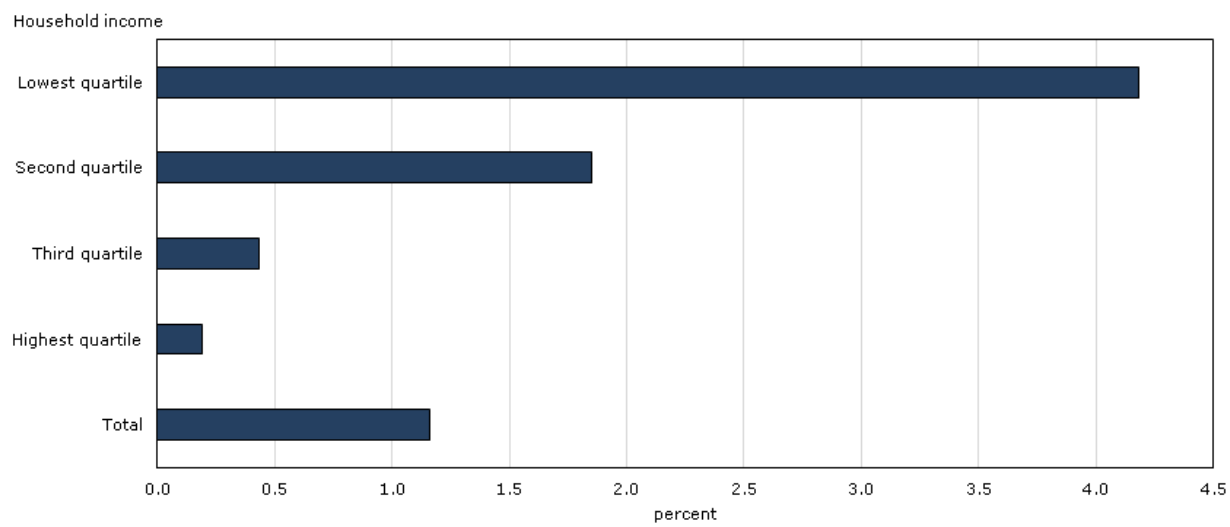
While only 1.2% of Canadian households with children do not have access to the internet at home, the rate is higher among low income households in (4.2%) compared with high income households (0.2%).

Percentage of households with children under age 18 who have less than one internet-enabled device per household member



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Internet Use Survey, 2018.

Percentage of households with children under age 18 who have no home internet



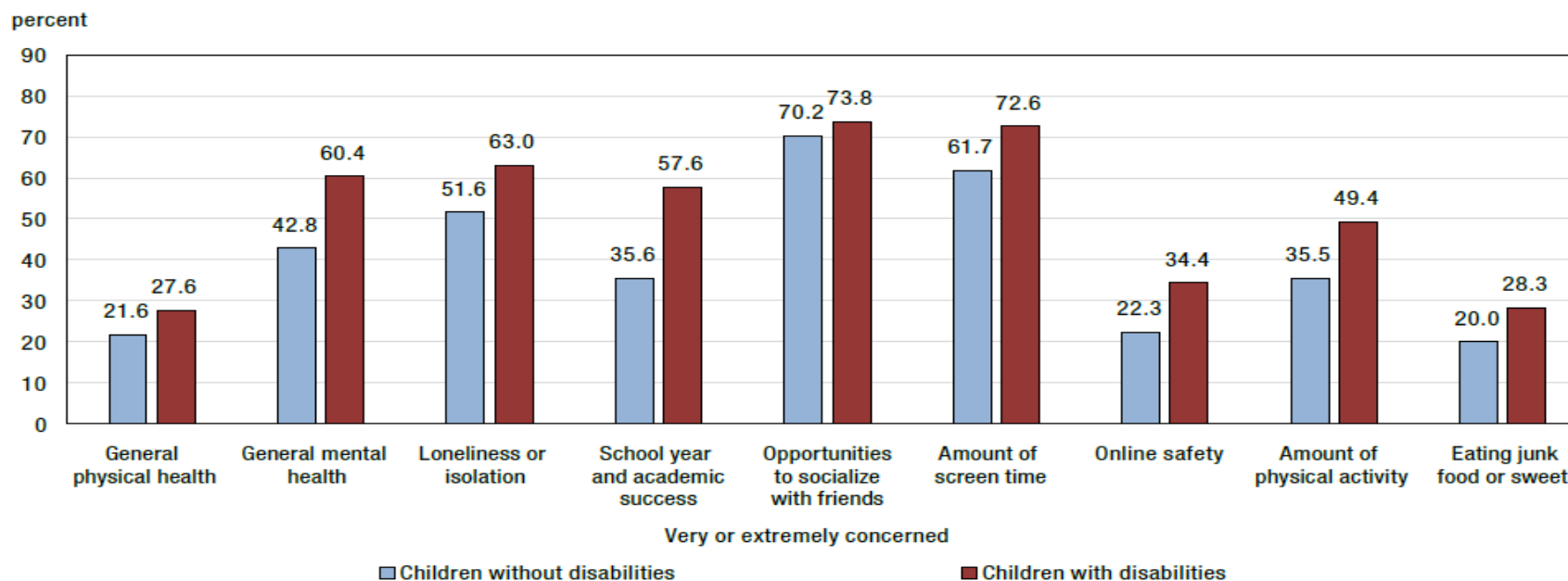
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Internet Use Survey, 2018.

Low income households are also likely to have less than one device for each household (63%) compared to 56.2% among high income households.

Families of children with disabilities have higher rates of concern about the impacts of COVID – especially about their children’s health and education

A higher proportion of parents of children with disabilities are very or extremely concerned about their children’s amount of screen time, loneliness or isolation, general mental health, school year and academic success.

Chart 1
Crowdsourcing participants' concerns for their children aged 0 to 14 years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, by presence of children with disabilities at home



Notes: Percent calculations exclude both "not applicable" and "not stated" responses. The pattern of results was similar when "not applicable" responses were included.
Source: Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians - Parenting During the Pandemic: Data Collection Series (5323).

Looking forward

Impacts of COVID on parents and children are likely to be dramatic in several areas:

- Parental ability to manage work, school, and child care demands particularly for young children and children with disabilities.
- Parental concerns about how children are spending their time with increases in screen time, sedentary activity, and social isolation and few spending time in art, games, and the learning of new skills.
- Despite this, the majority of children are reported as being engaged in reading and other academic activities during COVID.
- Children living in families of socio-economic risk are more disadvantaged in accessing needed resources during COVID. Access to technology as a tool for remote learning is but one example.
- Parental and child well-being including physical and mental health, and academic and economic success will be key markers for future recovery.

Impacts on Youth

Impacts on Youth

Key messages:

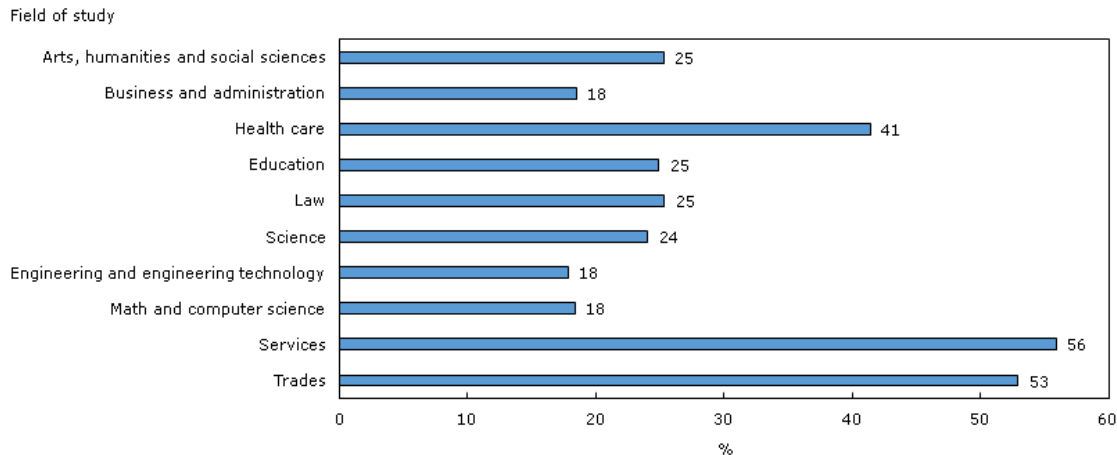
- Post-secondary students were impacted academically and financially by COVID-19.
- Impacts of the pandemic on youth employment may be felt for years to come.
- All these factors likely contribute to lower mental health among youth and increased use of substances.
- Youth are less concerned about the risks of COVID-19, but are still willing to take necessary precautions to avoid spreading the virus.

