

How are we doing in Wales?

Public Engagement Survey on Health and Wellbeing during Coronavirus Measures

Regional breakdown of survey findings and Week 8 (25th to 31st May 2020) routine data

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 information collected from **500 or more randomly selected individuals** provides the basis of the results presented in each **weekly report**.

The survey aims to provide data representative of the Welsh population and data are adjusted to represent the Welsh population by age, sex and deprivation.

In some weeks, new questions are added and others removed, depending on emerging issues at that time.

A sample of individuals from each week's surveys are also followed up with a second call which explores some different aspects of the pandemic.

This week's report contains some routine measures seen in previous reports alongside some new questions using the follow up data. These data were collected between the dates of 21st April and 29th May.

This week we have also combined all weekly survey data to examine differences and similarities between the health board regions in Wales. Whilst we have presented results corrected for differences in age and sex between regions, inferences about any differences between health boards should be drawn with caution due to sample sizes. We have provided some measures of statistical significance to inform interpretation.

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



Over 4,000 Welsh residents have participated in the survey to date and around 2,000 have completed a follow up survey.

Analyses of survey data by health board show...

The views and experiences of coronavirus and the restrictions are largely similar across Wales, with no difference in impacts on mental wellbeing across health boards.

The proportion of participants that think they have had coronavirus ranges from 8% in Powys to 15% in Cwm Taf Morgannwg.

Confidence in the NHS and positive attitudes towards Welsh Government and the police are high across all areas, and highest in Hywel Dda.

Analyses of follow up survey data show...

27%

of people have had a scheduled medical appointment or procedure cancelled due to coronavirus.

12%

of people have not attempted to get medical attention such as visiting a GP or going to A&E when they normally would have done.

87%

of people think stronger relationships between people in communities will be a positive longer term impact of coronavirus.

596 Welsh residents aged 18 years and over were interviewed in week 8 of the survey (25th to 31st May).

75%

of people think the restrictions in place to manage coronavirus are about right, up from last week.

50%

of people think that shops should re-open within the next 3 weeks, up from last week.

56%

of people think that non-essential workers should be able to return to work within the next three weeks, up from last week.

44%

of people think that, as restrictions are lifted, people should be made to wear face masks in public places, down from last week.

40%

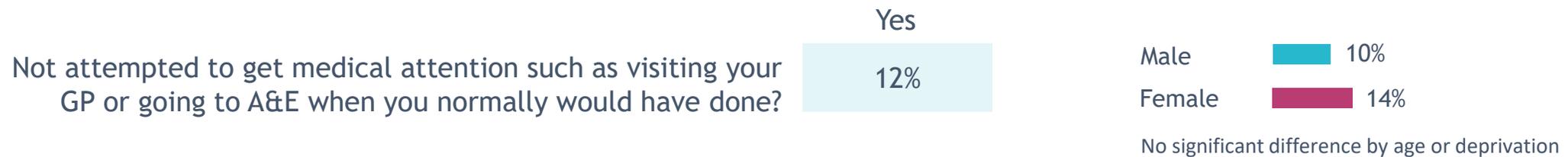
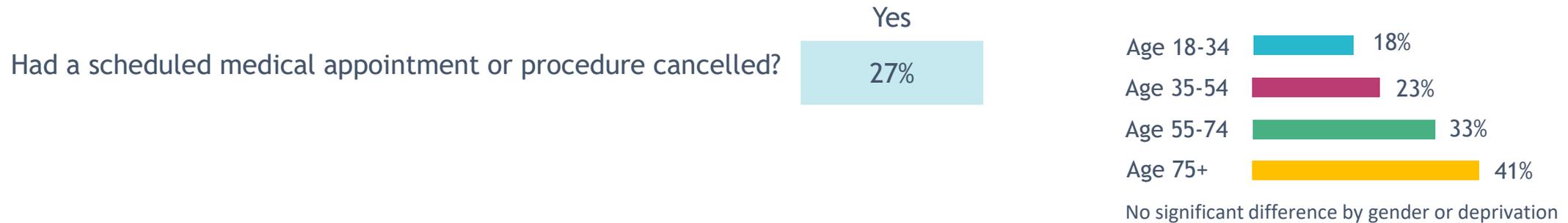
of people left their home every day in the last week, while 14% did not leave their home at all.

52%

of people have been worrying 'a lot' about losing someone they love to coronavirus, down from last week.

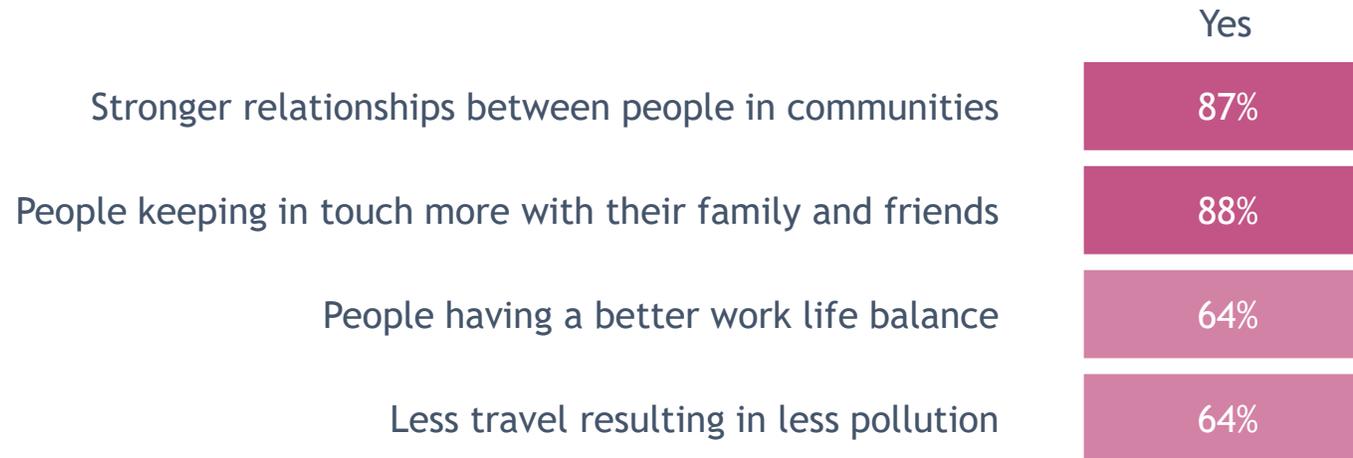
Data from follow up surveys, adjusted to national demographics.

