

How are we doing in Wales?

Public Engagement Survey on Health and
Wellbeing during Coronavirus Measures

Week 23 (7th to 13th September 2020)

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 first wave of the survey ran from April 2020 to July 2020. The second wave started in September 2020 and will survey **600 randomly selected individuals** every other week. The information collected from participants provides the basis of the results presented in **bi-weekly reports**.

Survey data are adjusted to represent the Welsh population by age, sex and deprivation. In each survey week, some questions are added and others removed, depending on emerging issues at that time.

This week's report contains routine measures seen in wave 1 reports and includes several new questions focusing on social distancing, extended households, face coverings, relationships and weight change during coronavirus restrictions.

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



Key findings from this week

608 Welsh residents aged 18 years and over were interviewed in week 23 of the survey (7th to 13th September).

61%

of people say they have formed an extended household; most commonly with one or two other households.

76%

of people think social distancing restrictions should remain at 2 metres (up from 65% in week 16[#]).

56%

of people disagree with the statement 'I think most people are following social distancing guidelines'.

81%*

of people wear face coverings at least sometimes when going out; up from 60% in week 16. The most common reason for wearing one is for self-protection.

22%

of people worry 'a lot' about going out in public places and 40% worry 'a little'.

72%

of people would want to be vaccinated against coronavirus if a vaccine were to become available; down from 83% in week 16.

87%*

of people find it acceptable for people to be made to wear face coverings in public places such as shops.

91%

of people find it acceptable for local lockdowns to be imposed in areas with increasing cases of coronavirus.

31%

of people say they have put on weight during coronavirus restrictions and 23% say they have lost weight.

Do you think you have or have had coronavirus?

Yes	13%
Don't know	6%

How worried are you that you could get coronavirus?

Includes all respondents

Not at all	17%
A little	31%
Moderately	34%
Very	18%

How well are we handling coronavirus?

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

Too little 29%



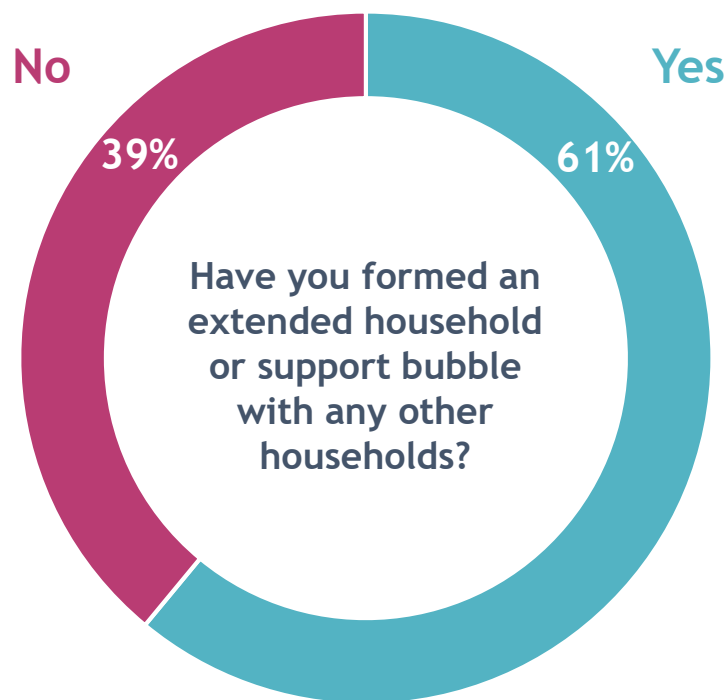
About right 66%



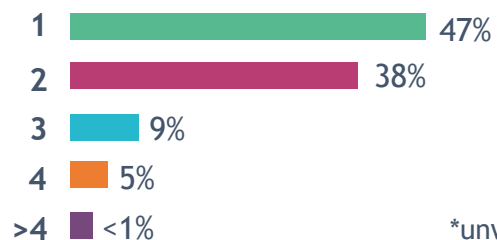
Too much 5%



	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I think that Welsh government is responding to the problems caused by coronavirus well	15%	50%	15%	14%	6%
I am confident that the NHS would be able to adequately care for me if I became seriously ill with coronavirus	28%	54%	10%	6%	3%
I trust the police to use their powers to restrict people's movement sensibly	17%	46%	11%	17%	9%



If yes, how many other households does this include?*



*unweighted data

In the last 7 days, how many people from outside your household or your extended household have you come into close contact with, meaning within 1 metre?

