

How are we doing in Wales?

Public Engagement Survey on Health and
Wellbeing during Coronavirus Measures

Week 76 (13th to 19th September 2021)

Public Health Wales are conducting a public engagement telephone survey to ask members of the public in Wales how coronavirus and related control measures are affecting their health and wellbeing.

The survey interviews approximately 600 randomly selected individuals every other week. The survey includes a set of routine questions asked each survey week, with other questions changing depending on emerging issues. This week's survey included new questions on illness not related to coronavirus. Survey data are adjusted to represent the Welsh population by age, sex and deprivation*.

We thank the people of Wales for giving us their valuable time to support this work.



602 Welsh residents aged 18 years and over were interviewed in week 76 of the survey (13th to 19th September 2021).

37%

of people said they had experienced illness or health problems not related to coronavirus in the last two weeks, including*:

18% a cough or cold

14% a sore throat

8% flu or flu-like symptoms

6% a stomach bug

5% a chest infection

38%

of people said they had been worrying about other health issues not related to coronavirus in the past week (25% worrying 'a little' and 13% worrying 'a lot').

64%

of people said they would be more worried about catching coronavirus than about Wales going back into lockdown; 36% said that Wales going back into lockdown would worry them more.

62%

of people said they had left their home or garden every day in the last week; the highest proportion seen since the survey began in April 2020.

*Participants could report more than one symptom; 19% reported an other health problem.

Do you think you have or have had coronavirus?

Yes	20%
Don't know	5%

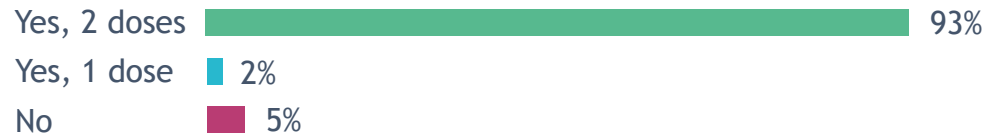
How worried are you that you could get coronavirus?

Not at all	27%
A little	29%
Moderately	30%
Very	14%

During the past two weeks, have you experienced any of the following types of illness not related to coronavirus:

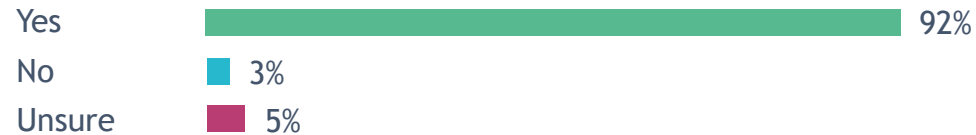
Cough or cold	18%
Sore throat	14%
Chest infection	5%
Stomach bug (e.g. sickness/diarrhoea)	6%
Flu or flu-like symptoms	8%
<i>Any of the above</i>	<i>26%</i>
Other health problems	19%
Any illness or health problem	37%

Have you received a vaccine for coronavirus?



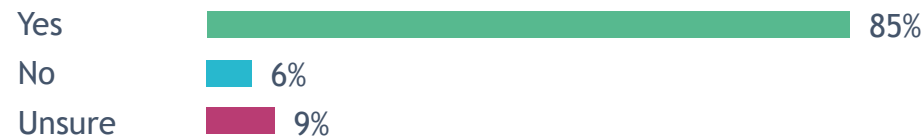
*Of participants that have had two coronavirus vaccine doses**

If you were offered a booster jab for coronavirus, would you want to have one?



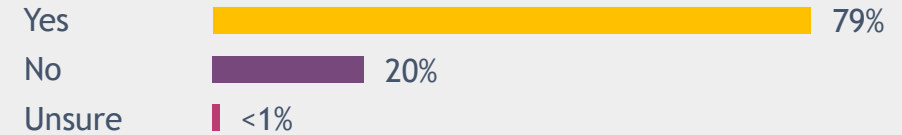
*Of participants that have had two doses and want both a booster and flu jab***

Would you be happy to have a coronavirus booster jab at the same time as your winter flu jab?