During the coronavirus restrictions, have you...



Data from follow up surveys, adjusted to national demographics.

Do you think the coronavirus situation will have any of the following positive long term impacts?



Data from week 8 main survey, adjusted to national demographics.

Do you think you have or have had coronavirus?

Yes	12%
Don't know	7%

How worried are you that you could get coronavirus?

Excludes those answering 'yes' to having had coronavirus

Not at all	18%
A little	30%
Moderately	31%
Very	21%

Has someone close to you like a family member or friend become seriously ill* with coronavirus?

Yes	10%
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*hospitalised or died

How well are we handling coronavirus?

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

Too little 13%



About right 75%

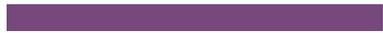


Too much 12%



I would prefer to stay in lockdown until there is no chance of catching coronavirus

Agree 50%



Disagree 36%



Undecided 14%



	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I think that Welsh Government is responding to the problems caused by coronavirus well	19%	53%	11%	13%	4%
I am confident that the NHS would be able to adequately care for me if I became seriously ill with coronavirus	36%	50%	6%	7%	1%
I trust the police to use their powers to restrict people's movement sensibly	22%	51%	8%	14%	4%

Which of the following do you find acceptable?



As the current restrictions are lifted, which measures do you think should be put in place to protect people?



When do you think the following changes should happen*?

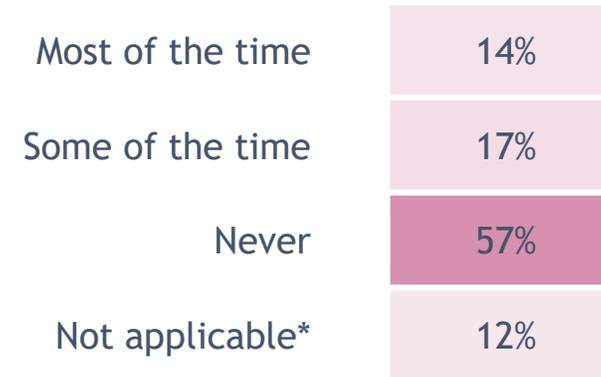
Within the next 3 weeks

	All	Male	Female
Schools should re-open	19%	26%	13%
Shops should re-open	50%	56%	44%
Restaurants, pubs and bars should re-open	15%	19%	11%
Non-essential workers should be able to return to work	56%	61%	52%
People should be allowed to use public spaces like parks and beaches freely if social distancing is maintained	67%	72%	62%
Major events like sports & concerts should be able to run	5%	7%	4%
Social distancing should be ended	10%	11%	9%

In more than 3 weeks

	All	Male	Female
Schools should re-open	81%	74%	87%
Shops should re-open	50%	44%	56%
Restaurants, pubs and bars should re-open	85%	81%	89%
Non-essential workers should be able to return to work	44%	39%	48%
People should be allowed to use public spaces like parks and beaches freely if social distancing is maintained	33%	28%	38%
Major events like sports & concerts should be able to run	95%	93%	96%
Social distancing should be ended	90%	89%	91%

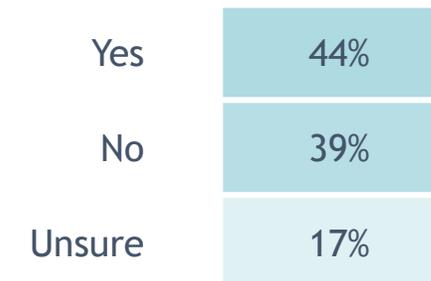
Currently, when you go out, do you wear a face mask...

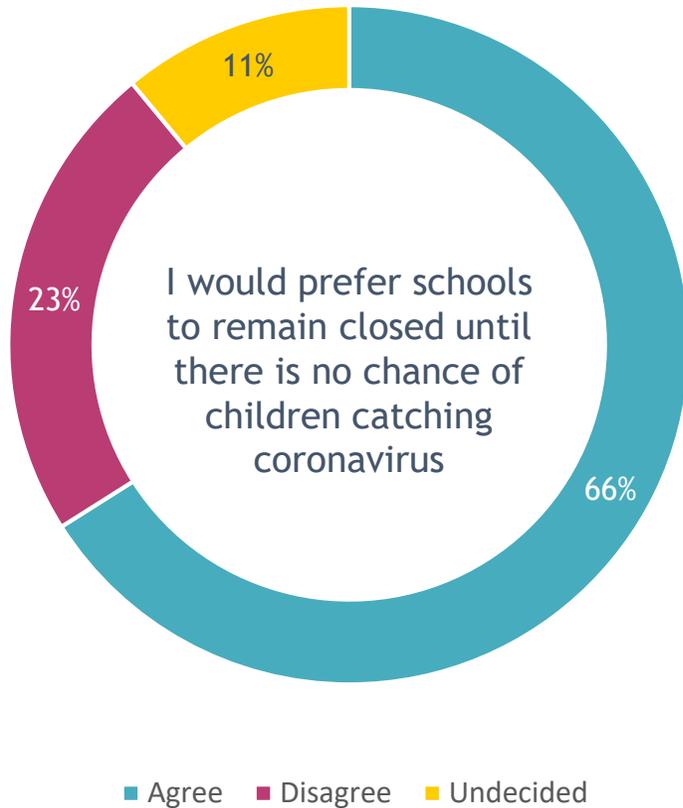


* do not go out

As the current restrictions are lifted, which measures do you think should be put in place to protect people?

