

How are we doing in Wales?

Public Engagement Survey on Health and
Wellbeing during Coronavirus Measures

Week 48 (1st to 7th March 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 information collected provides the basis of the results presented in these **bi-weekly reports**. Survey data are adjusted to represent the Welsh population by age, sex and deprivation*. For some questions, equivalent numbers of adults (aged 18 years and over) in the Welsh population are presented alongside adjusted proportions#.

The survey includes a set of routine questions asked each survey week, with other questions changing depending on emerging issues. This week, new questions were added regarding coronavirus vaccination.

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



601 Welsh residents aged 18 years and over were interviewed in week 48 of the survey (1st to 7th March 2021).

42%

of people agreed with the statement ‘we will largely have returned to our normal lives by summer’; up from 32% in the last survey week*.

74%

of people agreed with the statement ‘it should be compulsory for all adults to be vaccinated against coronavirus’.

13%

of people said they were ‘very worried’ that they could get coronavirus; a further decrease from 18% in the last survey week*.

42%

of people thought that all shops should be allowed to open within the next three weeks#.

87%

of people said they thought people should have to prove they have been vaccinated in order to travel abroad.

20%

of people said their financial situation was worse now than it was a year ago while 16% of people said it was better.

42%

of people thought that people should be able to visit friends and family in their homes within the next three weeks#.

84%

of people said they thought people should have to prove they have been vaccinated in order to work in a setting such as a care home or hospital.

27%

of people said they had been worrying ‘a lot’ about their mental health in the last week; equivalent to around 679,000 adults across Wales.

*15th to 21st February 2021; #including those thought this should already be happening.

Do you think you have or have had coronavirus?

Yes	20%
Don't know	4%

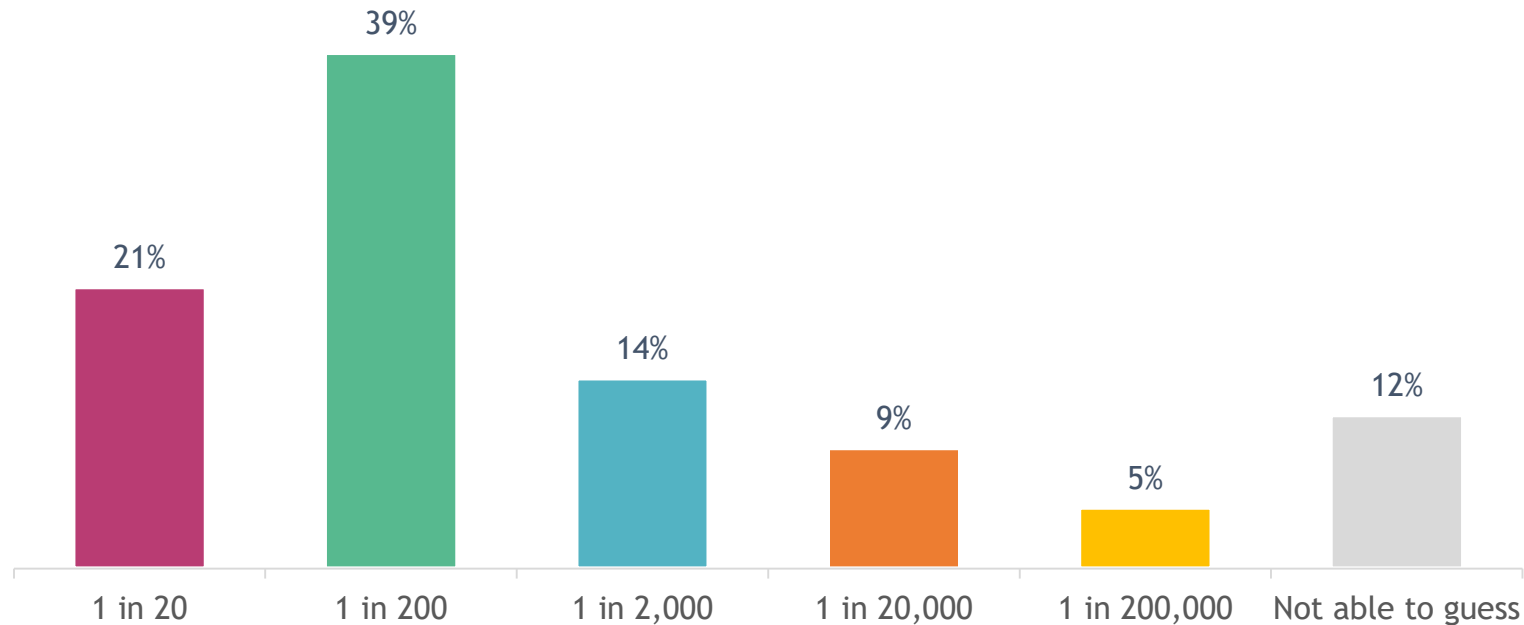
Have you been tested for coronavirus or had an antibodies test?