COVID-19 disrupted postsecondary studies – more so for those in services, trades and health care

Early in the pandemic, 26% of postsecondary students responding to a crowdsourced survey (100,000 participants) indicated their education was disrupted – impacts varied by discipline.

- Students in programs related to services (56%), trades (53%), or health care (41%) were hardest hit.

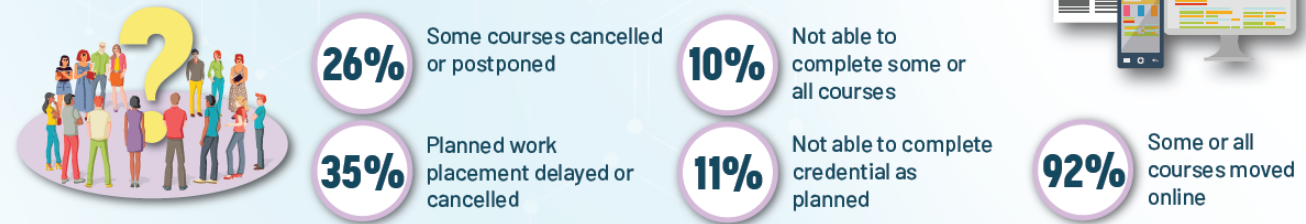
Proportion of participants reporting having some courses cancelled or postponed this term, by field of study



Source: Statistics Canada, Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on postsecondary students.

For many students, academic work was delayed, postponed or cancelled.

Proportion of participants who reported the following academic impacts:



Source: Impacts of the COVID pandemic on post secondary students.

Almost all participants (92%) reported that they had some or all of their courses moved online.

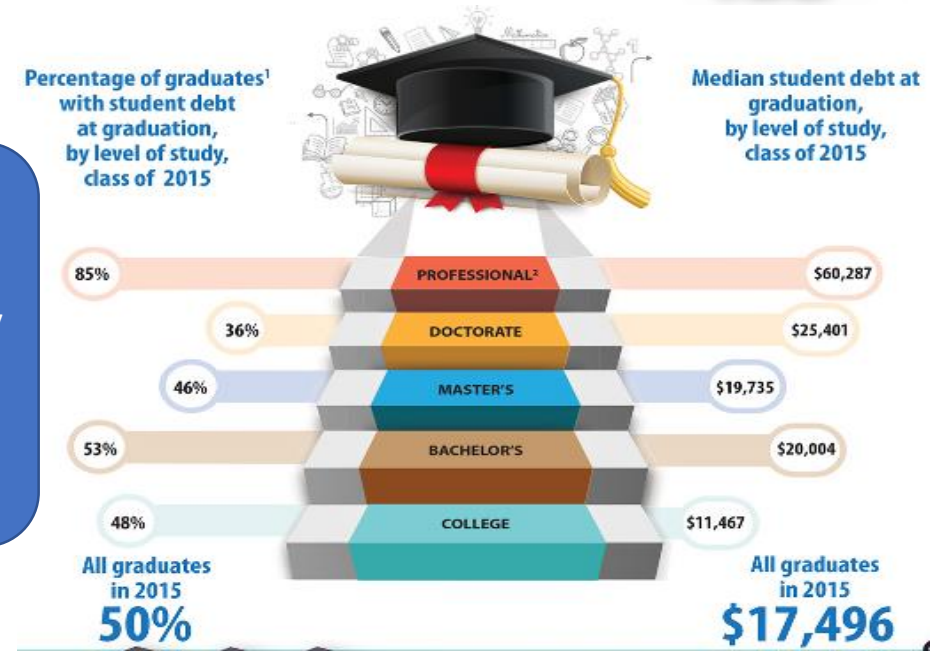
- Among respondents taking online courses, 7% reported they were unable to complete some or all of these courses.
- Once again, rates were higher among services (10%), trades (13%), and health care (9%) compared with science and education (6%).

Postsecondary students are also very concerned about their financial situation

Early on in the pandemic, postsecondary crowdsource survey respondents said they were very or extremely concerned about their financial situation – even after the announcement of the Canadian Emergency Student Benefits (CESB)...

- Using up savings – 73% (before CESB); 61% (after CESB)
- Paying for tuition next term – 56% (before CESB); 48% (after CESB)
- Having to take on more student debt – 73% (before CESB); 61% (after CESB)

64% of the Class of 2015 still had not fully paid their debt **3 years** after graduation



Many students reported experiencing labour market disruptions.



Source: Statistics Canada, Impacts of the COVID pandemic on post secondary students.

Financial impacts of COVID could affect students' ability to pay their debts.

- Based on results from the most recent *National Graduates Survey*, for every \$1,000 of income earned, 0.2% of student debt was repaid.
- Factors associated with slower debt repayment included a larger debt at graduation, being a single parent, reporting a disability and being a landed immigrant or a member of a visible minority group (college graduates only).

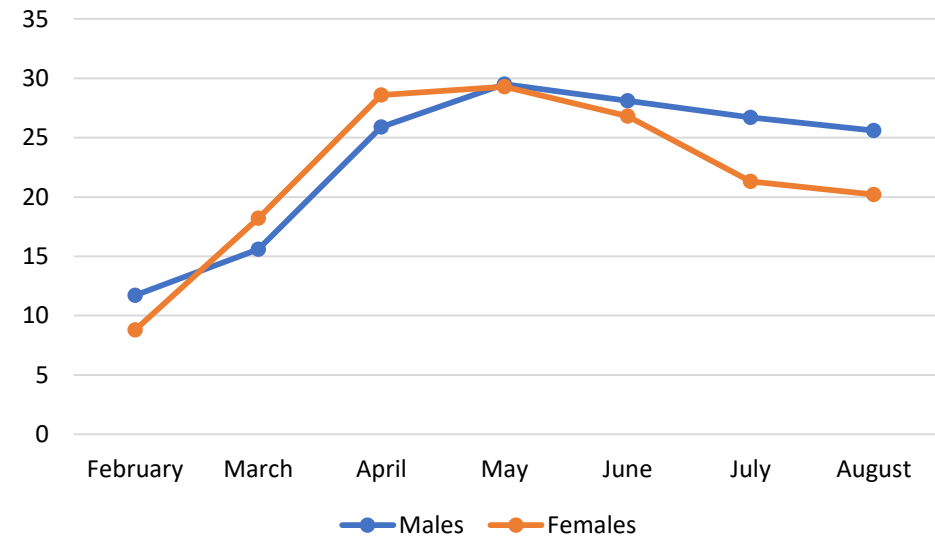
Source: Statistics Canada, National Graduates Survey, 2018.

Impacts of the pandemic on youth employment may be felt for years to come

Youth employment was severely impacted by the shutdowns – the percentage of 15 to 24 years olds working declined from **58% in February** to just over **38% in April** – by August, it had partly rebounded to just over 49%.