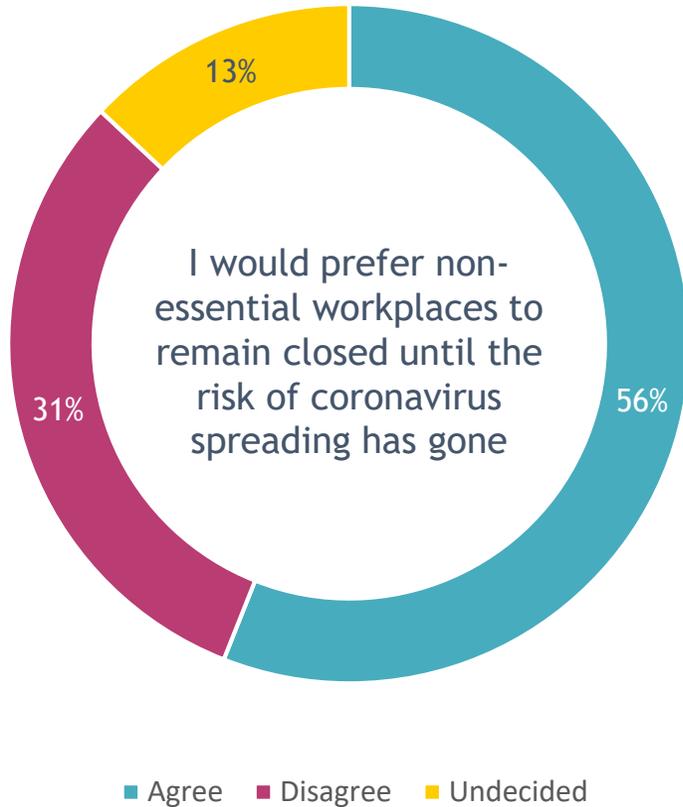
People should be made to wear face masks in public places





To make it safe for schools to re-open, which of these measures would you support?

	Yes	No	Unsure
Children having to wear face masks whilst at school	30%	58%	12%
Children having their temperature taken when they arrive at school	84%	10%	6%
Children going to school on fewer days to keep pupil numbers low	78%	12%	10%
Return to school being just for primary schools, at least for the first few weeks	42%	46%	12%

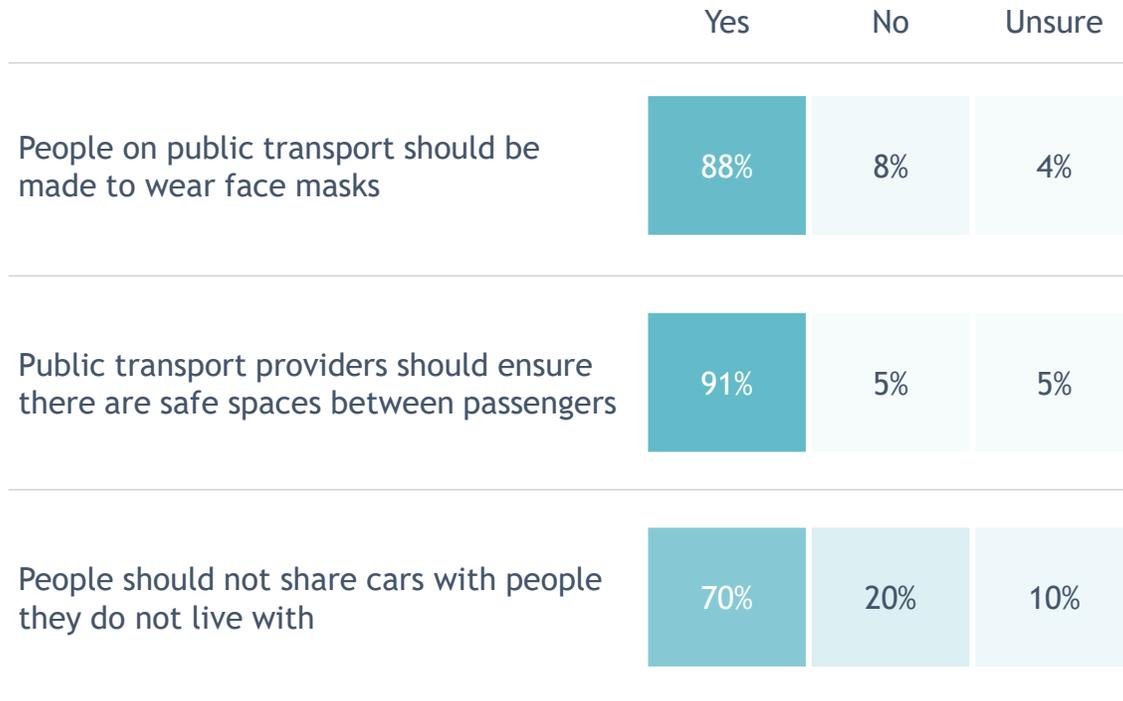


To make it safe for people to return to work, which of these measures would you support?

	Yes	No	Unsure
People having to wear face masks when working indoors in shared spaces	72%	17%	12%
Social distancing measures being required in all workplaces	92%	4%	4%
People being required to have their temperature taken at work	86%	12%	3%
Testing for the virus being easily available to anyone feeling unwell at work	97%	2%	1%
Altering people's hours of work to reduce the number of people working at any one time (e.g. working in shifts)	87%	8%	5%

As the current restrictions are lifted, which measures do you think should be put in place to protect people?