Had a coronavirus test	44%
Had an antibodies test	7%

How worried are you that you could get coronavirus?

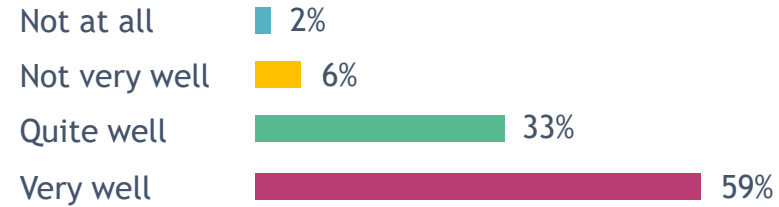
Not at all	28%
A little	33%
Moderately	25%
Very	13%

Currently, about how many people in Wales do you think are infected with coronavirus?

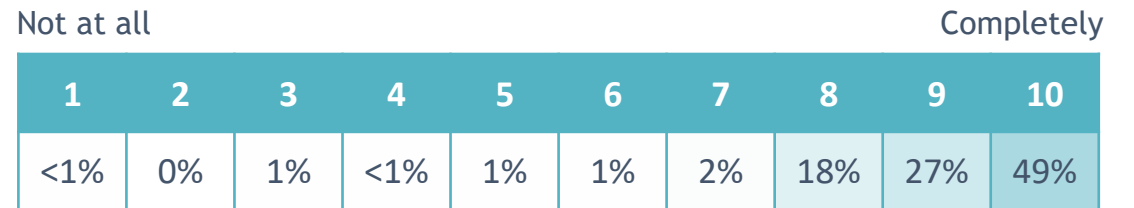


*The ONS COVID-19 Infection Survey estimated that in the week ending 27th February 2021 (the week prior to this survey), **1 in 285 people** in Wales had coronavirus (95% credible interval: 1 in 415 to 1 in 205).
www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/bulletins/coronaviruscovid19infectionsurvey/pilot/previousReleases

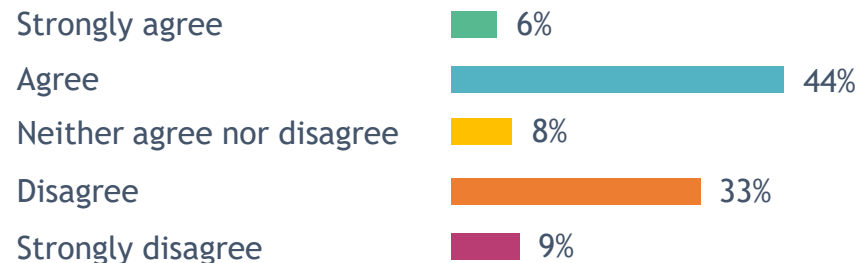
How well do you feel you understand the current restrictions in place in Wales to reduce the spread of coronavirus?



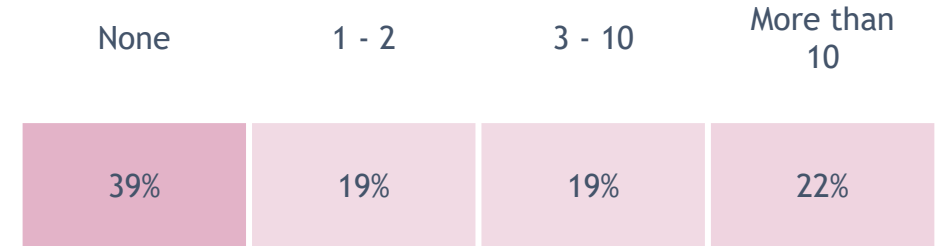
On a scale of 1 to 10 where 1 is *not at all* and 10 is *completely*, how much would you say you are following the restrictions?



I think most people are following social distancing guidelines



Apart from the people in your own household or a permitted support bubble, in the last 7 days, how many other people have you come into close contact with, meaning within one metre?



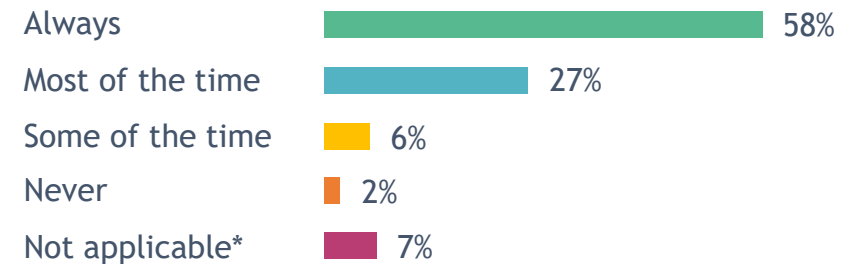
Apart from the people in your own household or a permitted support bubble, in the last 7 days, how many people have come into your house?



In the last 7 days, how many other people's houses have you been into - not including that of a permitted support bubble?