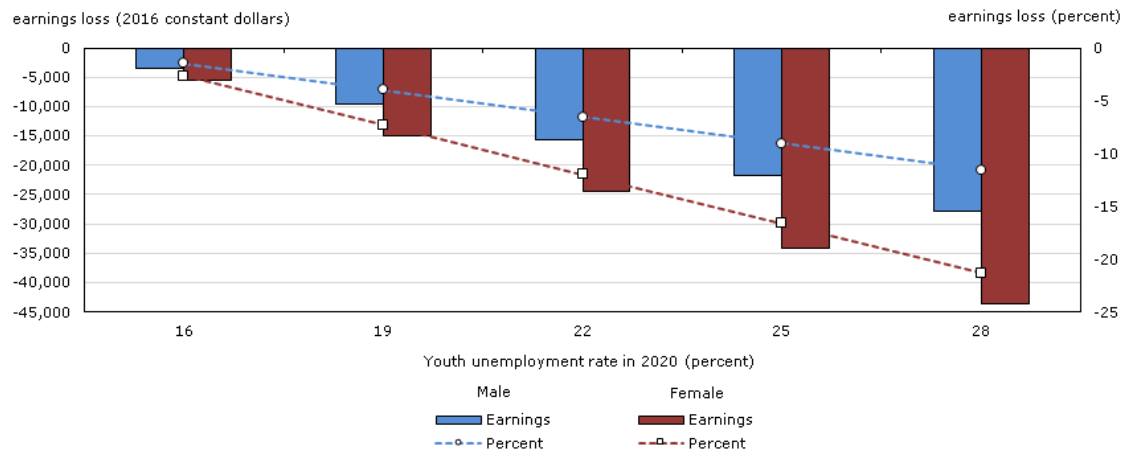
However, recent employment gains among youth have all been in part-time work. **Full-time work among young Canadians has decreased** since April and is **down almost one-quarter from pre-pandemic levels**, reflecting losses among young women.

Unemployment rate, 15 to 24 year-olds, Canada, February to August 2020



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Cumulative five-year earnings loss after graduation due to economic downturn (Bachelor's degree graduates in 2020 by gender)



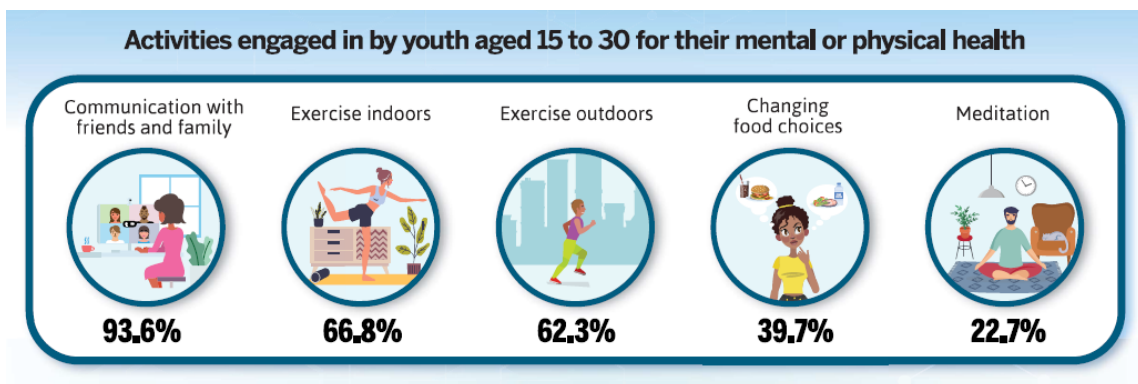
Notes: Shown are the cumulative earnings loss in dollars and percent over the first five years following graduation under different scenarios of the youth unemployment in 2020, compared to historical average earnings in first five years following graduation.
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population and Labour Force Survey.

The Class of 2020 could lose between \$23,000 to \$44,000 in cumulative earnings over the next five years if this year's annual youth unemployment hits 28.0%.

- Losses are estimated to be between about \$8,000 to \$15,000 if the youth unemployment rate is at 19.0%
- This could have impacts on the ability of graduates to repay their debts.

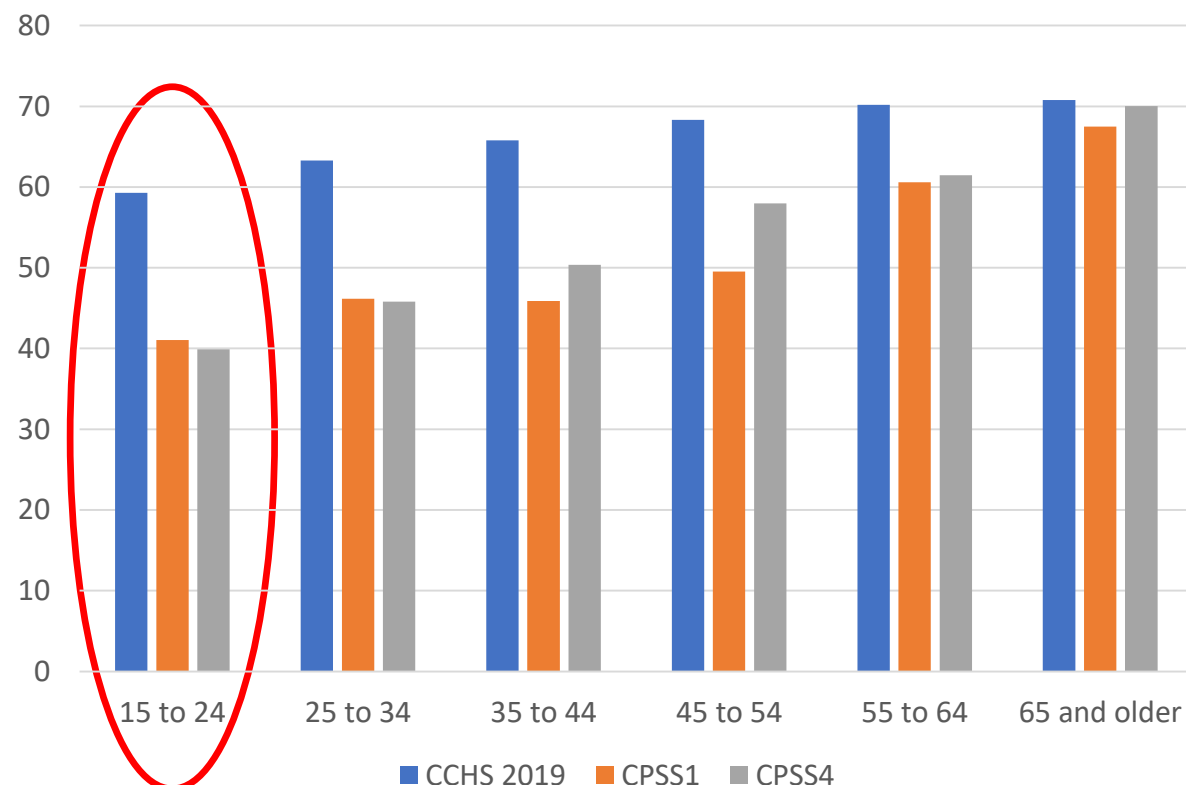
All these factors likely contributing to lower mental health among youth – they have experienced the greatest declines since the start of the pandemic

- Prior to COVID, youth were at risk for poor mental health.
- Since COVID, youth most impacted by mental health declines since COVID - those age 15 to 24 reporting the greatest declines in mental health - **20 percentage point reductions from 60% (2019, pre-COVID) to 40% (July 2020)** of those reporting excellent or very good mental health.



Source: Statistics Canada, Impacts of COVID – impacts on mental health.