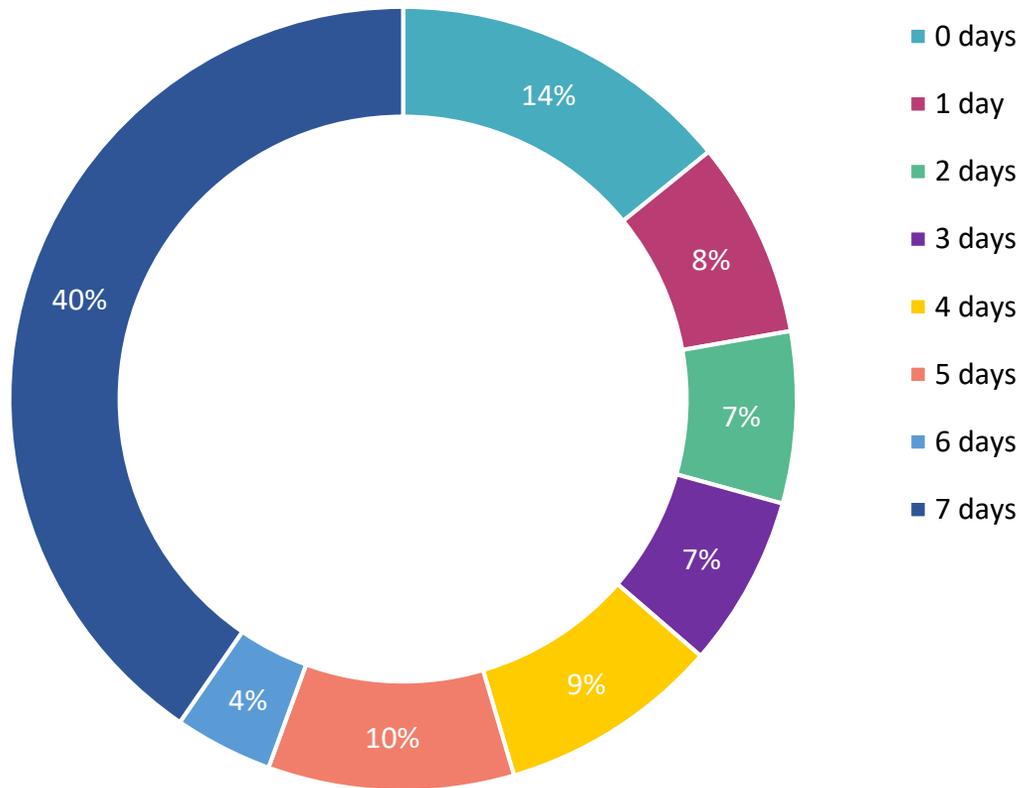
Public transport



Opening shops



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



Are you currently self-isolating due to yourself or someone else in your household having symptoms or being in a high risk group?

Yes 30%

What are we worried about?

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

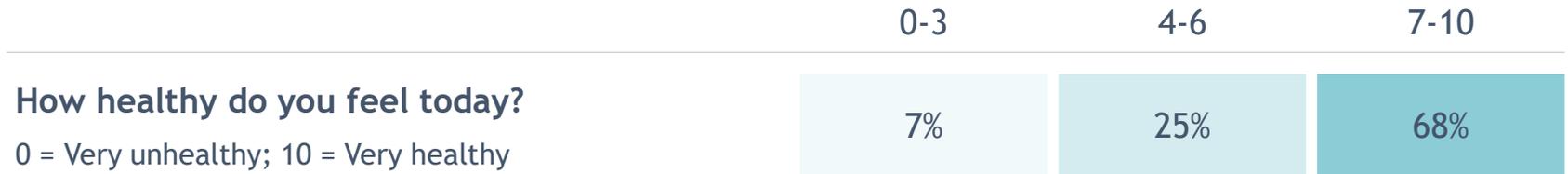
	Not at all	A little	A lot
Losing someone you love to the virus	20%	28%	52%
The wellbeing of your children*~	19%	33%	48%
Your children's education*~	19%	32%	48%
A health condition not related to coronavirus	65%	23%	12%
Losing your job or not being able to find one#~	67%	18%	15%
Work, even if your job is secure#~	54%	30%	15%
Your finances	64%	20%	16%

As a result of coronavirus, have you or anyone in your household...

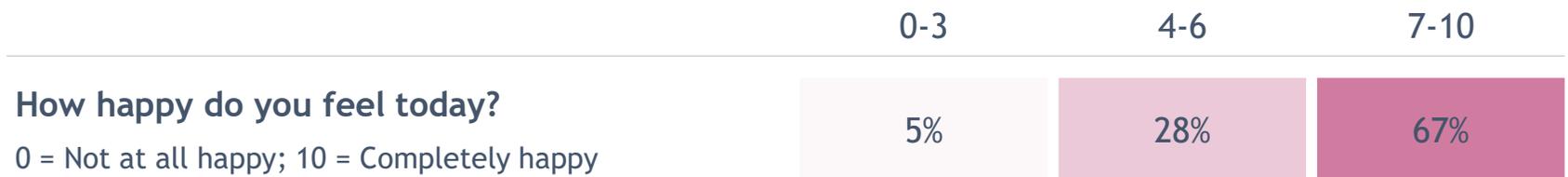
	Yes
Been suspended from work on lower or no pay (e.g. furloughed)	27%
Had their income considerably reduced through getting less work or reduced hours	12%
Experienced any other financial impact on the household due to coronavirus	7%

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

Feeling healthy



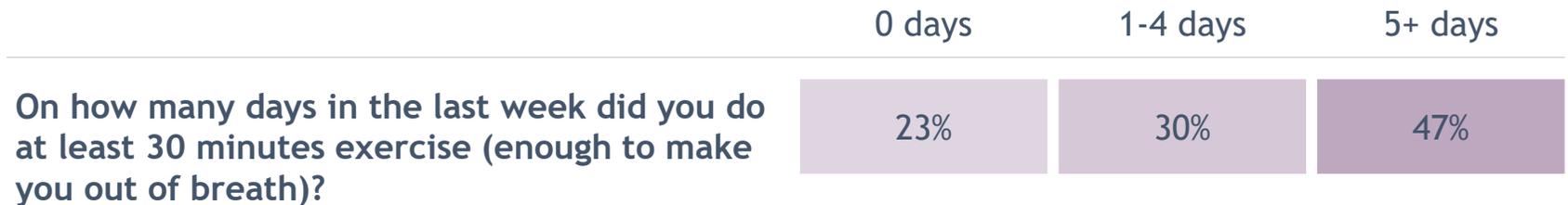
Feeling happy



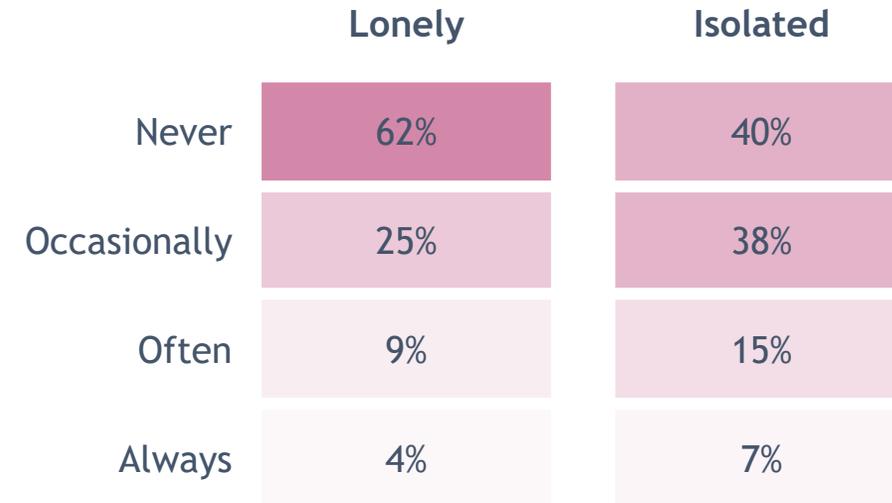
Feeling anxious



Exercise

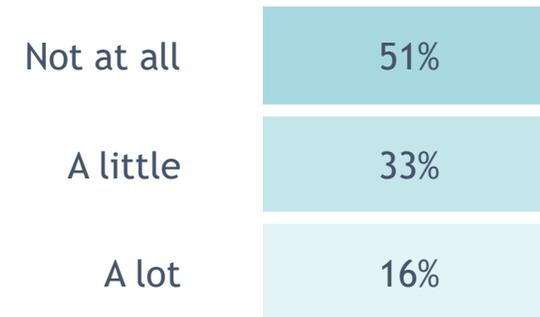


In the last week, how often have you felt...