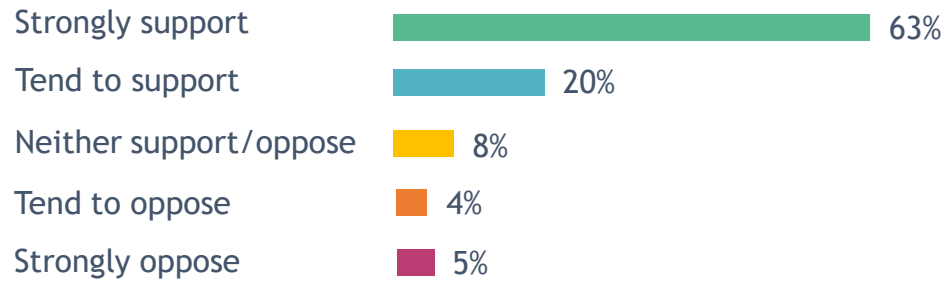


When you are with people from outside of your household or extended household, such as friends or work colleagues, do you maintain social distancing of two metres...?

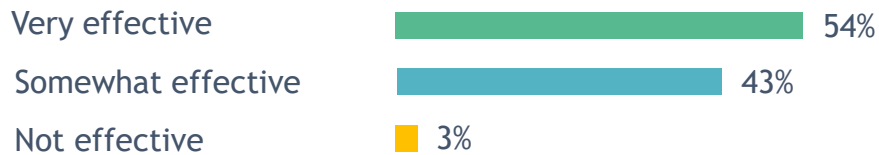


*Do not meet people from outside household

To what extent do you support or oppose the current lockdown measures in place in Wales?



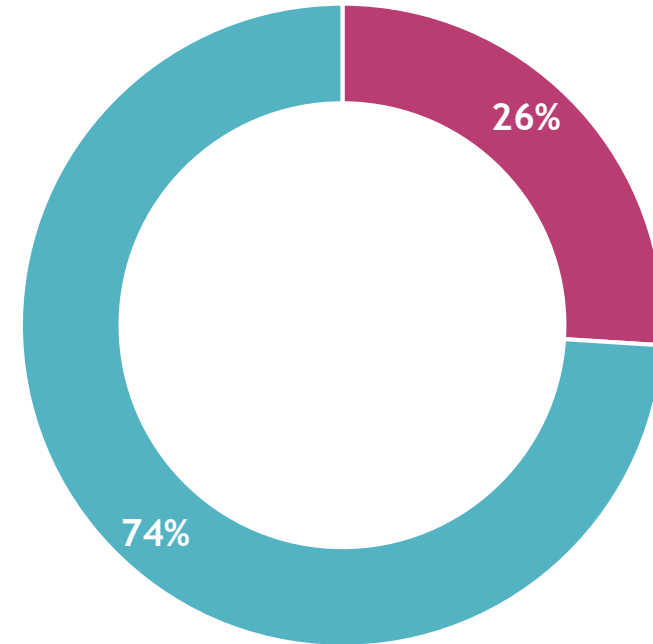
How effective do you think national lockdowns are at preventing the spread of coronavirus?



Which of these two statements do you agree with most?

The benefits of national lockdowns in reducing the spread of coronavirus outweigh their costs

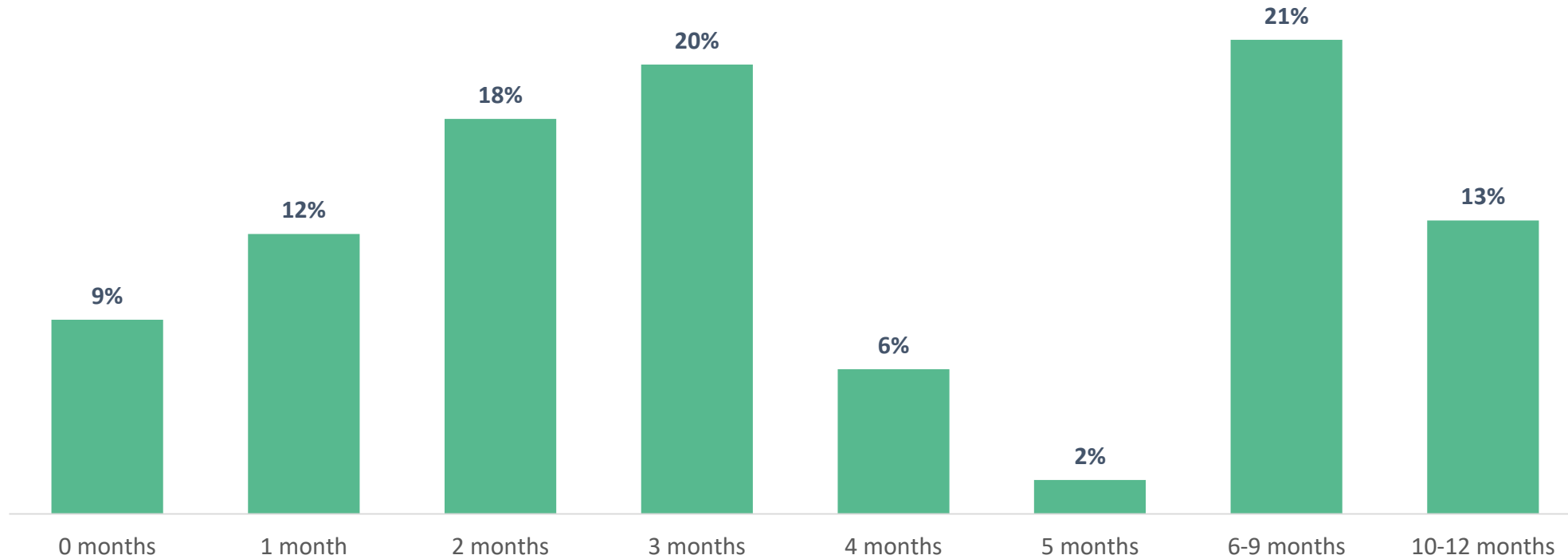
The costs of national lockdowns to people's wellbeing and the economy outweigh their benefits