Proportion of Canadians reporting excellent or very good mental health pre and post COVID by age group, Canada, 2019, March and July 2020

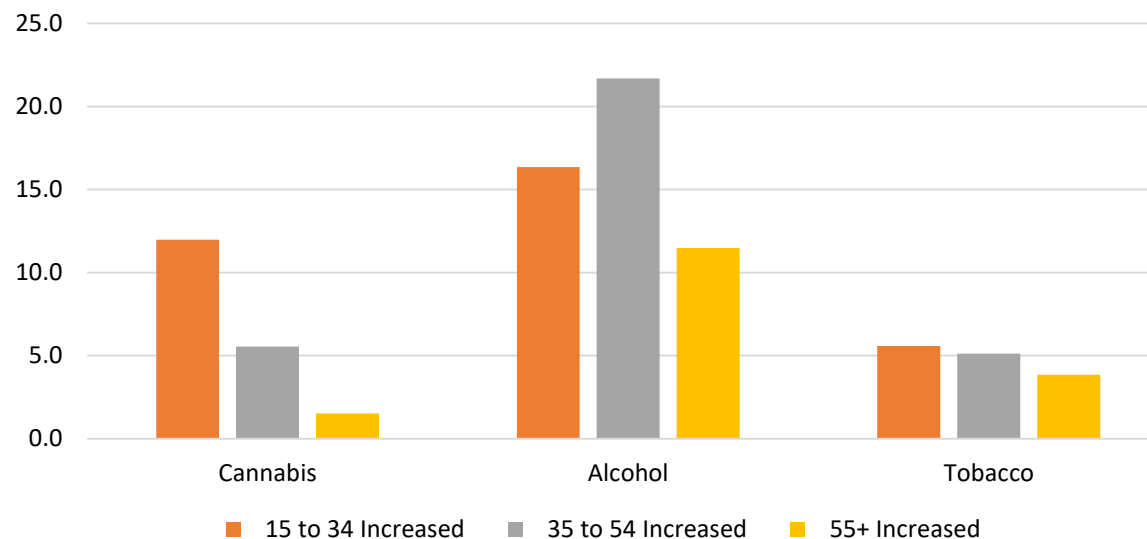


Sources: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey, 2019; Canadian Perspectives Survey, Series 1 and Canadian Perspectives Survey, Series 4.

Youth are also more likely to have increased their use of substances – particularly cannabis

- Poor mental health has been shown to be associated with increased use of substances during the pandemic.
- Youth aged 15 to 34 continue to be most likely to have increased their use of cannabis during the pandemic – 12 %.
- Prior to COVID, **14%** of Canadians report consuming cannabis – the rate was 24% among youth (15 to 24 years of age).

Proportion of Canadians reporting an increase use of substances during COVID-19 by age group, July 2020

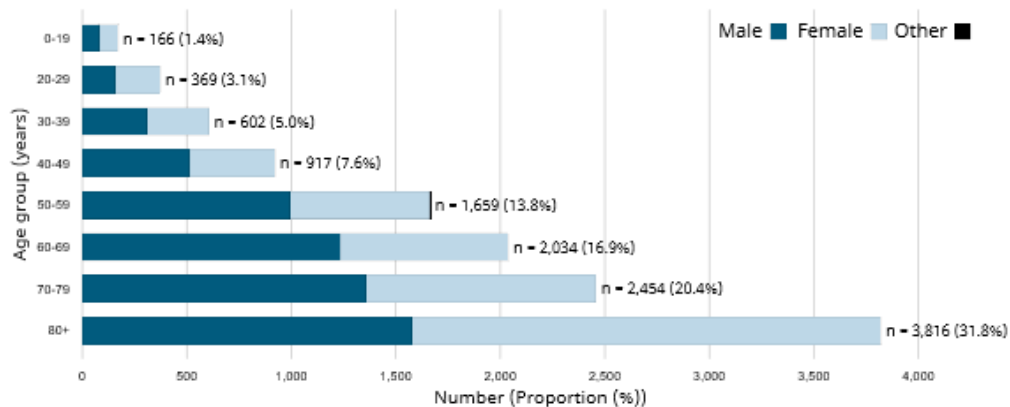


Source: Statistics Canada. Canadian Perspectives Survey Series (CPSS), Wave 4, July 2020.

As the pandemic unfolds, youth are less concerned about health risks and more likely to socialize – likely resulting in higher rates of COVID-19 cases but few hospitalizations

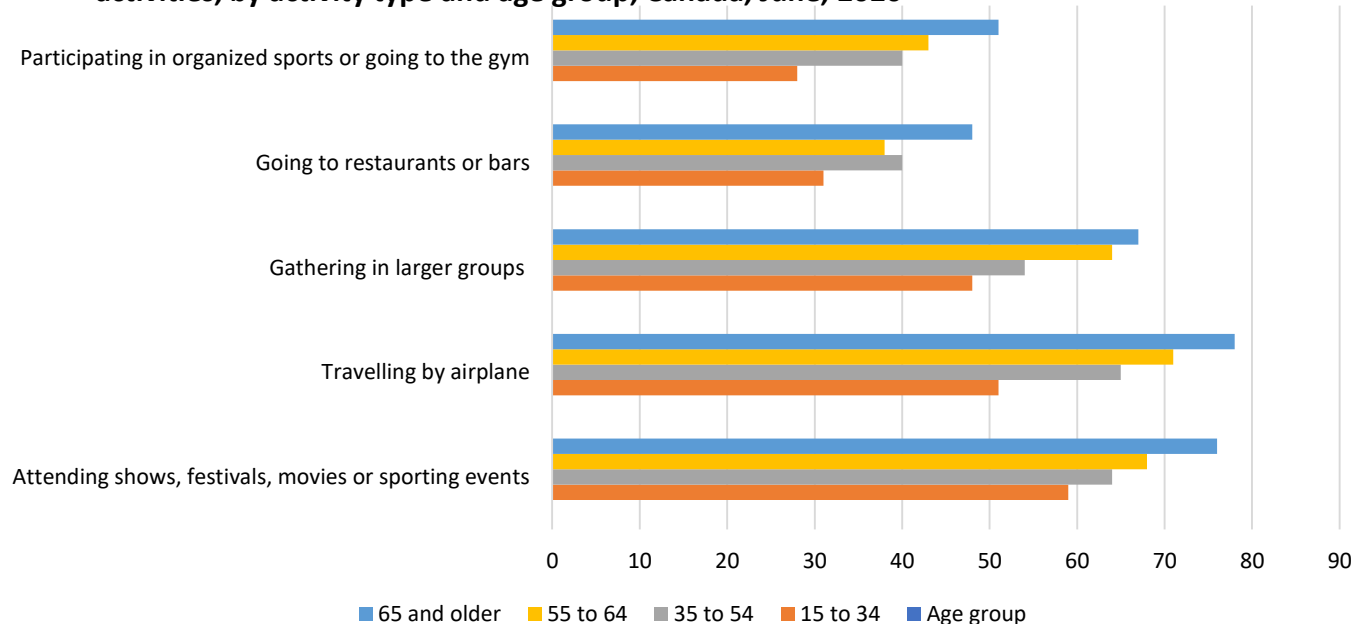
- As restrictions have been lifted, youth are consistently less likely to report being concerned about the health risks of resuming activities.
- In July, youth aged 15 to 34 were twice as likely to have been in close contact with at least 9 people other than their household members (45% vs 22%).

Distribution of hospitalized COVID cases by age and gender, Canada, September 27, 2020



Source: Public Health Agency of Canada.

Proportion of individuals who were very concerned about the health risks of resuming activities, by activity type and age group, Canada, June, 2020



Source: Statistics Canada. Canadian Perspectives Survey Series (June 2020).

- As of September 27th, the distribution of cases among youth aged 20 to 29 is 17.6% compared with 13.2% among the elderly (80+ years of age) – however, the risk of hospitalization and death among youth remains low.

Managing the pandemic moving forward – despite lower level of concerns regarding the health of others, youth are still willing to take necessary precautions to avoid spreading the virus

Since the start of the pandemic, youth remain concerned about their health but less concerned about the health of others...