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

Your mental health and wellbeing



The survey

A national telephone survey conducted with adults (>18 years old) currently resident in Wales.

Data collection began at the beginning of **April 2020** and is ongoing.

So far, over 4,000 people have told us about how the virus and the lockdown is impacting them.

Our analyses

These analyses consider how experiences of coronavirus may be different for people living in different parts of Wales. Here we have used local health board (LHB) areas to consider any regional variations. However, it is important to note that so far the survey has only sampled just over 200 people from Powys. Whilst this is proportional to the overall population distribution of Wales (see below), it increases the likelihood that differences between this and other areas may not be statistically significant. Further, there may be other differences between the LHBs that are not controlled for here and may impact findings (e.g. the higher prevalence of chronic health conditions in Hywel Dda, or a greater proportion of people living alone in Swansea Bay).

The distribution of survey respondents from each LHB is equivalent to the overall adult population breakdown of Wales, according to mid year 2018 estimates (see <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Estimates/Local-Health-Boards/populationestimates-by-lhb-age>).

A **generalized linear model** function was used to explore independent relationships between outcomes of interest and LHB, whilst adjusting for age and gender.

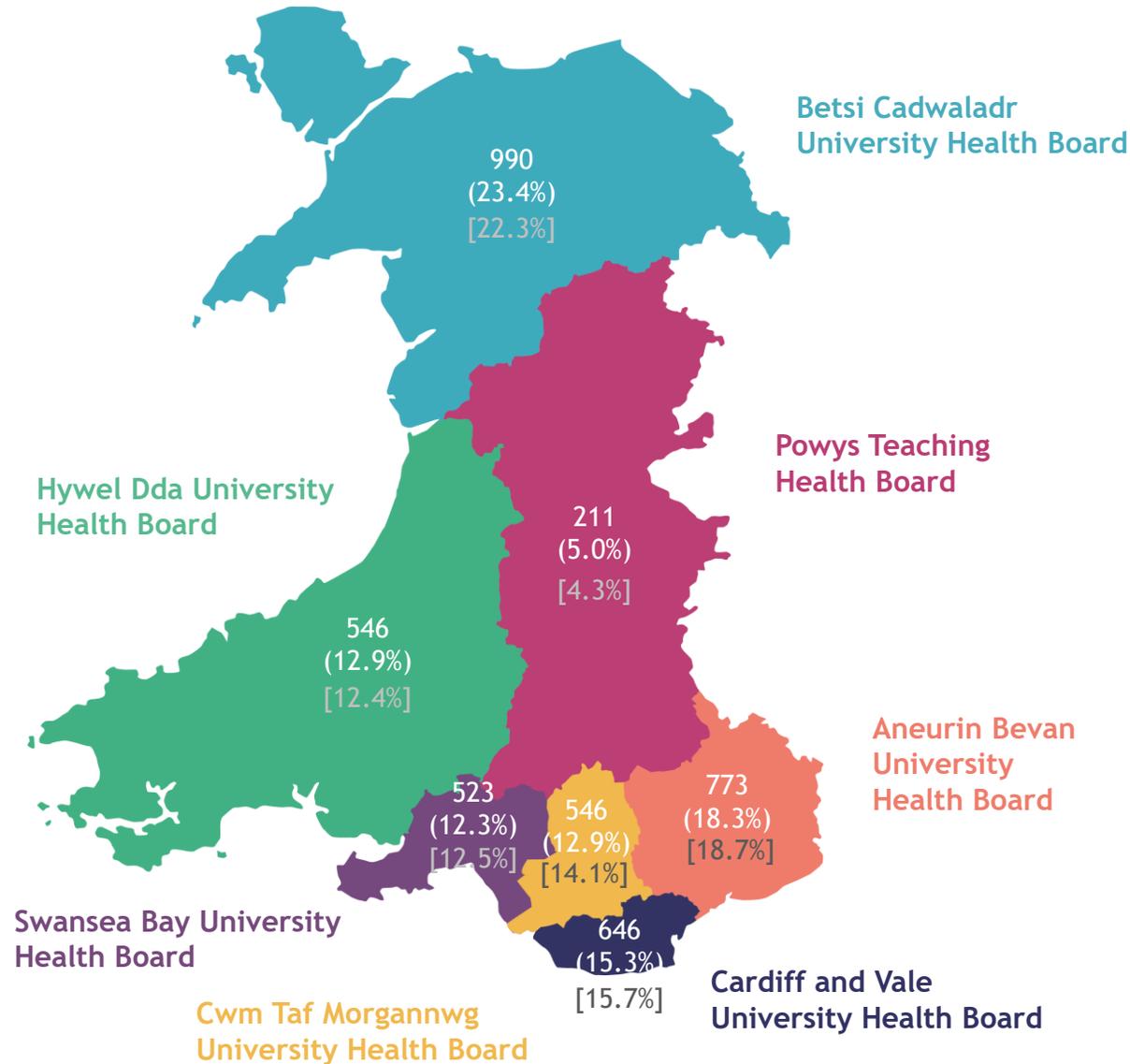
Analyses were also corrected for time (i.e. week of survey). However, trends over time are not the focus of this report and are reported elsewhere.