When do you think the following should happen?

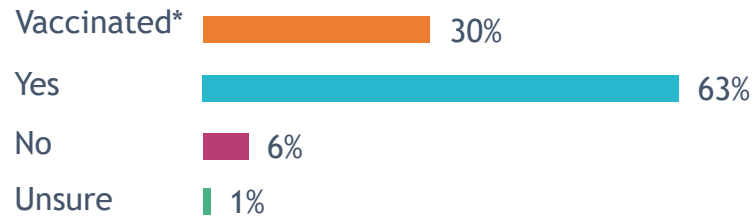
	Should already be happening	Within the next 3 weeks	In more than 3 weeks
All shops should be able to open	11%	31%	58%
Restaurants should be able to re-open	9%	20%	71%
Pubs and bars should be able to re-open	9%	14%	78%
Non-essential workers should be able to return to their workplaces	14%	33%	54%
People should be able to visit friends and family in their homes	14%	28%	58%
People should be able to travel to use outdoor spaces such as parks and beaches	29%	35%	36%

Starting from now, how many months of total lockdown (with all schools and non-essential shops and workplaces closed) would you be prepared to endure if it guaranteed that the rest of the year would be free from the virus?



If you were offered a coronavirus vaccination...

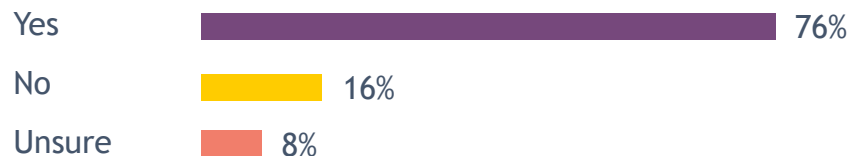
Would you personally want to be vaccinated?



*Already received a coronavirus vaccination.

*For those with children in the household**:*

Would you want your children to be vaccinated?



**Limited to those with children living in the household; excluding those responding 'not applicable'; unweighted data.

Those responding 'no' or 'unsure' to personally wanting to be vaccinated were asked an open ended question about their reason for this response.

Among those providing a response, reasons included: not trusting the vaccines due to the speed of their development and unknown side effects; having heard about adverse reactions to the vaccines; not feeling a need to be vaccinated; and suspicion towards the vaccination process.

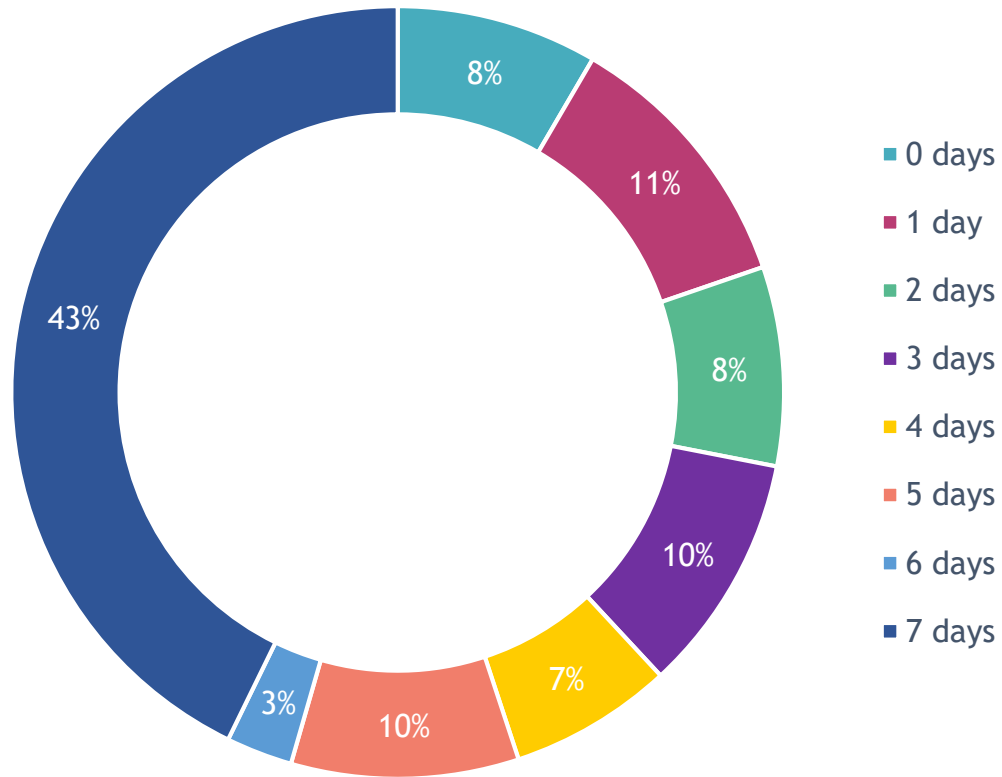
Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Agree	Disagree
It should be compulsory for all adults to be vaccinated against coronavirus	74%	26%
It should be compulsory for children to be vaccinated against coronavirus	56%	44%
People travelling to the UK from other countries should be required to prove they have been vaccinated against coronavirus	90%	10%