None 1 - 2 3 - 10 More than 10

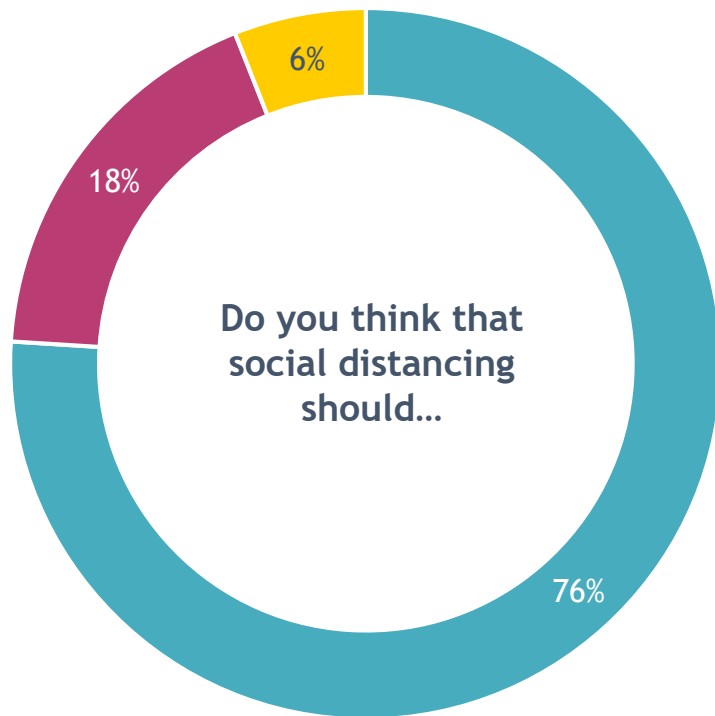
27% 21% 26% 26%

In the last 7 days, how many people have come into your house other than the people you usually live with or members of your extended household?

60% 30% 8% 2%

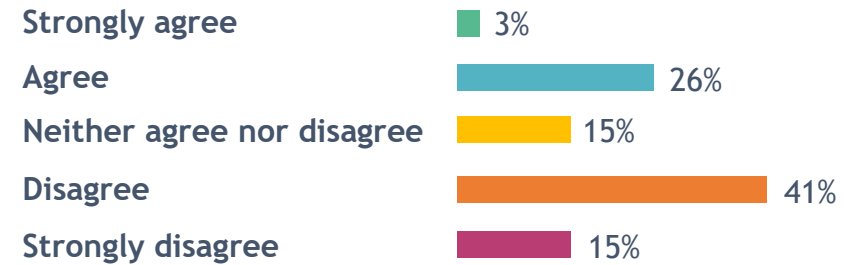
In the last 7 days, how many other people's houses have you been into, excluding that of your extended household?

72% 21% 4% 3%

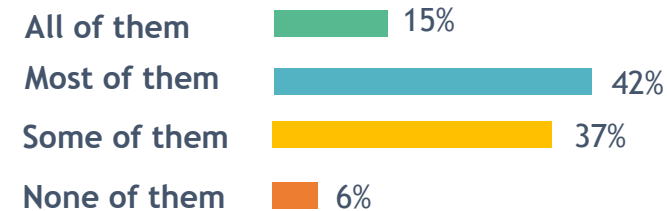


- Remain at 2 metres
- Be reduced to 1 metre
- Be removed completely

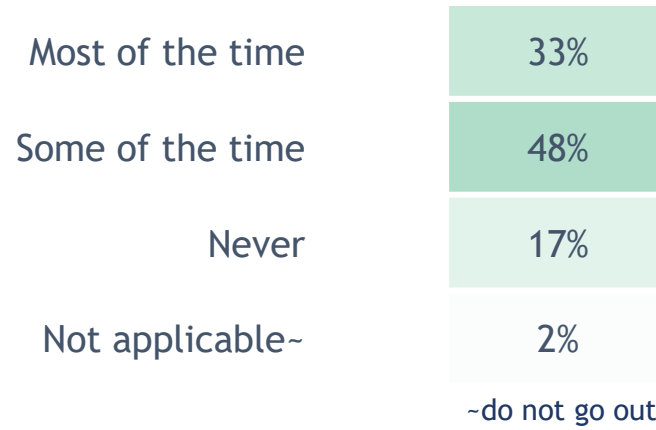
I think most people are following social distancing guidelines



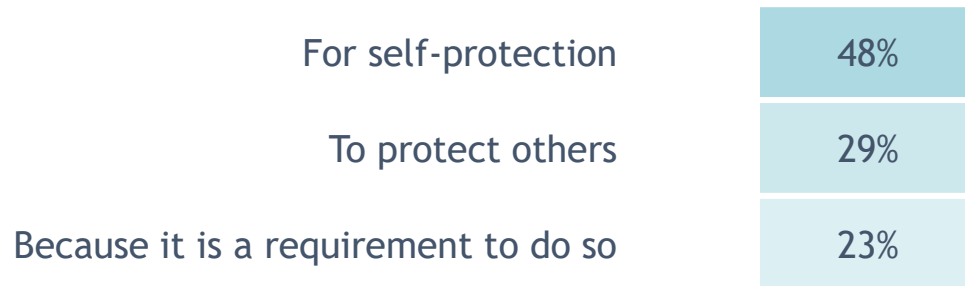
Thinking of the people you know personally, would you say that social distancing guidelines are being followed by...



