

COVID-19 Survey Highlights



Alberta perspectives on the pandemic,
between May 25 and June 29, 2020

Some context...

At the time of this survey, Alberta was in the first stages of re-opening after a prolonged lock-down.

- Schools closed
- Cases of COVID-19 reported across Alberta, with majority in the Calgary Zone
- Many public facilities such as recreation centres closed
- Many working remotely



11,000+

Albertans provided feedback. Survey results were weighted to represent Albertans on age, gender and Alberta Health Services Zone.



Most Albertans **felt protected from COVID-19 infection**, but survey data revealed mixed reactions to the public health restrictions.



Many Albertans **reported impacts to their health and wellness** because of the pandemic.



Virtual healthcare was mostly positive for Albertans. Many were open to continuing to receive virtual care in the future.



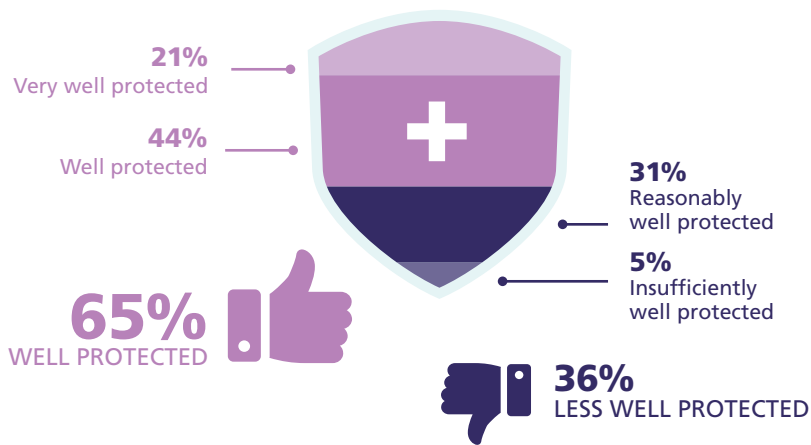
Albertans frequently sought information about the pandemic, and **relied heavily on Dr. Deena Hinshaw as their most trusted source of COVID-19 information.**

Opinions on public health actions



HQCA COVID-19 Survey – May 25 to June 29, 2020

To what degree did Albertans **feel well protected** from being infected with COVID-19?



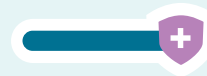
* Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Why did Albertans **feel well protected**?



63%

I follow the public health guidelines and my environment is safe



32%

I follow the public health guidelines, even if my environment isn't safe



16%

COVID hardly occurs here



14%

I do not always follow the public health guidelines, but my environment is safe

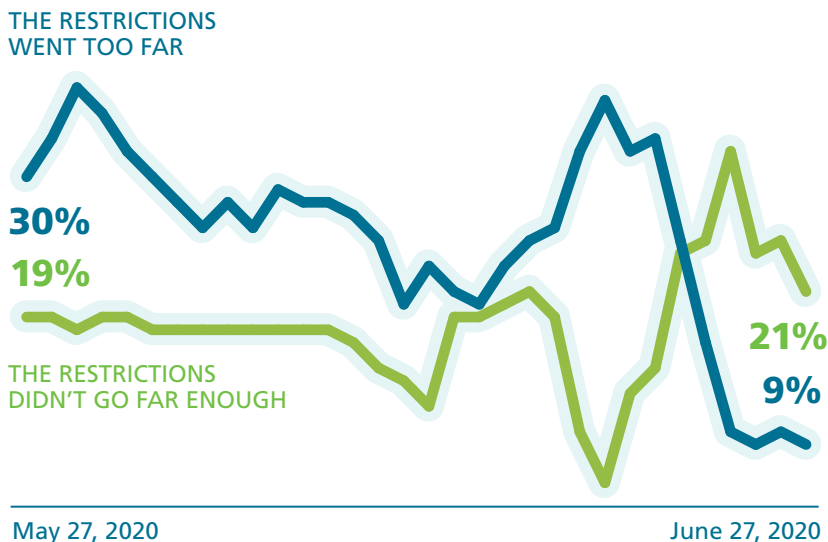


9%

I don't think I'll get it

* Multiple responses allowed. Totals may not equal 100%.