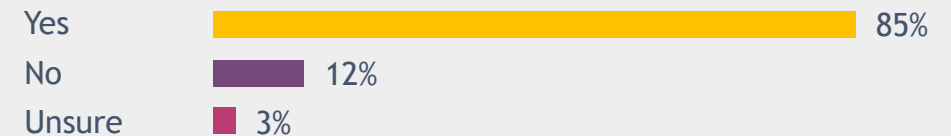


*Of all those aged 50 and over***

Did you have a flu vaccine last winter?

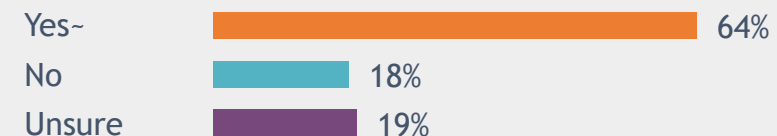


Do you intend to have a flu vaccine this winter?



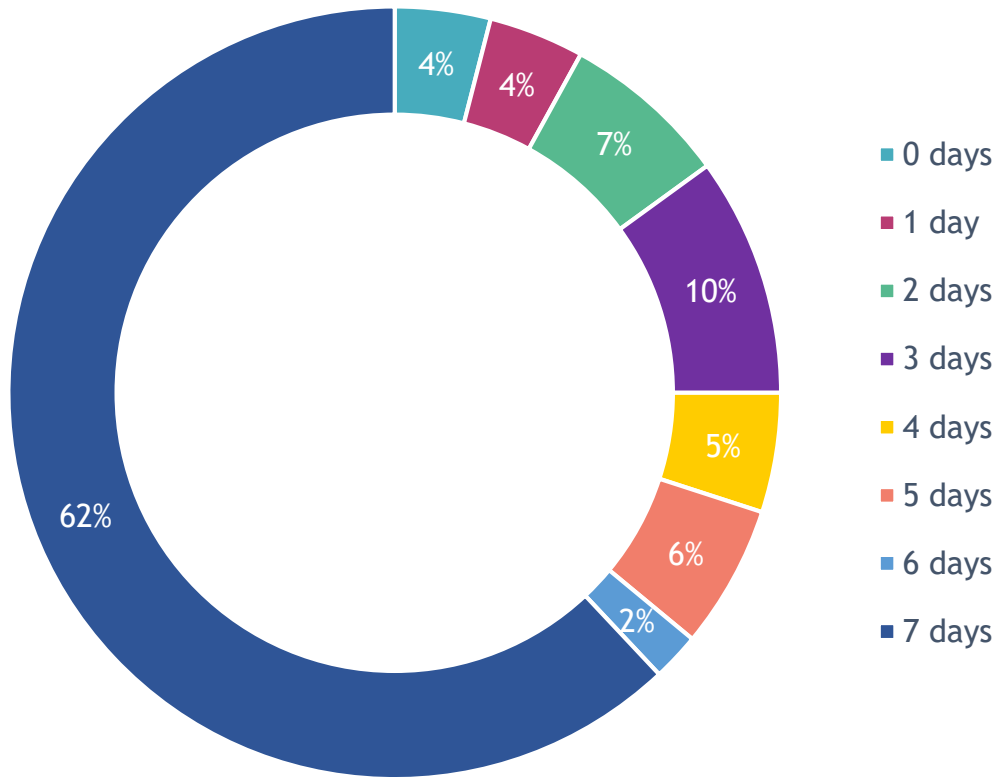
*Of those with children in the household**

If you have children aged under 18, would you want your children to receive a coronavirus vaccination?



*Unweighted data; #All ages; *Figures for all ages are: 54% had a flu jab last year, 65% intended to have one this year (weighted data);
 ~includes those already vaccinated.

In the past 7 days, on how many days have you left your home or garden?



In the past 7 days, on how many days have you left your home...

	0 days	1-2 days	3-4 days	5+ days
...to work	56%	5%	9%	29%
...to shop	15%	52%	21%	12%
...to exercise	33%	21%	13%	32%
...to meet family/friends	37%	37%	15%	11%
...to eat at a café, pub or restaurant	58%	31%	7%	4%
...for a drink in a pub or bar	75%	21%	3%	1%

Over the past week, how much have the following been worrying you?

