

# UNDERSTANDING COVID-19 VACCINE UPTAKE IN ALBERTA

The IFA launched a national survey that sought to explore older Canadians' current understanding of the COVID-19 landscape as well as their perceptions and beliefs regarding the importance of vaccination. Survey results have been further refined to reflect findings from Albertan respondents.

## Vaccine Intentions and Awareness

**80%** of survey respondents agreed that at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, they believed that COVID-19 was a serious threat to their health and the health of their loved ones.



Now, only **63%** of respondents reported feeling that COVID-19 is a threat.



**48%** Less than half intend to be vaccinated this upcoming autumn/winter.



**1/3** of respondents are aware of current COVID-19 vaccine recommendations in Canada.



**54%** Just over half of Albertans believe that there is a need to receive COVID-19 vaccination regularly (annually or more frequently).



## Why Are People Getting Vaccinated

Gaining insight into the motivations of people who receive COVID-19 vaccinations is essential for guiding public health efforts to encourage vaccination among older adults.

Of people who intend to be vaccinated against COVID-19:

**95%** intend to be vaccinated to protect themselves from developing COVID-19 and associated risks/symptoms.



**62%** intend to be vaccinated due to concern about COVID-19 variants.



**62%** intend to be vaccinated to protect their larger community.



## Why Are People Not Getting Vaccinated?

Despite the well-described individual and population health benefits of COVID-19 vaccination, public uptake of these vaccines is decreasing.

Of people who did not intend to be vaccinated against COVID-19:

**71%** chose not to be vaccinated because they were concerned about the side effects of vaccination.



- Public health authorities indicate that vaccination is safe with rare lasting side effects.

**61%** chose not to be vaccinated because they had doubts about the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccination in protecting against disease.



- The vaccine effectiveness of the most recent COVID-19 vaccine has been estimated to be 50 to 60% against symptomatic disease and 60 to 70% against hospitalization among adults.

**46%** chose not to be vaccinated because of a lack of belief that the vaccine is necessary to ensure good health.



- COVID-19 vaccines are the best way to prevent contracting COVID-19 and experiencing long-term problems from infection.

For more information, ask a trusted healthcare provider.

*Informed Today, Healthier Tomorrow.*

### References:

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