Findings

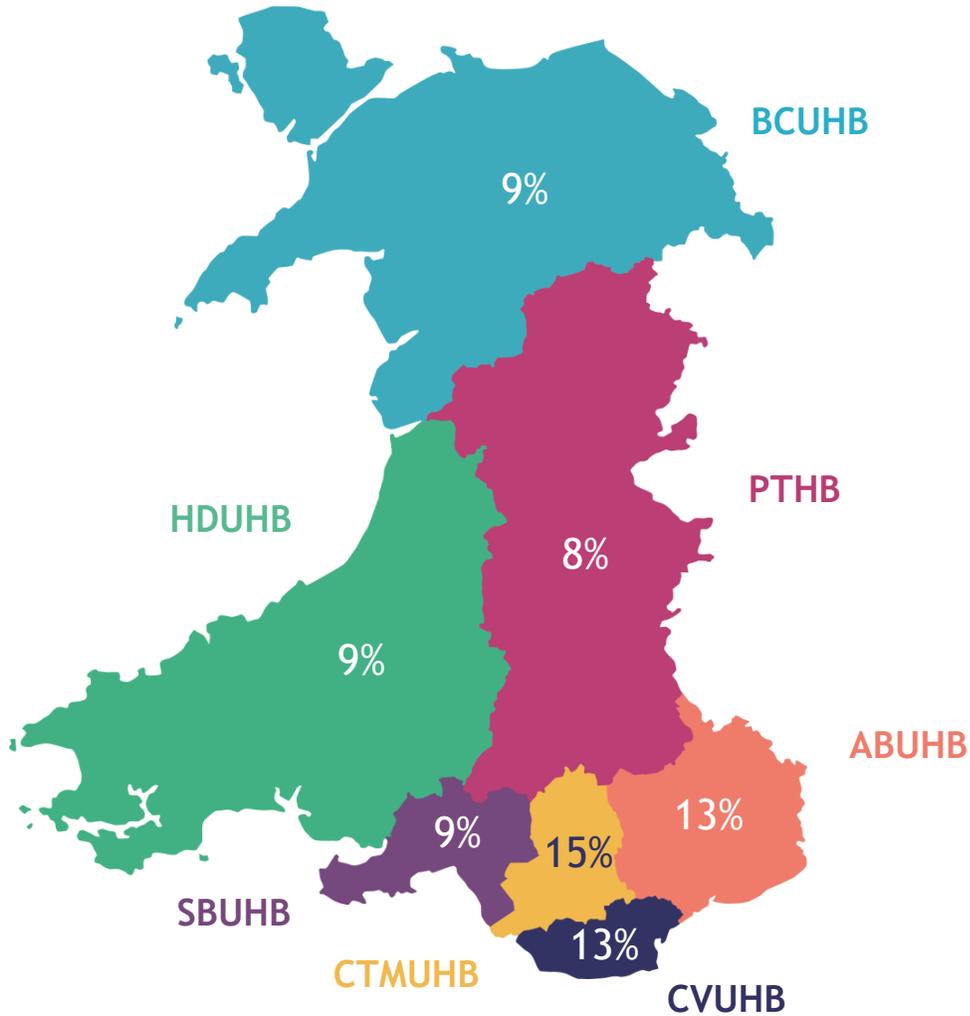
Key differences are presented for each of the LHBs. Unless highlighted, differences are statistically significant at $p < .05$. Findings are drawn from data collected from weeks 2 to 8 of the survey, unless otherwise stated in footnotes.

Survey sample size given for each health board and proportion of overall sample (%) in round brackets

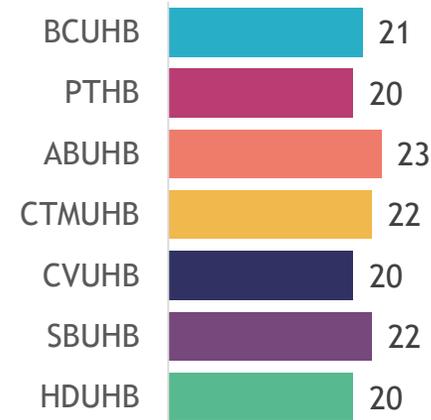
Proportion of adult population of Wales by health board (%) in square brackets



Percentage of respondents who think they **have or have had** coronavirus



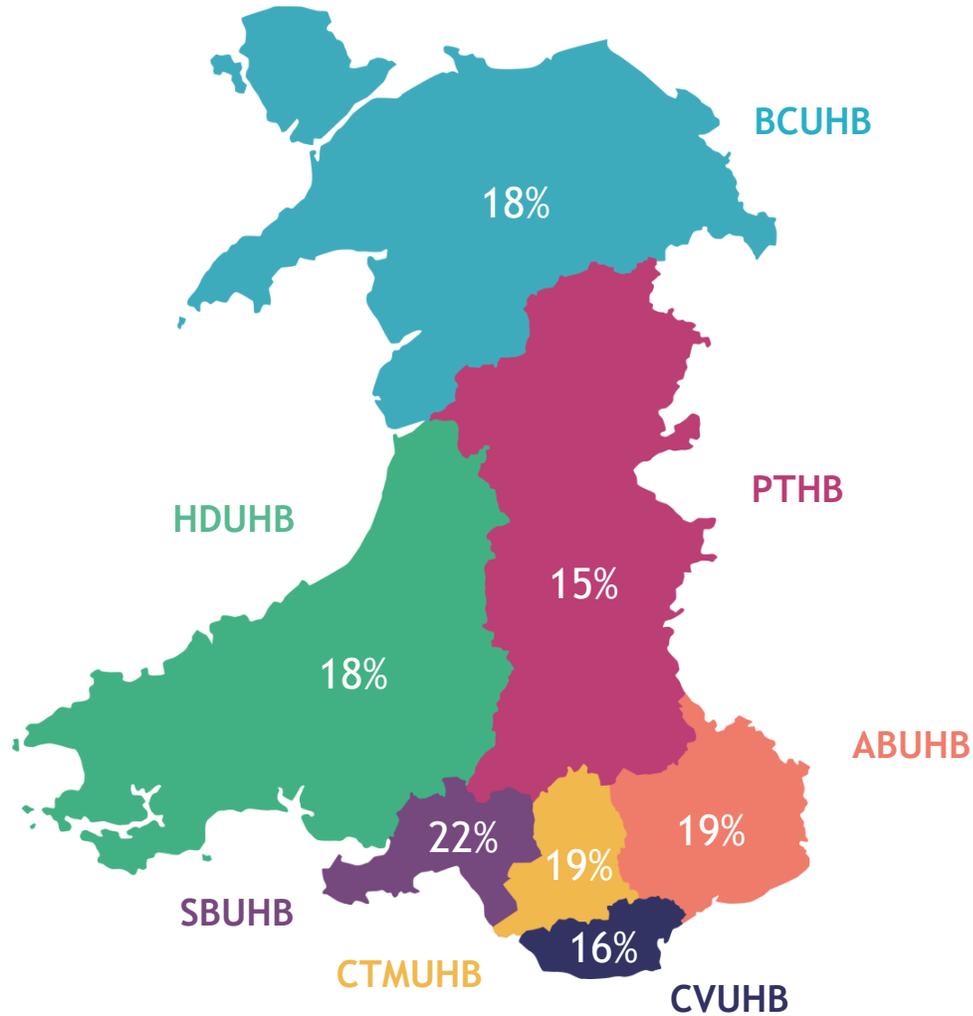
Are very worried about getting coronavirus~* (%):