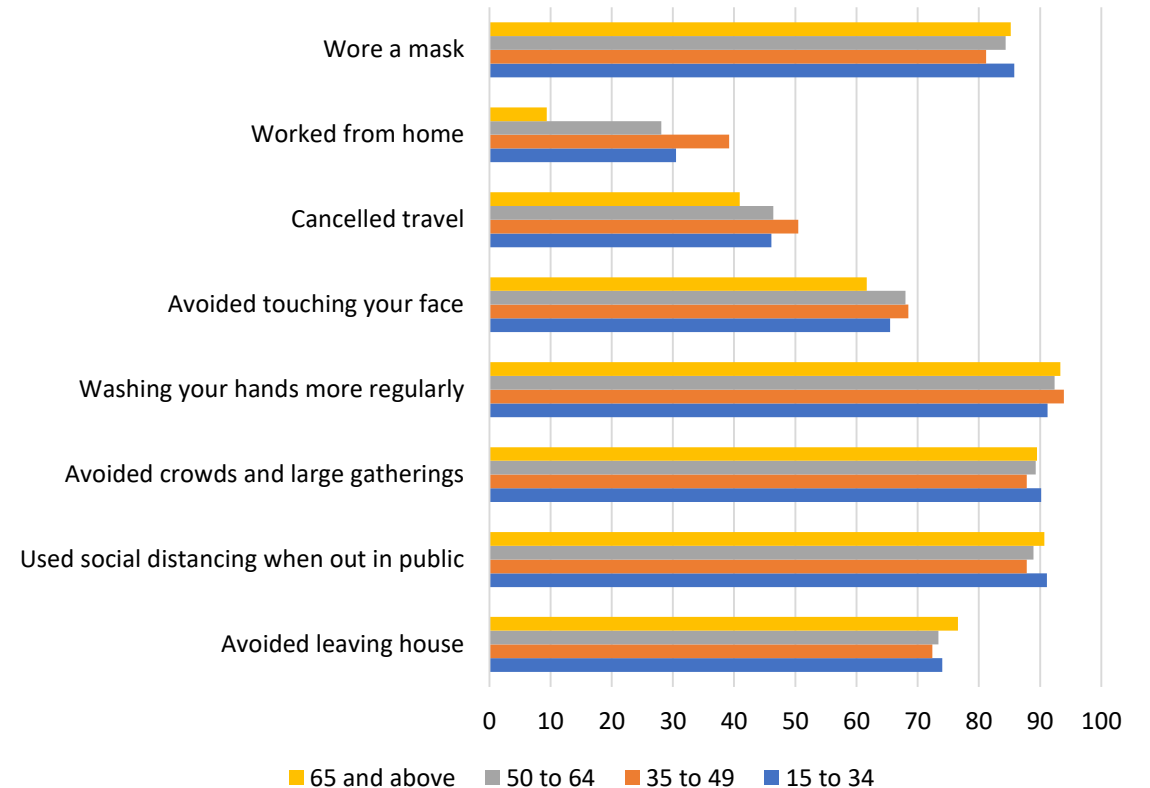
- Concern for their own health (26% in March vs 25% in July);
- Concern for health of those in their household: (55% in March/April vs 49% in July); and
- Concern for Canadian population’s health (65% in March/April vs 44% in July).

Youth as likely as other age groups to take precautions and in some cases slightly more likely.

Targeted messaging to youth to remind them of the risk of COVID for elderly people

In the UK, young people are told not to 'kill granny'

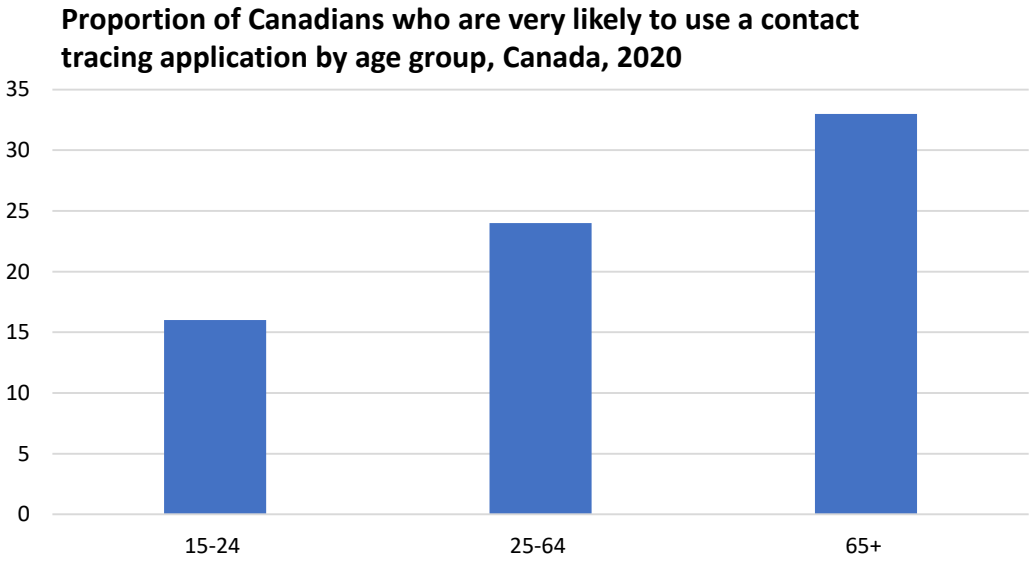
Proportion of individuals who are likely to take precaution by type of precaution and age group, Canada, July 2020



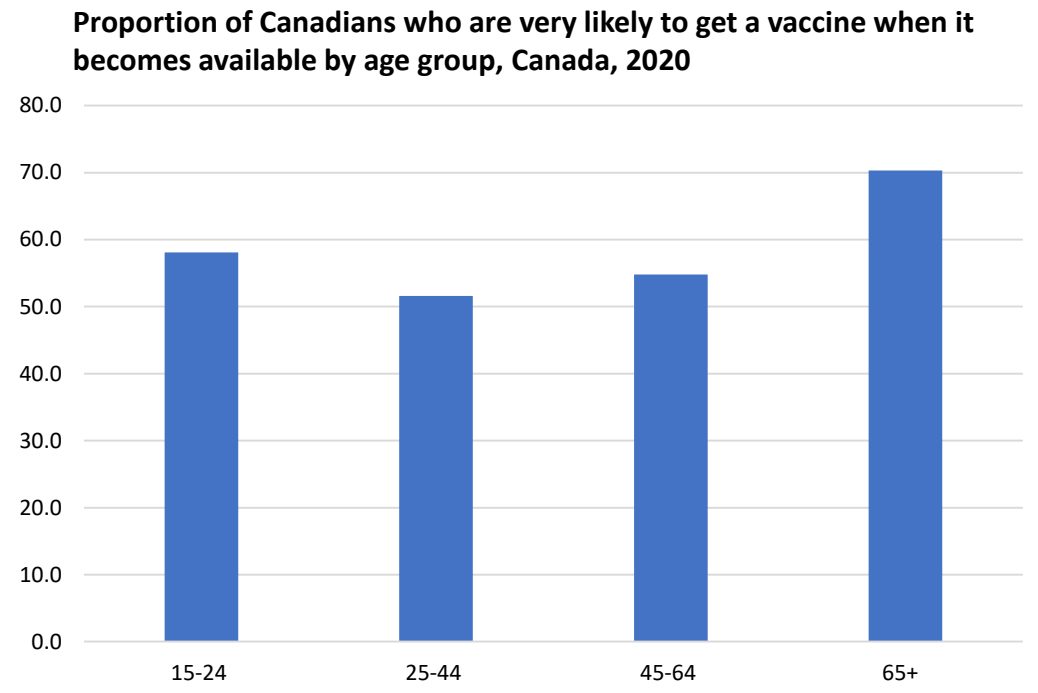
Source: Canadian Perspectives Survey Series 4 – Information sources consulted during the pandemic, July 2020.

Managing the pandemic moving forward – the willingness of youth to take further action varies to fight the pandemic depends on the type of precaution

- Those aged 15 to 24 were less likely to support mandatory testing compared with older respondents (aged 65 or older) (49% and 39%).
- Despite being more socially active, only 16% of young Canadians said they would be “very likely” to use a contact tracing application compared with 33% among seniors.



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Perspectives Survey Series 3 (June 2020).



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Perspectives Survey Series 3 (June 2020).

- Just over half of youth (58%) indicated they would get a vaccine – higher than older adults but less compared with 70% among seniors.

Looking forward

- While the impacts of the pandemic on youth employment may be felt for years to come, major structural shifts in demand for highly-skilled workers due to telework and automation may favour post-secondary educated workers since most are able to do their job at home, and generally do work that is non-automatable.
- With Students in health, services and trades most affected so far, this could play out in terms of graduation rates, this could also affect choices in Field of study.
- If balancing work, childcare and home schooling becomes the new norm for parents, women might be affected more so than men. Will there be impact on their workforce participation and fertility rates.