A lookback at the **changing opinions** on COVID-19 restrictions



May 27, 2020

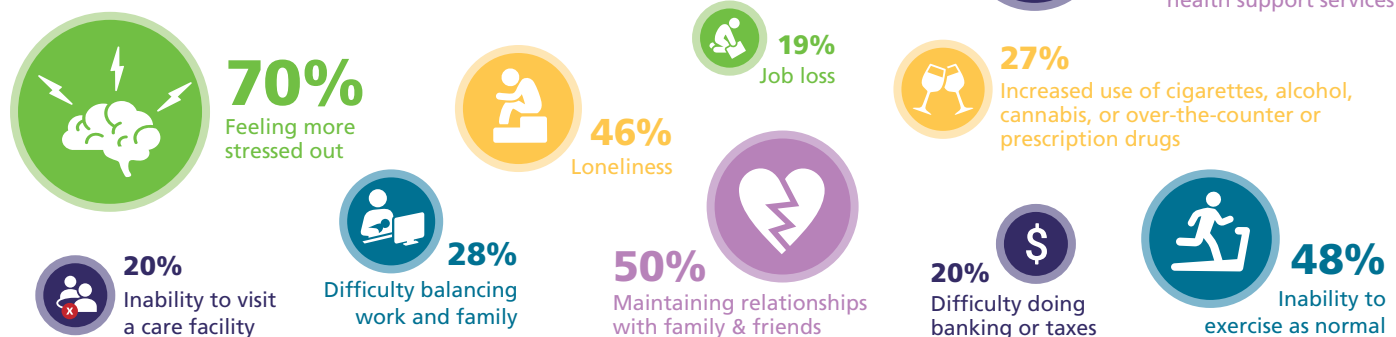
June 27, 2020

How Albertans were coping

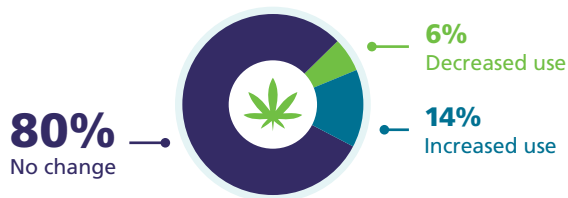


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Challenges and struggles faced by Albertans during the COVID-19 pandemic



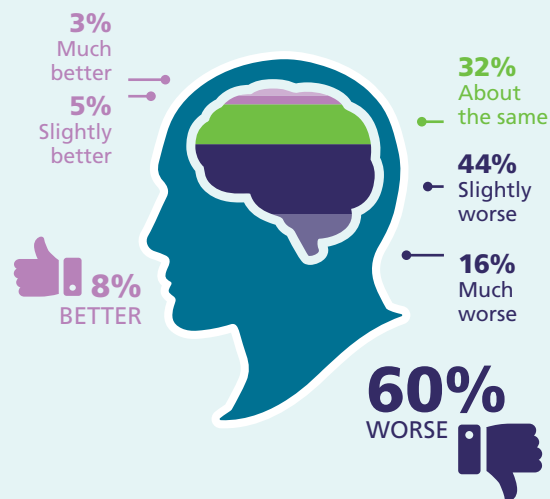
Change in cannabis use by Albertans since March 2020



Change in alcohol consumption by Albertans since March 2020



Mental health of Albertans compared to before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic



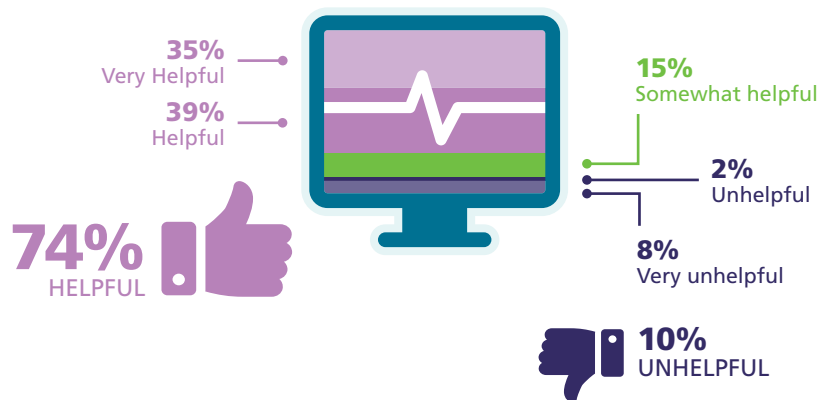
72% of Albertans experienced difficulty coping with stress, anxiety or depression related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Virtual healthcare



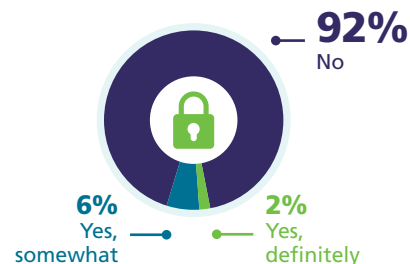
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Did Albertans find the care advice they received during their recent virtual healthcare visit helpful?



* Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Did Albertans have any privacy concerns related to virtual healthcare visits?



Did Albertans think virtual healthcare visits could be a good alternative to in-person visits in the future?



62% YES
37% NO

- Definitely yes
- Probably yes
- Probably no
- Definitely no

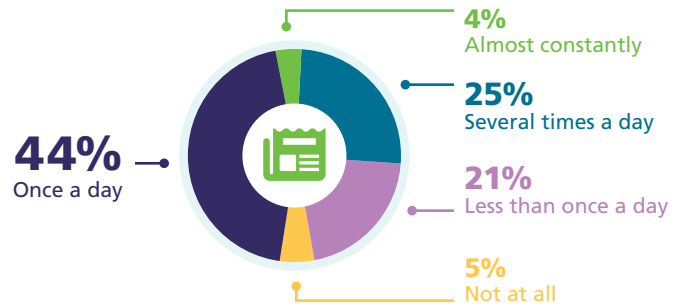
* Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