Once everyone has had the opportunity to be vaccinated against coronavirus, do you think people should have to prove they have had a vaccination, such as with a vaccination passport or certificate, in order to do the following:

	Yes	No
Travel abroad	87%	13%
Attend large entertainment events such as concerts and sports events	77%	23%
Go to a restaurant or pub	62%	38%
Work in a setting such as a care home or hospital	84%	16%
Attend their usual place of work if this involves close contact with other people	77%	23%

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	58%	7%	9%	26%
...to shop	33%	52%	9%	6%
...for medical reasons	77%	21%	2%	1%
...to exercise	47%	15%	8%	31%
...to meet family/friends	83%	12%	2%	2%
...to eat at a café, pub or restaurant	100%	0%	0%	0%

How well are we handling coronavirus?

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

Too little 8%



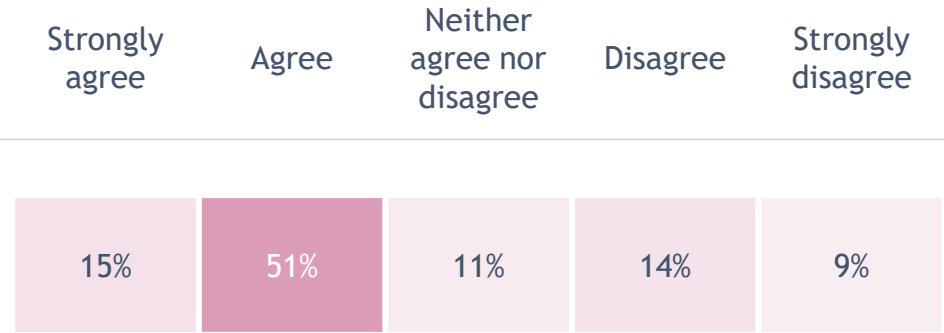
About right 76%



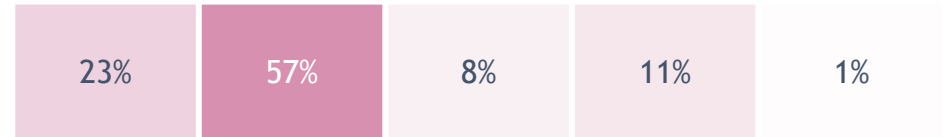
Too much 16%



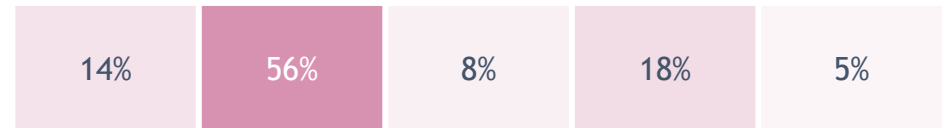
I think that **Welsh Government** is responding to the problems caused by coronavirus well



I am confident that the **NHS** would be able to adequately care for me if I became seriously ill with coronavirus



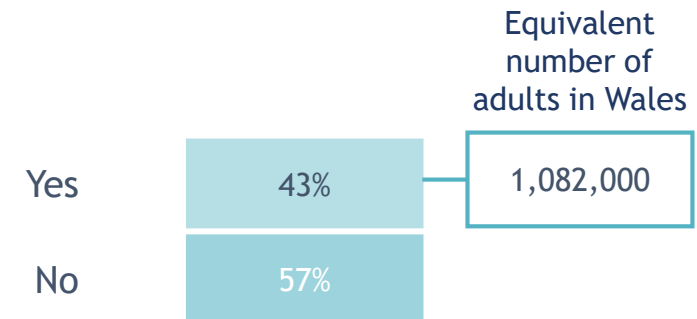
I trust the **police** to use their powers to restrict people's movement sensibly



In general, over the last 6 months, have lockdown and other coronavirus restrictions affected your quality of life?