Community Safety and Crime

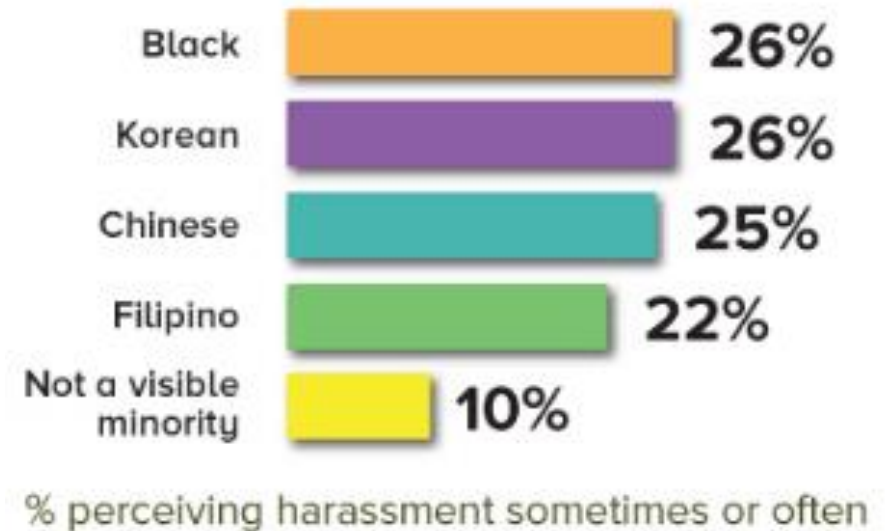
Community Safety and Crime

Key Messages:

- Women, young people, Indigenous and ethno-cultural groups feel more unsafe and report more discrimination and harassment.
- The profile of crime and police intervention during COVID 19 has changed: police calls for service have increased 7%, while police-reported crime has declined 16%.
- The landscape of vulnerability has been heightened and shifted, as seen in increased of domestic violence, and increased of feelings of risk for family violence due to social isolation.
- Impacts on the administration of justice - fewer offenders incarcerated with an unprecedented drop in custodial populations recorded.
- Future directions - providing more disaggregated data and trend indicators for justice and community safety to support social and economic recovery.

Perceptions of crime and safety during the pandemic – feelings of being unsafe are more common among certain groups - visible minority participants, young people, women

- More than one-quarter of Black, Korean, and Chinese participants perceived being harassed or attacked based on race, ethnicity, or skin colour sometimes or often – compared to 10% of non-visible minorities.
- Visible minority participants were three times more likely than the rest of the population (18% versus 6%) to perceive increases in this type of harassment or attacks since the start of the pandemic.
- Younger participants, particularly women, were more likely to feel an increase in crime and race-based harassment or attacks in their neighbourhood.
- Young women were more likely to report having contacted or used a victims' service, and less likely to report feeling safe when walking alone after dark in their neighbourhood.

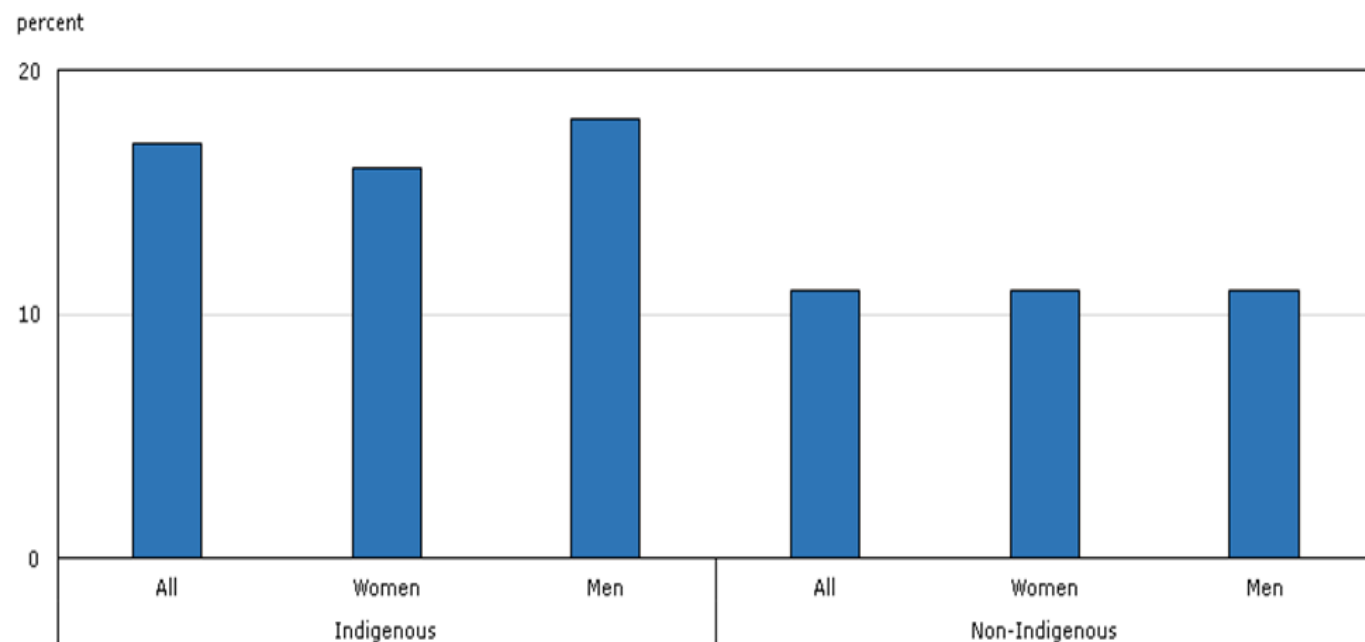


Source: Statistics Canada, Crowdsourcing on perceptions of safety, May 12-25, 2020.

Perceptions of crime and safety during the pandemic – greater impact experienced by Indigenous participants

- Among Indigenous participants, 17% believed crime had increased in their neighbourhood since the start of the pandemic, compared to 11% among non-Indigenous participants. There was little gender difference among Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants.
- Indigenous participants (22%) were twice as likely as non-Indigenous participants (11%) to state that harassment or attacks because of race, ethnicity or skin colour happened “often” or “sometimes” in their neighbourhood. Differences between Indigenous men and women participants were small.

Percentage reporting feeling crime in neighbourhood has increased since the start of the pandemic, May 12 to 25, 2020



Source: Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians - Perceptions of Safety.

Safety and well-being during the pandemic

- While countries reported a decline in police-reported crime during the stringent lockdown measures early in the pandemic, many organizations in Canada and internationally raised concerns about increases in domestic violence under these circumstances.
- Web panels and crowdsourcing by Statistics Canada in the early months showed participants were concerned about their own health and well-being and that of others, and about the possibility of violence in the home.
- Many felt, however, that it was very or somewhat likely that neighbours would call the police if they heard or witnessed what seemed like violence in the home – a sign of social cohesion during difficult times.
- Participants also responded to Statistics Canada that the pandemic had negatively impacted their mental health.

STATCAN COVID-19:
DATA TO INSIGHTS FOR A BETTER CANADA

Police interventions changed during COVID-19: calls for service increased, while police-reported crime declined

During the first four months of the COVID-19 pandemic, seventeen police services in Canada reported a **16%** decrease in selected criminal incidents, when compared to the same period the year before.

- Declines were reported in the number of incidents of shoplifting (**-6%**), residential breaking and entering (**-22%**), motor vehicle theft (**-5%**); and assaults (**-11%**) and sexual assaults (**-27%**), including those by a family member.
- In contrast, the number of calls for service increased **7%** during the early months of the pandemic, particularly wellness checks (**+12%**), domestic disturbances (**+12%**), and mental health-related calls such as a person in an emotional crisis (**+11%**).