	Not at all	A little	A lot
Other health issues not related to coronavirus	62%	25%	13%
Losing someone you love to the virus	47%	29%	24%
The wellbeing of your children*#~	24%	38%	38%
Your children's education*#~	34%	26%	40%
Losing your job or not being able to find one#~	77%	15%	8%
Your finances	67%	22%	11%
Going out in public places#	42%	40%	18%
The impacts of Brexit	51%	28%	21%

Compared to early last year, before the coronavirus situation, would you say your quality of life has...?



How well are we handling coronavirus?

Do you think the restrictions in place to manage coronavirus are...

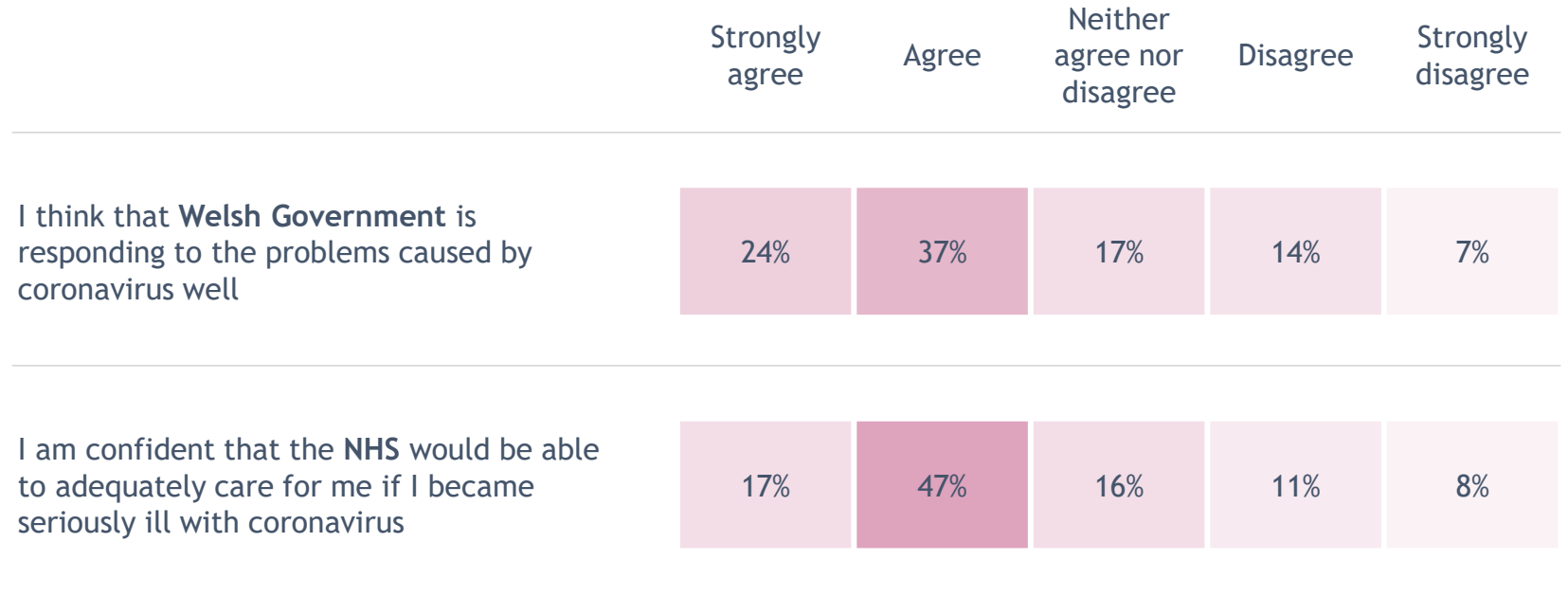
Too little 23%



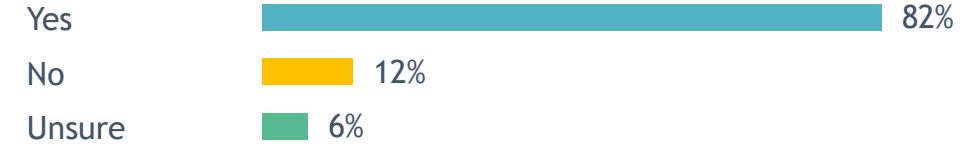
About right 64%



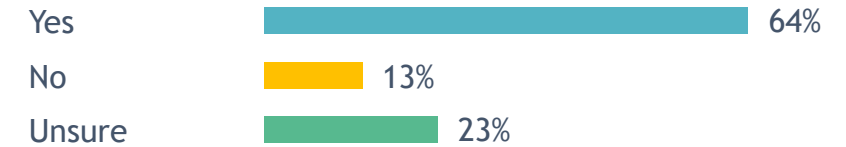
Too much 13%



Do you support the continued requirement for face coverings in shops and other indoor public places in Wales?