In general, over the last 6 months, has worrying about catching coronavirus made your quality of life worse?



What are we worried about?

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

	Not at all	A little	A lot
Becoming seriously ill with coronavirus	45%	39%	16%
Losing someone you love to the virus	27%	29%	43%
The wellbeing of your children ^{*#} ~	14%	28%	58%
Your children's education ^{*#} ~	10%	22%	67%
Losing your job or not being able to find one [#] ~	61%	18%	21%
Work, even if your job is secure [#] ~	54%	24%	22%
Your finances	58%	23%	18%
Going out in public places [#]	49%	29%	22%
The impacts of Brexit	62%	24%	14%

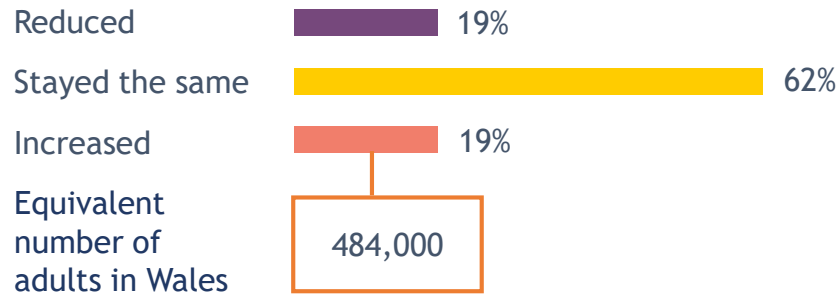
*Limited to those with children in the household; #Excludes those responding 'not applicable'; ~Unweighted data.

Compared to this time a year ago, before the coronavirus situation, would you say the following are...

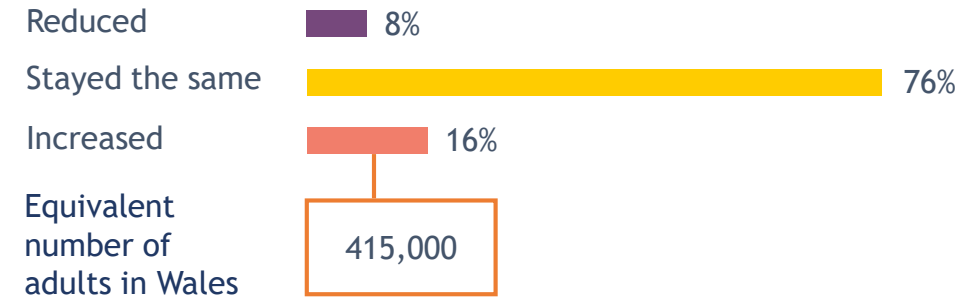
	Much better	A bit better	The same	A bit worse	Much worse	Worsened	Equivalent number of adults in Wales
Your physical health	3%	8%	44%	25%	18%	A bit worse	1,106,000
Your physical fitness	3%	12%	40%	24%	21%		Much worse
Your mental health	2%	4%	45%	30%	19%		1,230,000
Your dental health	3%	3%	68%	16%	11%		682,000
Your family relationships	3%	10%	56%	21%	10%		779,000
Your social relationships	1%	4%	36%	29%	29%		1,472,000
Your financial situation	7%	9%	64%	13%	7%		506,000
Your employment or work prospects	3%	3%	79%	8%	8%		390,000

Compared to this time a year ago, before the coronavirus situation, would you say the following have reduced, stayed the same or increased?

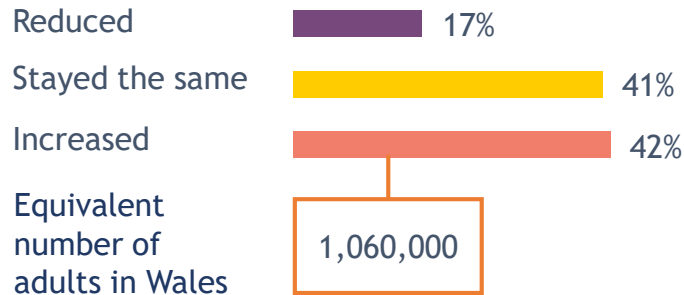
Your alcohol consumption



Your concerns about climate change



Your weight



Of this list of potential policy areas, which do you think should be the first, second and third priorities for 2021?