COVID-19 information



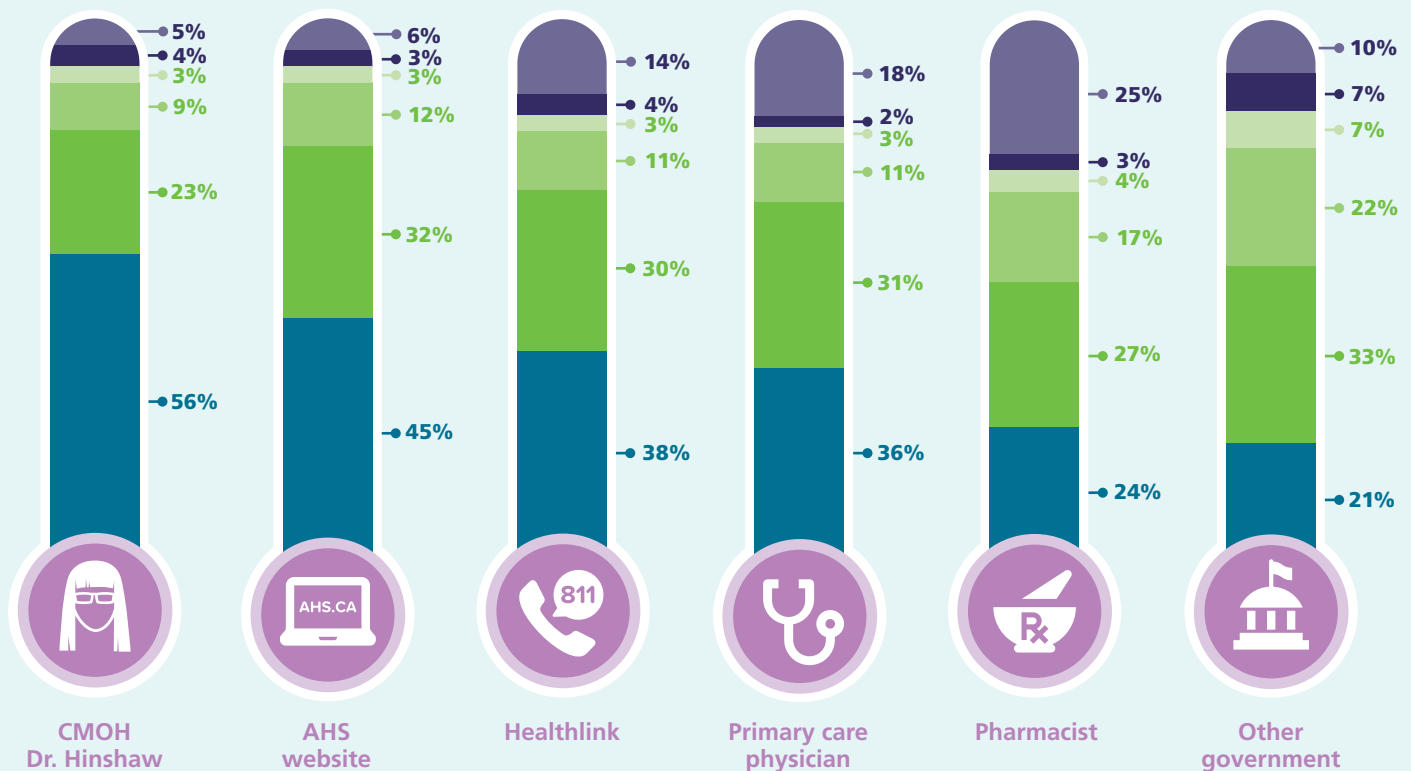
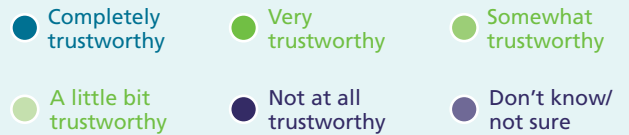
HQCA COVID-19 Survey – May 25 to June 29, 2020

How many times a week did Albertans **check for news related to the COVID-19 pandemic?**



* Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

What **sources of information on COVID-19** did Albertans find most trustworthy?

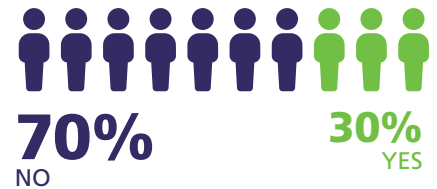


Healthcare use and facility restrictions



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What percentage of Albertans **delayed seeking help for a medical problem** because they believed the healthcare system was overwhelmed with COVID-19?



How has **delaying healthcare** due to COVID-19 affected Albertans' health?



* Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.



of Albertans were confident in the steps being taken by their healthcare providers **to keep them safe** during their visits.

Albertans' opinions on **visitation restrictions** for people in healthcare facilities



