



ALTERNATE REALITIES: HOW THE BOOSTED, THE DOUBLE VACCINATED AND UNVACCINATED RESPECTIVELY VIEW THE THREAT OF COVID, FEAR VACCINATION AND VACCINE PASSPORTS

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INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

The evolving debate/conversation around vaccination has generally been viewed bilaterally with the conflict pitting the vaccinated against the unvaccinated. On either end of the vaccine spectrum public opinion surveys illustrate vastly different views about critical issues such as the perceived threat of the contagion, the need for mitigation measures, vaccine mandates and a range of other related matters. But with the growing call from health experts for the public to get a vaccine booster shot we're seeing the emergence of a third group that is broadening the vaccine spectrum and somewhat altering the conversation. The rise of what might be described as the 'boosted' that for the time being have split the fully vaccinated into two groups as their views diverge somewhat from those who have received two doses and the unvaccinated (another group might be described as persons who have had one dose but they represent a relatively small percentage small segment in national surveys thus making it difficult to render any meaningful conclusions based on their responses).

That which follows provides key insights into how the Covid situation is viewed by the remaining unvaccinated in Canada who amongst other things are far more fearful of the effects of vaccination than of Covid 19. The study also reveals a rift between the boosted and the two timers when it comes to vaccine mandates with the latter group displaying some softening of support for the mandates. Not surprisingly almost all unvaccinated Canadians reject the mandates/restrictions and would want them lifted immediately. Also the unvaccinated are far less concerned about a new variant or another wave of Covid cases compared to the other two groups.

The findings arise from a survey conducted via web panel by Leger for the Association for Canadian Studies between January 7th and 9th, 2022 with 1547 Canadians 18 years of age or older and has a probabilistic margin of error of ± 2.9 .²

VACCINATED CONSIDERABLY MORE CONCERNED THAN UNVACCINATED ABOUT GETTING COVID 19

Are you personally afraid of contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)?	What is your vaccination status?			Total
	Two doses and a booster shot	Two doses	Not vaccinated	
Total Afraid	67.4%	51.7%	14.5%	55.7%
Very afraid	20.4%	15.0%	2.1%	16.4%
Somewhat afraid	47.0%	36.7%	12.4%	39.3%
Not very afraid	23.2%	26.0%	30.9%	24.8%
Not afraid at all	6.6%	13.6%	49.5%	13.6%
I already have or have been exposed to the virus	2.1%	6.4%	5.2%	4.4%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	0.6%	2.3%		1.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

CANADIANS SPLIT IN DEGREE OF CONCERN OVER VACCINE SIDE EFFECTS WITH OVER 80% OF UNVACCINATED EXPRESSING CONCERN BUT THOSE WHO GOT A THIRD VACCINE ARE THE LEAST CONCERNED

Potential side effects of COVID vaccine - How concerned are you about each of following due to the COVID-19 pandemic?	What is your vaccination status?			Total
	Two doses and a booster shot	Two doses	Not vaccinated	
Very concerned	12.7%	20.3%	60.2%	20.4%
Somewhat concerned	25.4%	32.5%	22.4%	28.4%
TOTAL Concerned	38.1%	52.8%	82.6%	48.8%
Not too concerned	32.3%	32.2%	4.1%	30.0%
Not concerned at all	29.6%	15.0%	13.3%	21.2%
TOTAL Not concerned	61.9%	47.2%	17.4%	51.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

UNVACCINATED SOME SIX TIMES MORE WORRIED OF VACCINE SIDE EFFECTS THAN OF GETTING COVID

Not vaccinated	Are you personally afraid of contracting the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)?	Potential side effects of COVID vaccine - How concerned are you about each of following due to the COVID-19 pandemic?
Total Concerned/Afraid	14.5%	82.6%
Very concerned/Very Afraid	2.1%	60.2%
Somewhat concerned/ Somewhat Afraid	12.4%	22.4%
Not too concerned/Not Very Afraid	30.9%	4.1%
Not concerned at all/ Not Afraid at all	49.5%	13.3%
Don't Know/ Refuse to Respond	5.2%	-----
Total	100.0%	100.0%

STRONG SUPPORT FOR VACCINE PASSPORTS SOFTER AMONGST DOUBLE DOSED COMPARED WITH THE BOOSTED WHILE UNVACCINATED SHOW WHOLESALE REJECTION OF SUCH MANDATES

Certain provincial governments have announced the implementation of a vaccine passport. This proof of vaccination will be required to visit certain public places deemed "non-essential" such as bars, restaurants, gyms, concert halls or festivals a	What is your vaccination status?			Total
	Two doses and a booster shot	Two doses	Not vaccinated	
Strongly support it	79.3%	48.3%	2.1%	58.3%
Somewhat support it	16.5%	30.9%	7.3%	22.4%
Somewhat oppose it	1.8%	9.8%	18.8%	6.7%
Strongly oppose it	2.4%	11.0%	71.9%	12.7%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

WHEN IT COMES TO ACCESS TO MALLS AND OTHER RETAIL OUTLETS THE “BOOSTED” ARE ON OPPOSITE ENDS OF THE SPECTRUM RELATIVE TO UNVACCINATED IN SUPPORT FOR VACCINE MANDATES