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



What is your main reason for wearing a face covering?#



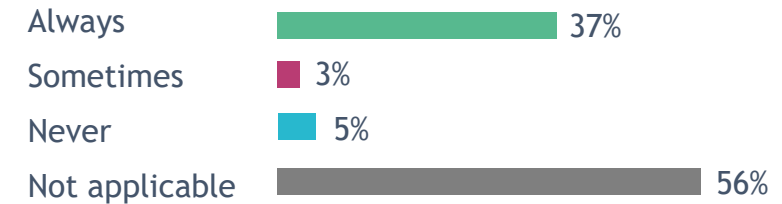
#Excludes those responding not applicable; unweighted data

In the following circumstances, would you always, sometimes or never use a face covering?

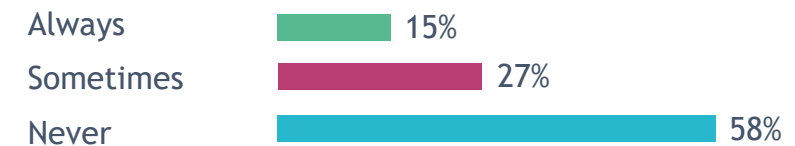
When in a shop or supermarket in Wales



When using public transport



When outside in a public place



If a vaccine became available that protected against coronavirus infection...

Would you personally want to be vaccinated?

Yes 72%



No 14%



Unsure 14%



For those with children in the household:*

Would you want your children to be vaccinated?

Yes 64%



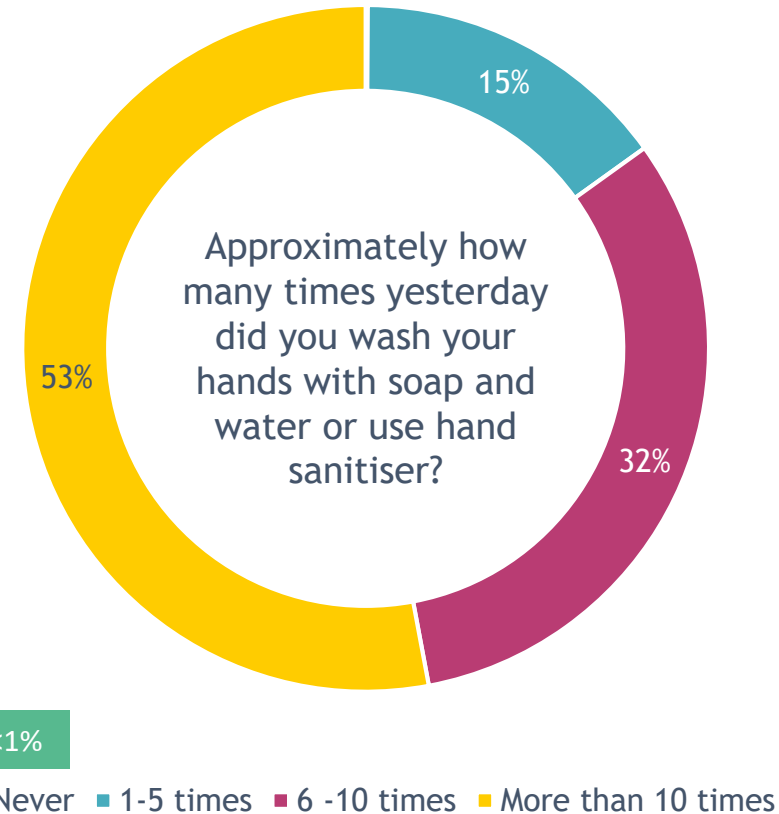
No 12%



Unsure 25%



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



Which of the following do you find acceptable?

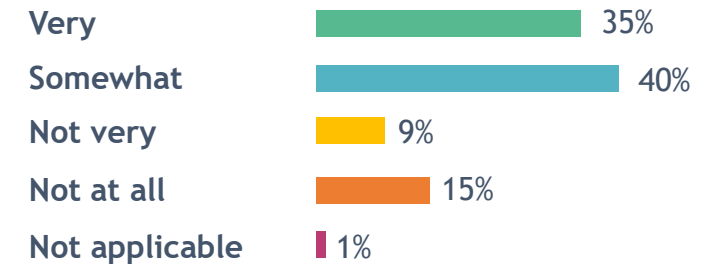
	Yes	No	Unsure
People that deliberately disobey social distancing measures being fined	88%	9%	3%
Infection levels going up a little as a result of some restrictions being removed	63%	28%	9%
People being made to wear face coverings in public places such as shops	87%	10%	4%
Local lockdowns being imposed to control the spread of coronavirus in areas with increasing cases	91%	5%	4%
Quarantines being imposed on people returning from countries with high levels of coronavirus	93%	6%	2%

Thinking about children returning to school, how concerned are you about the following?