	1 st priority	2 nd priority	3 rd priority	Included in top three priorities
Coronavirus	50%	11%	11%	72%
NHS waiting lists	20%	24%	21%	65%
Education	14%	24%	18%	55%
Mental health	8%	18%	19%	45%
Unemployment	3%	8%	18%	29%
Climate change	4%	7%	8%	19%
Brexit	1%	9%	5%	15%

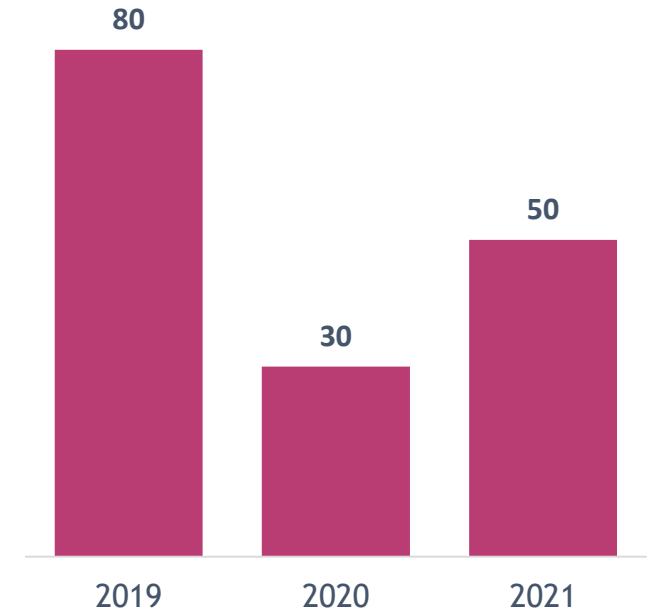
Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Agree	Disagree
We will have largely returned to our normal lives by the summer	42%	58%
People will be able to go abroad on holiday this summer	38%	62%
Next Christmas, people will be free to mix and travel as they wish	77%	23%
The economy will quickly recover from the shock of coronavirus	31%	69%
We will still be experiencing outbreaks of coronavirus in 2 to 3 years time	88%	12%
Wearing face masks will be at least an occasional part of life for years to come	85%	15%
I would be happy to accept low levels of coronavirus in the community if it meant we could return to our normal way of life	73%	27%
Going forward, I would find it acceptable if deaths from coronavirus were at the same levels that we normally see from flu	75%	25%

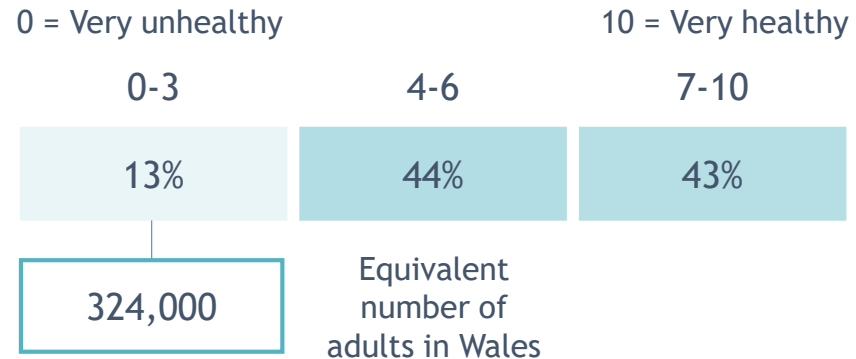
On a scale of 0 to 100, where 0 is the worst you can imagine and 100 is the best you can imagine, how would you score:

	0	1-20	21-40	41-60	61-80	81-100
The year 2020	14%	31%	20%	23%	9%	3%
The year 2019	1%	6%	3%	13%	38%	39%
And what do you think the score will be for 2021?	4%	13%	17%	39%	23%	4%

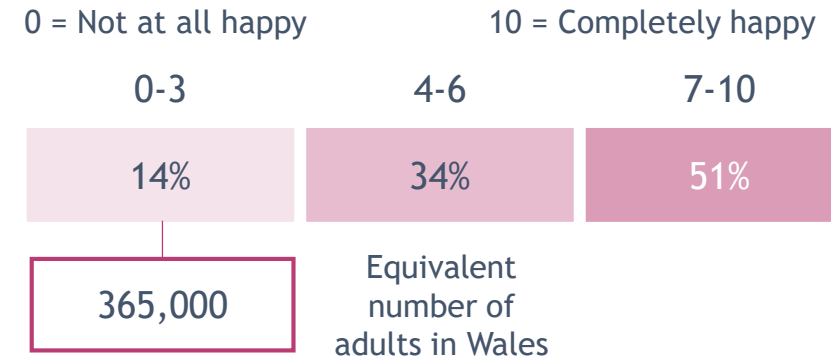
Median scores



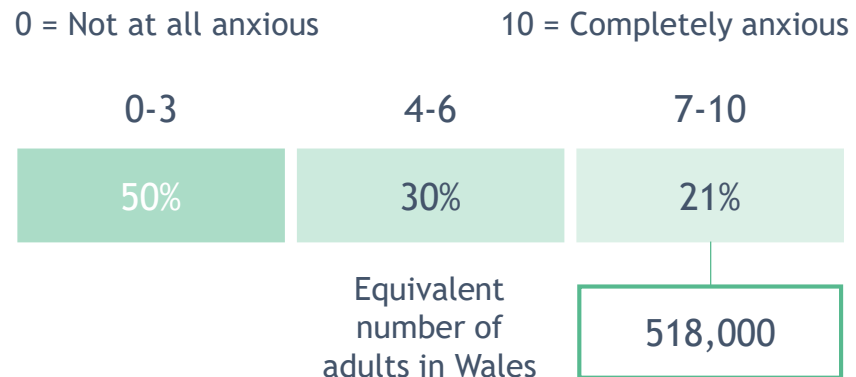
How healthy do you feel today?