Only allowing those who have proof of vaccination to shop in person at malls and retail outlets (excluding grocery stores) - population	What is your vaccination status?			Total
	Two doses and a booster shot	Two doses	Not vaccinated	
Support	82.1%	57.8%	5.2%	64.4%
Oppose	10.6%	31.2%	93.8%	27.2%
I don't know	7.3%	11.0%	1.0%	8.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

SOME THREE IN FOUR VACCINATED DO NOT THINK GOVERNMENTS SHOULD IMMEDIATELY LIFT RESTRICTIONS RELATED TO COVID 19 WHILE TWO IN THREE OF THE UNVACCINATED WANT THEM LIFTED RIGHT AWAY

Do you think governments should lift all restrictions related to COVID-19 right now?	What is your vaccination status?			Total
	Two doses and a booster shot	Two doses	Not vaccinated	
Yes	9.7%	22.1%	65.6%	20.3%
No	85.4%	71.5%	26.0%	73.4%
I don't know	4.9%	6.4%	8.3%	6.3%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

NEARLY EIGHT IN TEN CANADIANS ARE WORRIED ABOUT NEW VARIANTS OF COVID-19 AND THAT INCLUDES THE THREE IN TEN UNVACCINATED THAT HOLD A SIMILAR VIEW

New variants of COVID-19 - How concerned are you about each of following due to the COVID-19 pandemic?	What is your vaccination status?			Total
	Two doses and a booster shot	Two doses	Not vaccinated	
Very concerned	46.5%	32.9%	8.2%	37.0%
Somewhat concerned	43.4%	42.2%	21.6%	40.9%
Not too concerned	8.3%	17.1%	36.1%	14.4%
Not concerned at all	1.8%	7.8%	34.0%	7.7%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

75% OF CANADIANS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT A NEW WAVE OF COVID 19 IN THEIR AREA BUT LESS THAN ONE IN FOUR UNVACCINATED SHARE THE CONCERN

A new wave of COVID-19 in my area - How concerned are you about each of following due to the COVID-19 pandemic?	What is your vaccination status?			Total
	Two doses and a booster shot	Two doses	Not vaccinated	
Very concerned	37.7%	28.0%	10.4%	30.9%
Somewhat concerned	47.6%	44.8%	13.5%	43.6%
Not too concerned	12.8%	18.8%	42.7%	17.6%
Not concerned at all	1.8%	8.4%	33.3%	7.9%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

INTERACTION OF VARIOUS PUBLIC CONCERNS, VACCINATION STATUS AND COVID-19 EXPERIENCE

How concerned are you about each of the following? →		New variants		New wave of COVID-19		Overcrowding of hospitals due to COVID cases		Potential shortage of hospital ventilators	
		Yes	No / Don't know	Yes	No / Don't know	Yes	No / Don't know	Yes	No / Don't know
Have had COVID-19? →									
Two doses or Two doses & booster	Very concerned	40.8%	39.7%	28.3%	33.5%	50.8%	54.3%	44.2%	41.4%
	Somewhat concerned	38.3%	43.2%	44.2%	46.5%	32.5%	33.3%	35.8%	38.6%
	Not too concerned	14.2%	12.5%	20.0%	15.3%	14.2%	8.9%	14.2%	16.0%
	Not concerned at all	6.7%	4.6%	7.5%	4.8%	2.5%	3.4%	5.8%	4.0%
Not vaccinated or not sufficiently vaccinated	Very concerned	0.0%	12.6%	0.0%	13.7%	0.0%	12.6%	0.0%	16.0%
	Somewhat concerned	29.4%	24.2%	29.4%	15.8%	37.5%	27.4%	29.4%	31.9%
	Not too concerned	29.4%	32.6%	29.4%	40.0%	25.0%	32.6%	35.3%	27.7%
	Not concerned at all	41.2%	30.5%	41.2%	30.5%	37.5%	27.4%	35.3%	24.5%

INTERACTION OF VARIOUS PUBLIC CONCERNS, VACCINATION STATUS AND COVID-19 EXPERIENCE

How concerned are you about each of the following? →		Returning to normal activities in public		Potential side effects of the vaccine		Losing your job	
Have had COVID-19? →		Yes	No/Don't know	Yes	No/Don't know	Yes	No/Don't know
Two doses or Two doses & booster	Very concerned	37.2%	26.5%	20.7%	16.1%	23.3%	13.4%
	Somewhat concerned	33.1%	44.9%	33.9%	28.4%	19.2%	15.0%
	Not too concerned	21.5%	20.9%	23.1%	33.1%	24.2%	21.9%
	Not concerned at all	8.3%	7.7%	22.3%	22.4%	33.3%	49.7%
Not vaccinated or not sufficiently vaccinated	Very concerned	29.4%	21.1%	58.8%	60.6%	27.8%	25.5%
	Somewhat concerned	29.4%	27.4%	29.4%	23.4%	33.3%	13.8%
	Not too concerned	17.6%	17.9%	0.0%	5.3%	16.7%	16.0%
	Not concerned at all	23.5%	33.7%	11.8%	10.6%	22.2%	44.7%