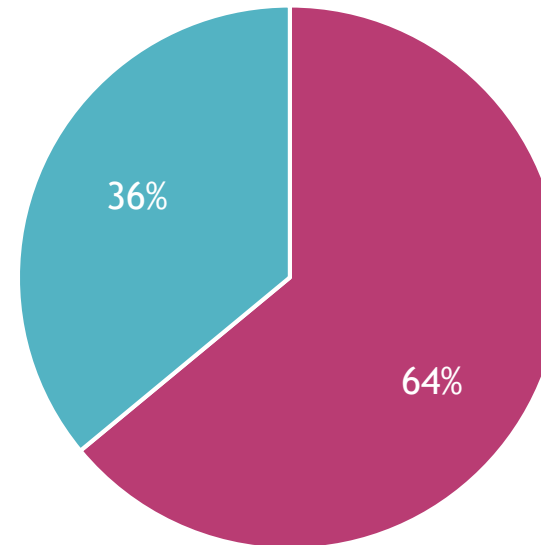


Do you think we will see other restrictions such as social distancing and pub closures brought back in Wales at any point in the next 6 months?



Which of these would worry you more?

- Catching coronavirus
- Wales going back into lockdown



Now that most coronavirus restrictions have ended, which of these, if any, are you continuing to do?



*Unweighted data, excludes those responding 'not applicable'.

Of this list of potential policy areas, which do you think should be the first, second and third priorities over the next 12 months?

Are you currently waiting for any hospital treatment or tests from the NHS?*

No	76%
Yes, waiting for treatment	17%
Yes, waiting for tests	14%

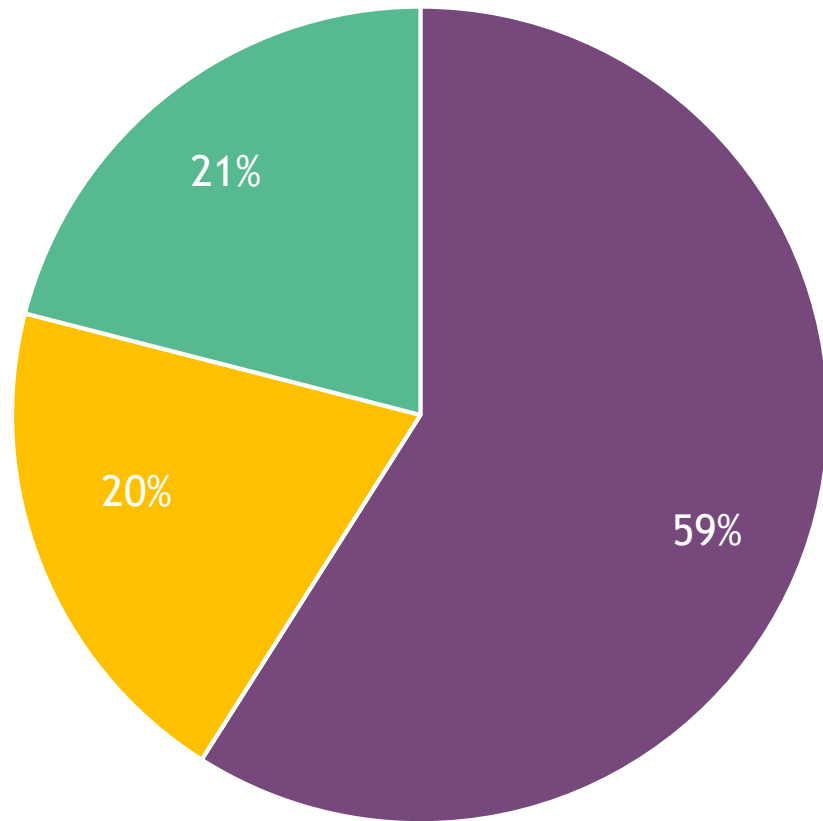
*7% of people reported waiting for both treatment and tests and are included in both totals.