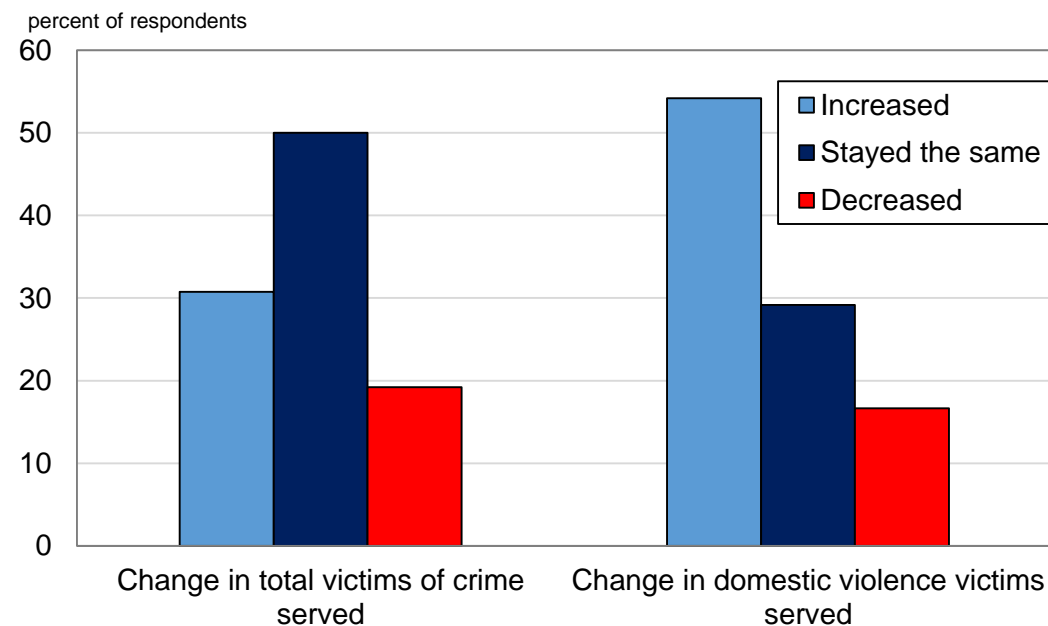
Violations and calls for service	Toronto, Ontario, municipal [35304]				Regina, Saskatchewan, municipal [47063]				Vancouver, British Columbia, municipal [59023]			
	Actual incidents				Actual incidents				Actual incidents			
	March 2020	April 2020	May 2020	June 2020	March 2020	April 2020	May 2020	June 2020	March 2020	April 2020	May 2020	June 2020
	Number											
Total assaults (levels 1, 2, 3)	1,220	889	1,110	1,202	161	127	156	164	414	365	424	398
Total breaking and entering	718	616	489	482	125	125	159	112	523	559	368	309
Calls for service, domestic disturbances / disputes	1,881	1,649	1,879	1,859	371	386	427	445	514	502	497	506

Source: Statistics Canada, Table 35-10-0169-01 Selected police-reported crime and calls for service during the COVID-19 pandemic, March 2020 to June 2020.

Changing landscape of vulnerability: Impacts on Canadian victim services

- Social isolation, loss of employment and reduced income are all factors known to increase the risk of domestic violence and these conditions have been heightened in recent months.
- Just over half (54%) of responding victim services reported an **increase in the number of victims of domestic violence** they served between mid-March and early July.
- Most victim services found ways to adapt to the COVID-19 pandemic in order to continue serving their clients – such as enhanced cleaning measures, shifting personnel to working from home, or using technology to communicate with clients.

Perceived changes in the number of victims served since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020



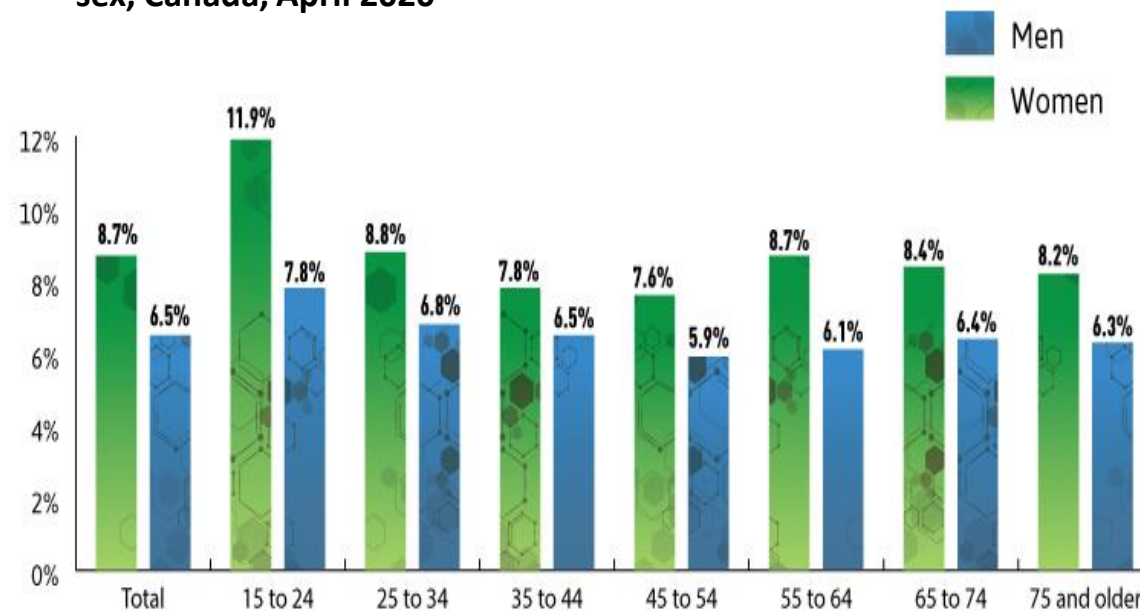
Note: Because of the non-representative nature of the sample, the results in this study do not represent all victim services in Canada. Excludes respondents who reported "don't know".

Source: Statistics Canada, Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadian Victim Services.

Changing landscape of vulnerability– women, children and seniors are vulnerable to family violence during quarantine and social isolation

- According to a web panel survey in March asking Canadians how concerned they were about different situations, **10% of women and 6% of men** reported that they were concerned about the possibility of violence in the home.
- Results from a crowdsourcing survey in April echo this finding that **women in all age groups were more likely than men** to report being very or extremely concerned about the possibility of violence in the home (**8.7% vs 6.5%**).
- **Young women aged 15 to 24**, however, were significantly more likely to report that they were very or extremely anxious about the possibility of violence in the home (**12%**), relative to men in the same age group (**8%**).

Impacts of COVID-19 on concerns about violence in the home by age, sex, Canada, April 2020

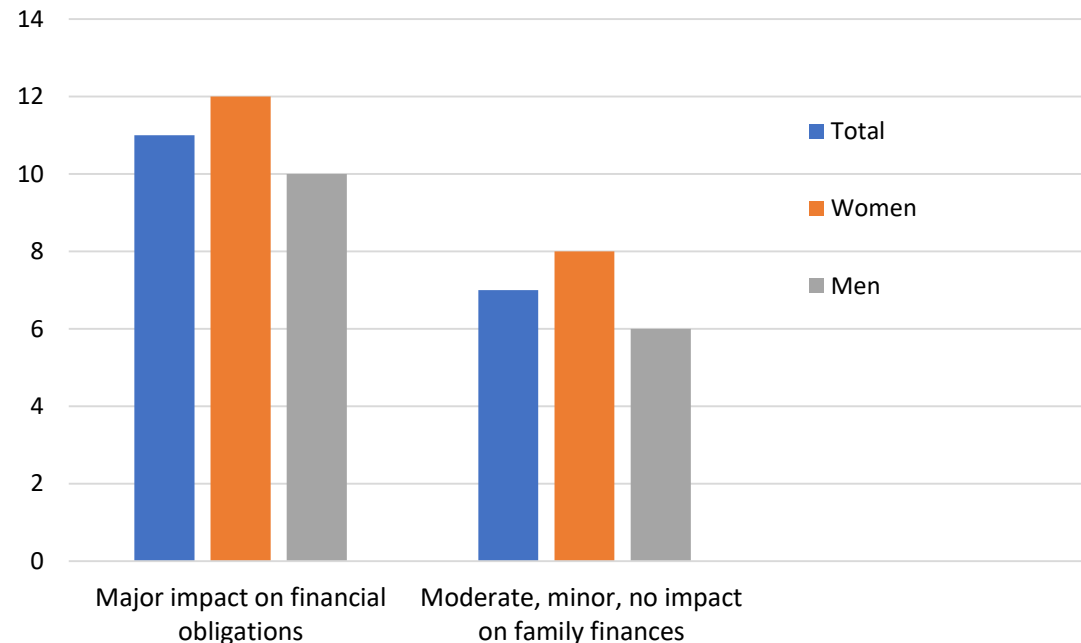


Source: Statistics Canada, Crowdsourcing Impact of COVID19 on Canadians, April 2020.