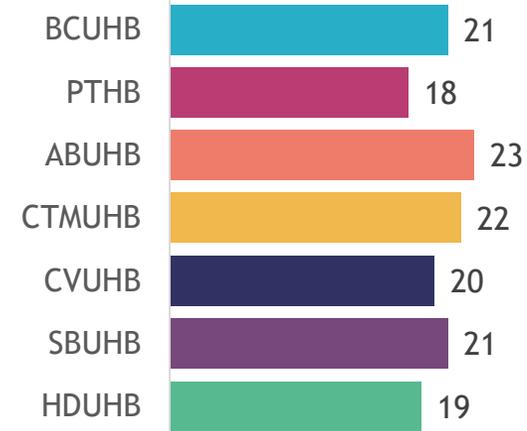
Are worrying a lot about losing someone they love to the virus (%):



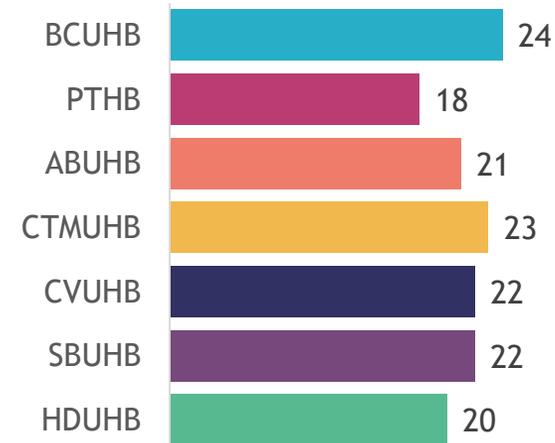
Percentage of respondents who worry a lot about their own mental health*



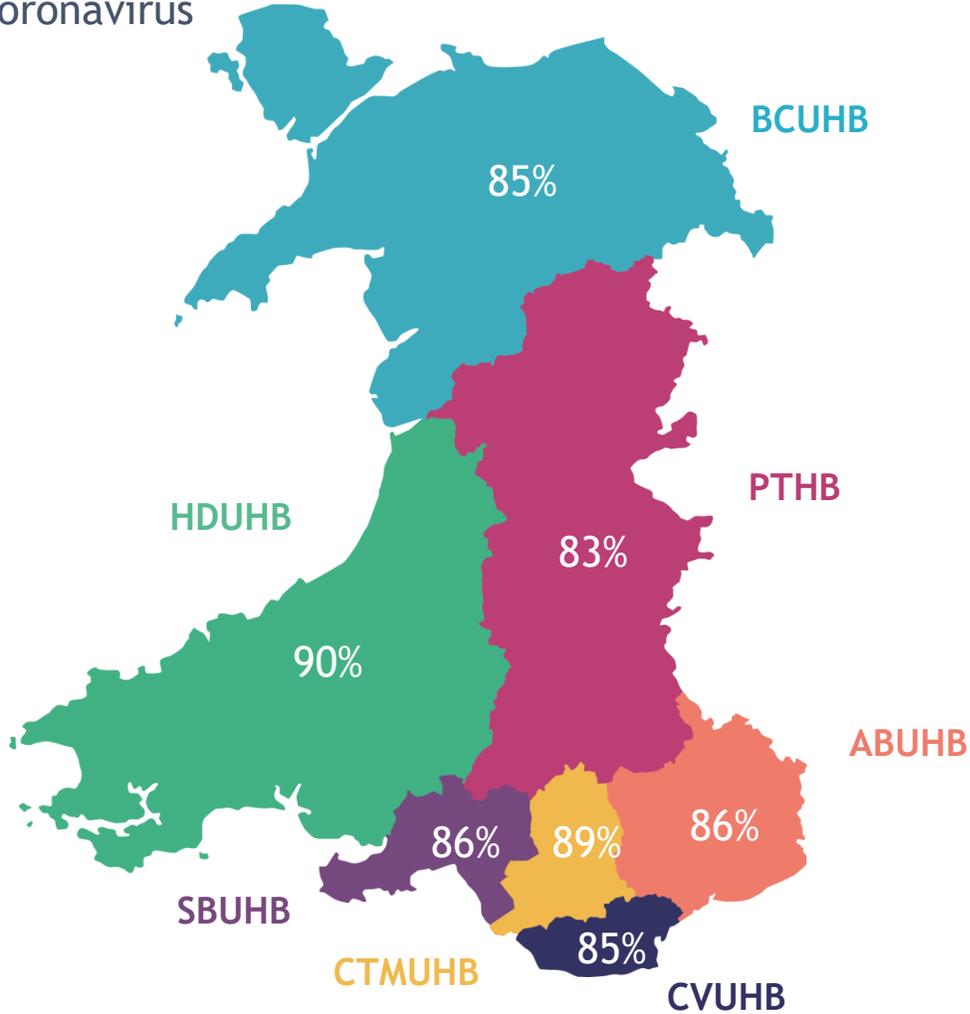
Are feeling very anxious* (%):



Are feeling isolated* (%):



Percentage of respondents who are confident that the **NHS could adequately care for them** if they became ill with coronavirus