	1 st priority	2 nd priority	3 rd priority	Included in top three priorities
NHS waiting lists	31%	27%	19%	77%
Coronavirus	37%	17%	12%	66%
Mental health	11%	20%	19%	50%
Education	9%	18%	19%	45%
Climate change	6%	7%	11%	24%
Brexit	4%	7%	10%	21%
Unemployment	3%	5%	9%	17%

During the pandemic, Public Health Wales has focused on controlling coronavirus. Looking forward, as we come out of the pandemic we'd like to understand which issues you think it will be most important for Public Health Wales to address. For each of the following, please say if you think it is:

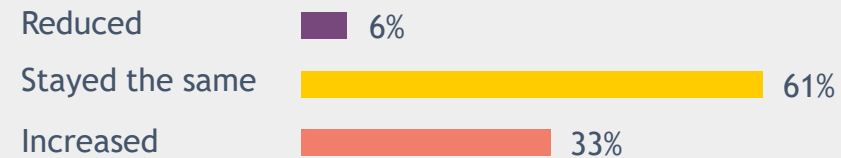
	Not so important	Somewhat important	Very important	Extremely important
Preventing cancer	2%	4%	34%	61%
Supporting families to give children the best start in life	2%	10%	38%	50%
Preventing violence	5%	10%	37%	48%
Improving mental wellbeing	3%	10%	41%	45%
Protecting people from infectious diseases	1%	12%	45%	42%
Reducing obesity	5%	21%	44%	30%
Reducing the impacts of climate change	12%	22%	34%	33%
Increasing physical activity	6%	32%	40%	23%
Helping people to stop smoking	22%	35%	26%	16%
Reducing harm from alcohol use	17%	42%	26%	15%

Thinking about the future of Wales, in your opinion which of these three issues would be most important?



- Improving health care so that people can live healthier lives for longer
- Making society more equal and fairer for all people
- Protecting the planet for future generations

Compared to early last year, before the coronavirus situation, would you say your concerns about climate change have...?

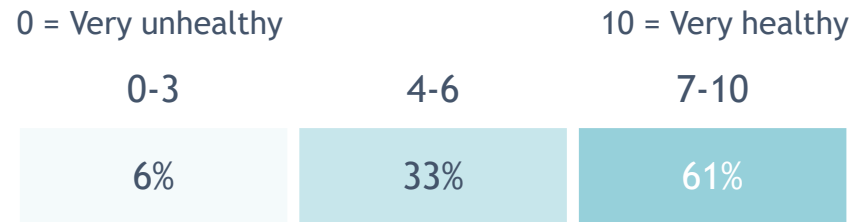


Compared to how you lived before coronavirus, after the pandemic which of the following changes do you think you will make to your life:

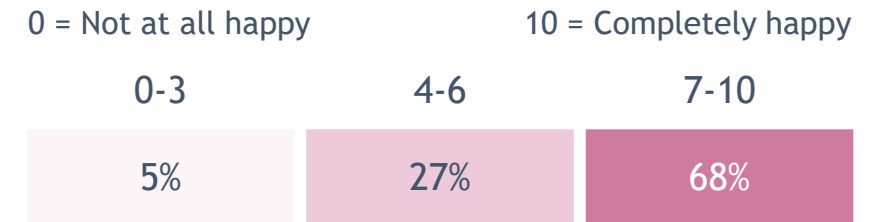
	No	Yes	Already doing this before the pandemic
Do more shopping online	42%	49%	9%
Live a healthier lifestyle, such as by exercising more and eating healthier food	22%	57%	21%
Walk, cycle or use public transport more, rather than driving	58%	32%	10%
Spend more time with family and friends	20%	73%	8%
Try to retire earlier*	41%	50%	9%
Live in a more environmentally friendly way	20%	68%	12%
Engage more in my local community	43%	49%	9%
Do more to improve or protect my mental wellbeing	18%	76%	6%

*Excludes those who are already retired. Unweighted data.