Changing landscape of vulnerability– Financial stress and victimization during quarantine and social isolation can increase the risk of family violence

- Financial stress can be experienced during time of crisis, particularly among the most vulnerable populations.
- Results from the April 3 crowdsourcing survey indicate that financial stress was associated with heightened concerns of violence in the home.
- About one in six participants (**16%**) reported anticipating that the pandemic would have a “major impact” on their ability to meet financial obligations. Concern is higher among the immigrant population (**20%**) than among those born in Canada (**12%**).
- Of these, about **11%** reported that they were “very” or “extremely” concerned about the possibility of violence in the home, compared with 7% among other participants.

Relationship between ability to meet financial obligations and violence in the home, April 2020



Source: Statistics Canada crowdsourcing, Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians, 2020.

Impact of COVID-19 on the administration of justice: court delays and access to justice

Criminal court activity

- Prior to COVID-19, **Canadian Criminal Courts** were experiencing challenges with timely case processing, resulting in a *Supreme Court of Canada* decision which set out new timelines for case completion.
- As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, courts across the country were unable to continue operating at normal capacity, resulting in **lengthy delays** which impact justice for victims and persons accused of committing a crime.
- Statistics Canada is working with the courts to finalize plans on how to produce and release **quarterly criminal court data** that will be able to provide metrics on the impact of the pandemic and the recovery on court activity and access to justice.

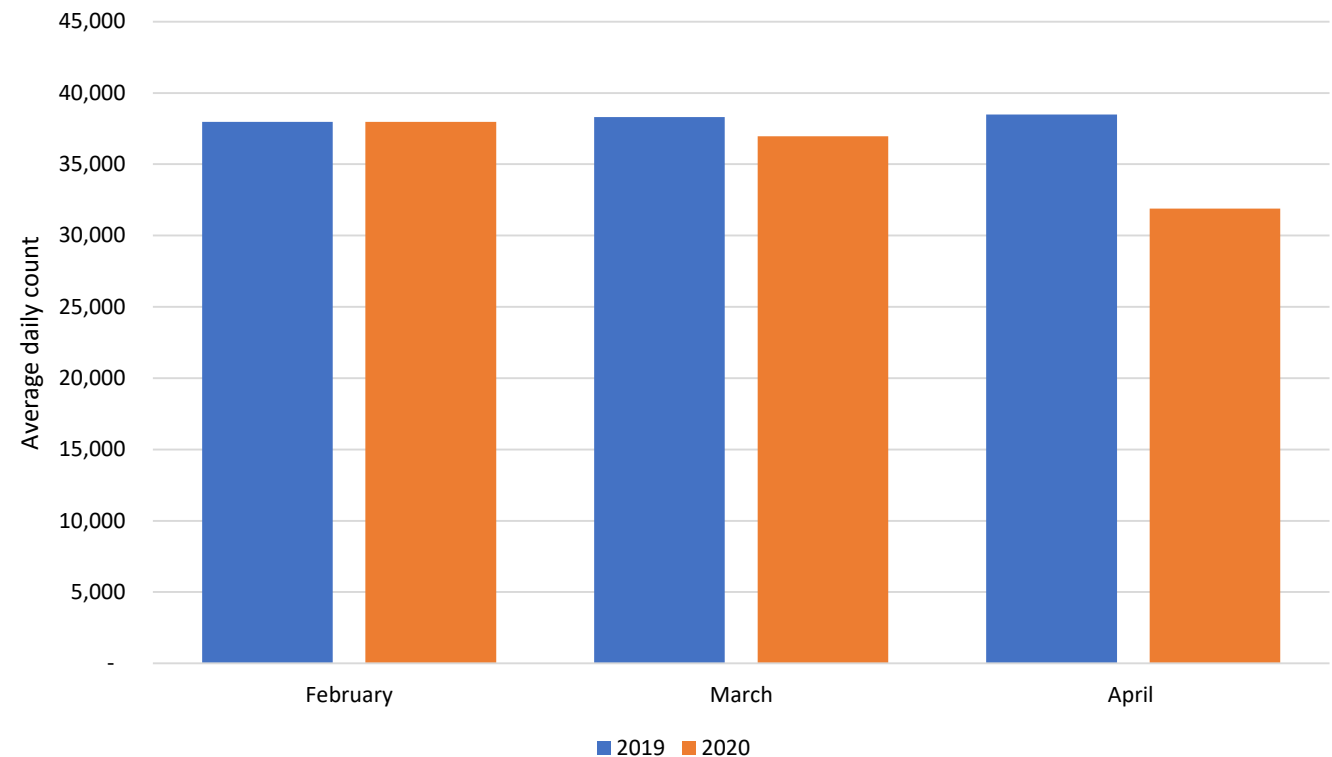
Legal problems faced by Canadians

- **The pandemic brought on many legal problems for Canadians.** These include, for instance, legal issues related to housing and rental, employment, business contracts, health and compensation, taking care of health and financial issues for a person who was unable to.
- The **Canadian Legal Problems Survey** is a new household survey, developed in collaboration with Justice Canada, which will measure the legal needs faced by Canadians. The survey includes questions about **whether new problems arose as a result of COVID-19**, or whether existing problems were worsened or exacerbated by the pandemic.

Impact of COVID 19 on the administration of justice: custodial populations in adult correctional centres in Canada dropped by 16%, an unprecedented decrease

- While balancing public safety concerns, reducing the number of persons held in correctional institutions is seen as a preventive measure to reducing public health risk associated with COVID-19 transmission.
- As of August 6, 2020, there had been 1,496 COVID-19 tests conducted on the federal custodial population with about one-quarter (24%) testing positive.
- In April, 2020 the average daily count of adults in custody was down 16% from February. Historically, monthly changes in counts are rarely more than 1%.
- The average count of adults in federal custody declined by 1%, whereas counts were down by one-quarter (25%) for provincial/territorial custody.

Total adult custodial population by year (2019 and 2020) and month (February, March and April)



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics, Adult Corrections Key Indicator Report, Daily article.

Looking forward - Tracking the future of crime and community safety in Canada

- The pandemic has created a unique opportunity to **examine variations** in crime patterns and trends across Canada as a result of restrictions on movements and stay at home orders, some have referred to this as a perfect **Criminological Experiment**.
- Information gleaned from examining changes in these patterns can support the development of prevention, enforcement and victim service programming in support of social and economic recovery.

Data collection and analysis activities are planned to address key research questions:



- How will police-reported crime and calls for service change as Canada moves through this pandemic?
- How has COVID-19 affected **offenders placed on conditional or early release**?
- Has **overrepresentation of Indigenous and other vulnerable populations** in corrections increased or decreased during the pandemic?
- What is the rate of **COVID-19 transmission in correctional institutions**?
- Is collecting data on pandemic related **court processing delays** feasible? If so, has **the pandemic contributed to delays**?
- Has COVID-19 increased Canadians' legal problems? What has the impact been on **Canadians' access to justice** (*Canadian Legal Problems Survey- collection February 2021*)
- How have changes in employment affected crime patterns?

We're at your service!



www.statcan.gc.ca



[Linkedin.com/company/statcan](https://www.linkedin.com/company/statcan)



[@StatCan_eng](https://twitter.com/StatCan_eng)



[@StatisticsCanada](https://www.facebook.com/StatisticsCanada)



[@statcan_eng](https://www.instagram.com/statcan_eng)



[YouTube.com/user/StatisticsCanada](https://www.youtube.com/user/StatisticsCanada)



[Reddit.com/user/StatCanada](https://www.reddit.com/user/StatCanada)