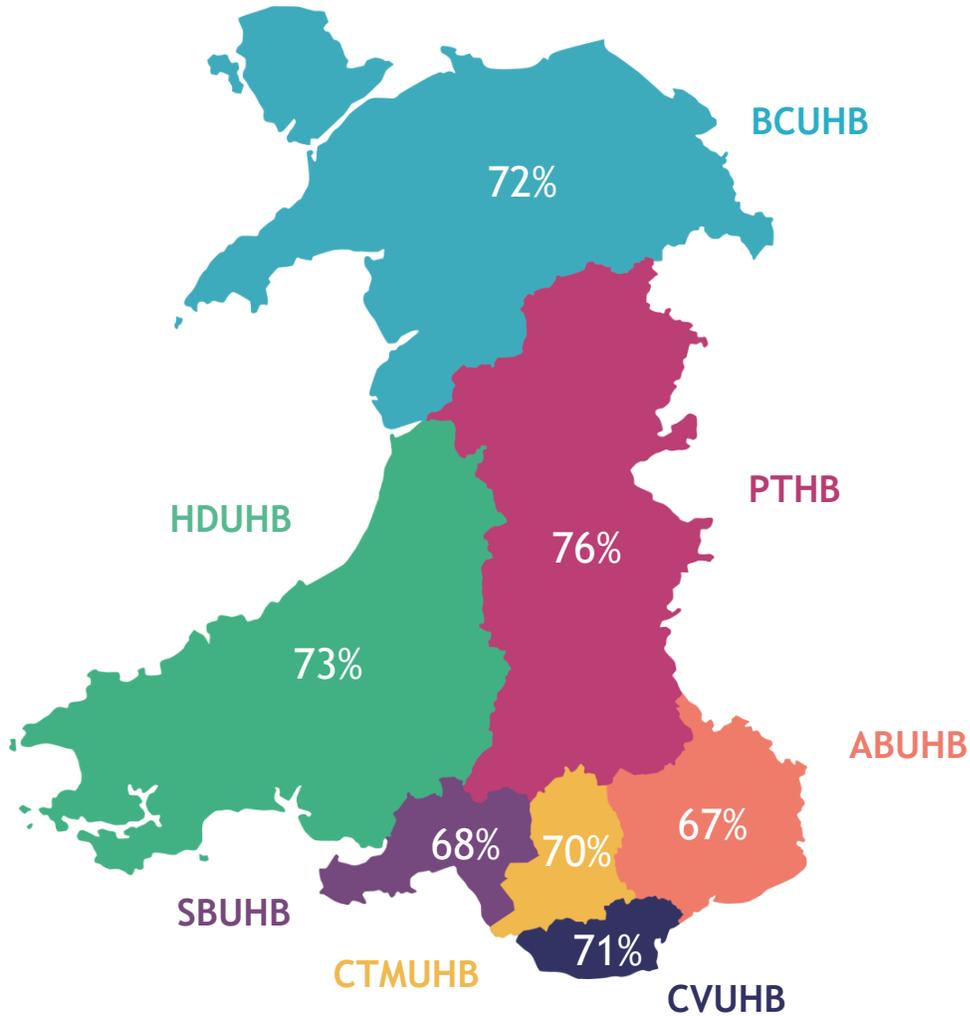
Think that Welsh Government is handling the problems caused by coronavirus well# (%):



Trust the police to use their new powers to restrict people's movements sensibly (%):



Percentage of respondents who think **current restrictions** to manage coronavirus are ‘about right’*



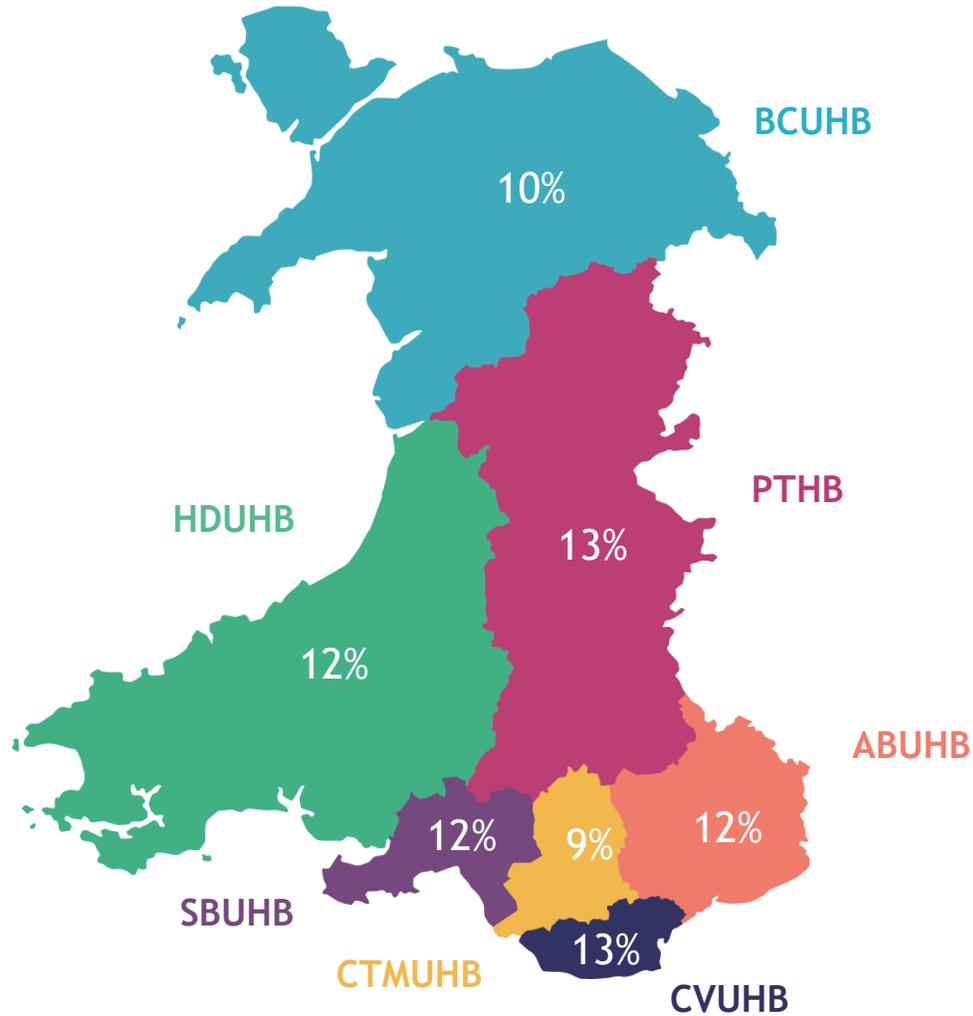
Would prefer to stay in lockdown until there is no chance of catching the virus[#] (%):



Would prefer schools to remain closed until there is no chance of catching the virus[#] (%):



Percentage of respondents who wear a face mask 'most of the time' when they go out^{#*}



Think that people should be made to maintain social distancing when outside^{**}(%):



Think that using a government tracking app that alerts you if you have been near someone that has coronavirus is acceptable^{**}(%):



Enquiries

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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