Understanding the perspectives



HQCA COVID-19 Survey – May 25 to June 29, 2020

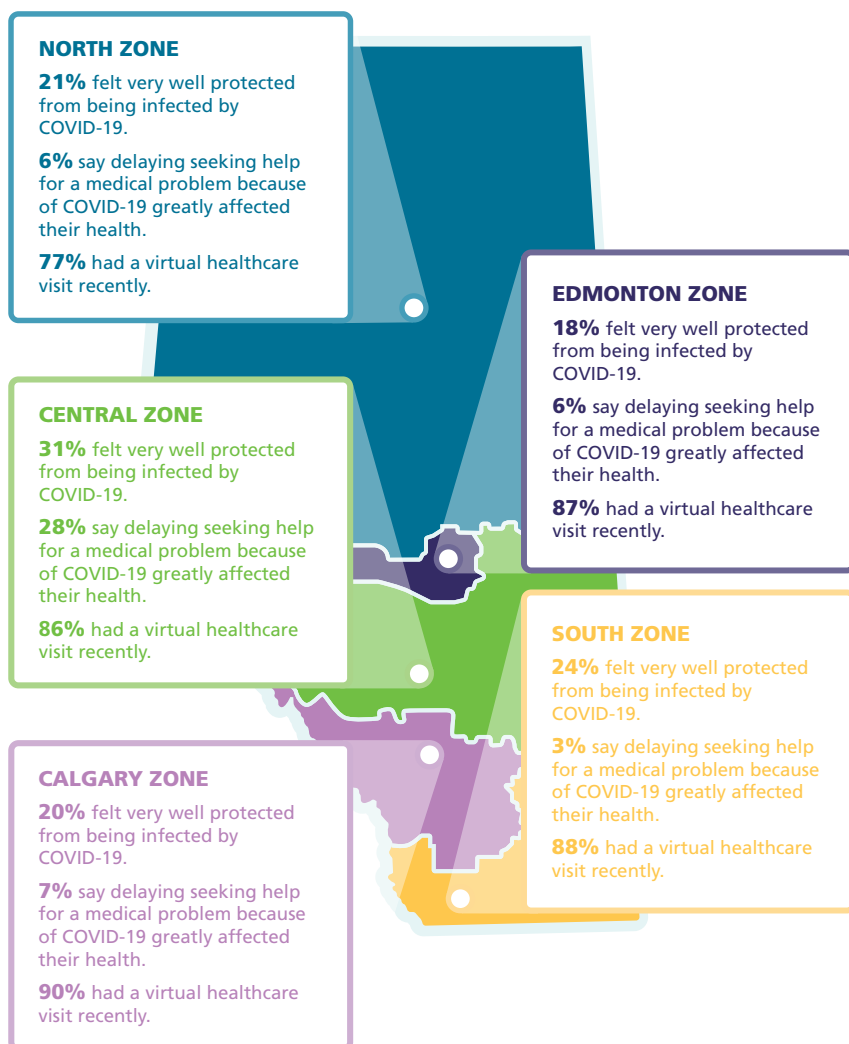
There are **differences among some of the Alberta Health Services Zones** on specific questions. Here are a few examples...

Albertans were more likely to say **restrictions went too far** if they are...

- Men, aged 35-44
- Over 35, and check for news about COVID-19 less frequently than others
- Under 35, and report their mental and physical health to be worse during the pandemic
- Over 55, and live in a rural area
- Not living with a chronic condition that may put them at additional risk

Albertans were more likely to say **restrictions are being lifted too quickly** if they are...

- Women
- Not feeling well-protected from COVID-19
- Not negatively affected by restrictions at health facilities
- Well-connected virtually to friends and family
- Check the news about COVID-19 frequently, especially if they are over 35



How are we doing today, Alberta?



Give us your feedback

Since we first surveyed Albertans on COVID-19 in May and June, more of the economy has relaunched and key public health decisions have been made this summer including:

- 1) Changes to continuing care visitation
- 2) School re-opening plans
- 3) Mask mandates in some Alberta municipalities

That's why we're measuring Albertans' experiences during COVID-19 again this fall.

For survey details, visit:

→ [Albertacovidsurvey.com](https://albertacovidsurvey.com)



About the HQCA

The Health Quality Council of Alberta (HQCA) is a provincial agency. We gather and analyze information, monitor the healthcare system, and collaborate with Alberta Health, Alberta Health Services, health professions, academia, and other stakeholders to translate that knowledge into practical improvements to patient safety, person-centred care and health service quality in the healthcare system

HQCA Survey Information

→ [Visit \[hqca.ca/COVID-19\]\(https://hqca.ca/COVID-19\) for full results](https://hqca.ca/COVID-19)

COVID-19 resources

If you require additional information about COVID-19, please see these resources:

→ [Alberta government COVID-19 info for Albertans](#)

→ [Alberta Health Services info on COVID-19](#)

→ [Alberta Health Services 'Help in Tough Times'](#)