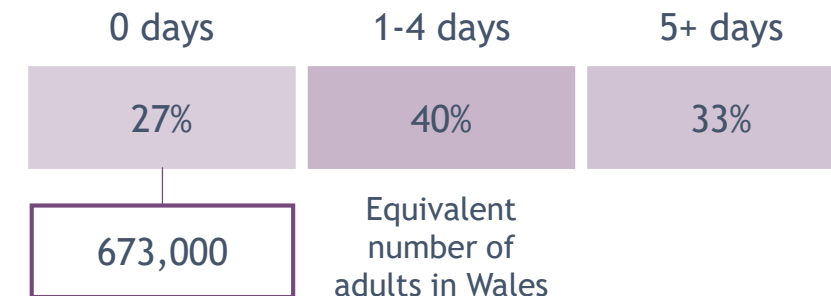
How happy do you feel today?



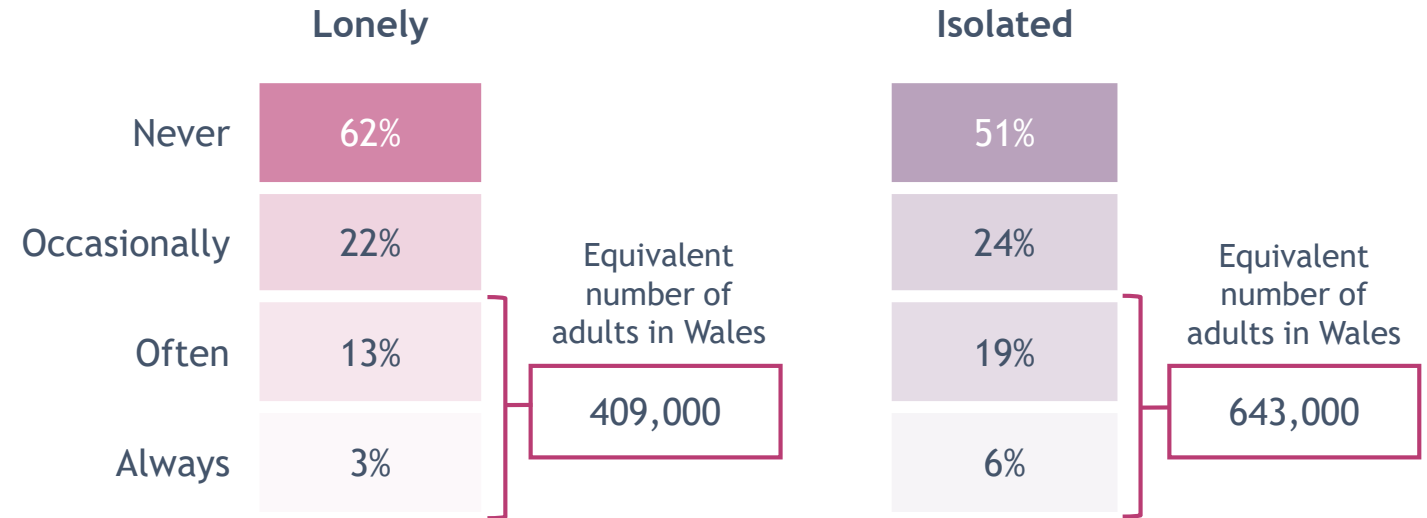
How anxious do you feel today?



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

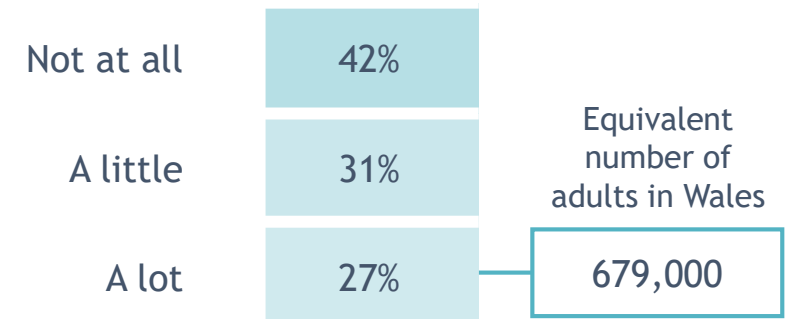


In the last week, how often have you felt...



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