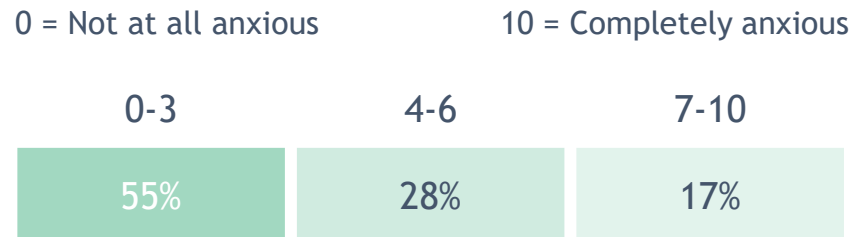
How healthy do you feel today?



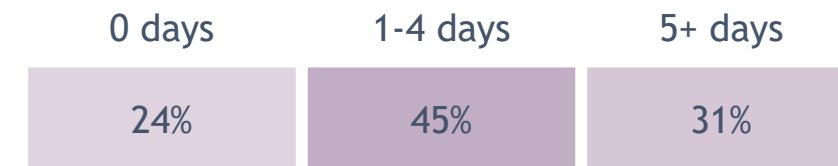
How happy do you feel today?



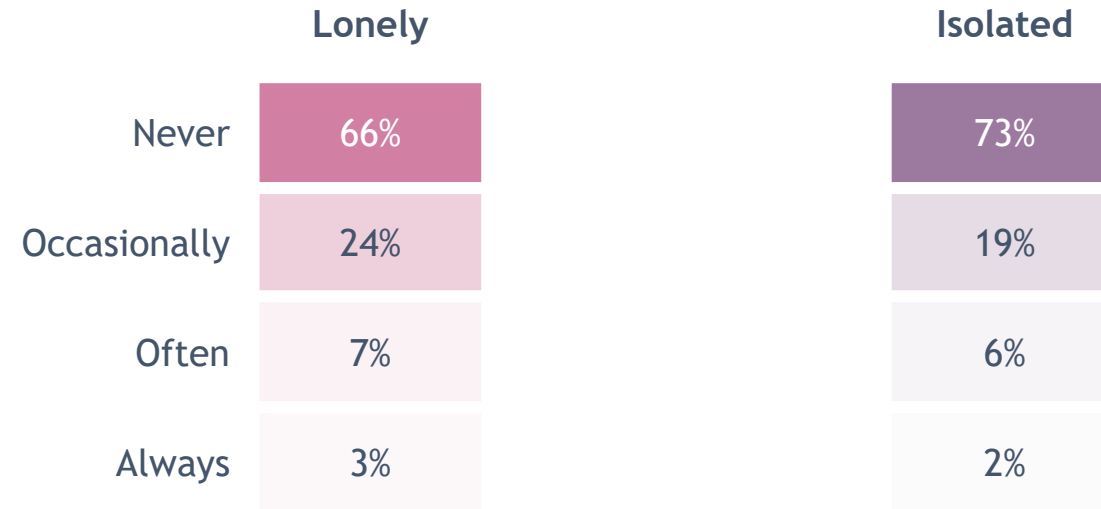
How anxious do you feel today?



On how many days in the last week did you do at least 30 minutes physical activity (enough to make you out of breath)?

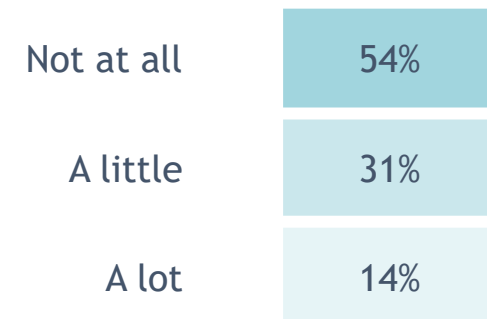


In the last week, how often have you felt...



Over the past week, how much has the following been worrying you?

Your mental health and wellbeing



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How are you doing?

For general information on how to look after yourself, your friends and family during the coronavirus restrictions visit:
phw.nhs.wales/howareyoudoing