	Not at all concerned	Somewhat concerned	Very concerned	Extremely concerned
Children catching coronavirus in schools and spreading this in their families and communities	17%	47%	20%	17%
Children themselves getting ill from catching coronavirus at school	26%	43%	16%	15%
Children's education being damaged by schools returning to normal too slowly	25%	37%	22%	16%
Children's social and emotional development being damaged by schools returning to normal too slowly	27%	35%	23%	16%

Participants with school-aged children*

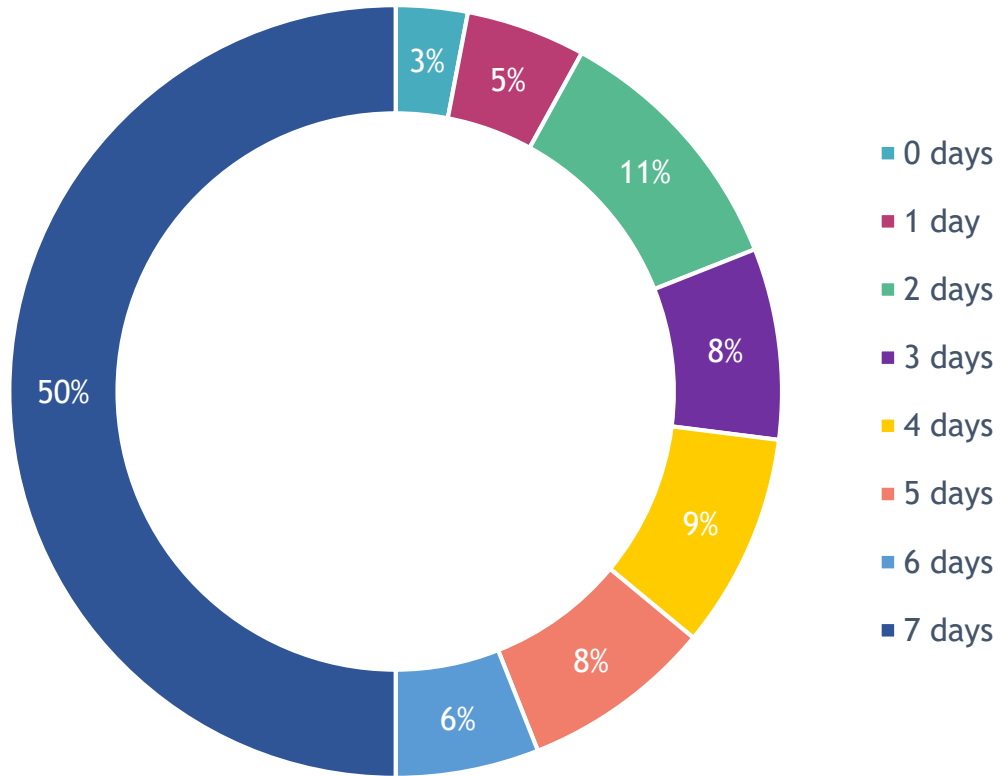
How comfortable are you about your child/children returning to school?



*n=150; unweighted data
 88% reported that their children had returned to school by the point of survey

How are we behaving?

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



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	59%	6%	7%	28%
...to shop	19%	52%	20%	9%
...for medical reasons	76%	24%	<1%	0%
...to exercise	43%	19%	11%	27%
...to meet family/friends	47%	39%	10%	4%
...to eat at a café, pub or restaurant	69%	27%	3%	1%
...for a drink in a pub or bar	80%	18%	1%	<1%

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	39%	39%	22%
Losing someone you love to the virus	23%	29%	47%
The wellbeing of your children*#~	14%	26%	60%
Your children's education*#~	17%	21%	62%
Losing your job or not being able to find one#~	59%	16%	24%
Work, even if your job is secure#~	55%	23%	22%
Your finances	60%	25%	15%
Going out in public places#	38%	40%	22%

Since lockdown started, would you say your relationships with the following have got better, worse or stayed the same?

	Better	Worse	Same
Other adults you live with*	18%	6%	75%
Children you live with*	28%	6%	65%
Other family members*	15%	7%	79%
Friends*	11%	10%	79%
Neighbours*	27%	3%	70%

*Excludes those responding 'not applicable'; Unweighted data

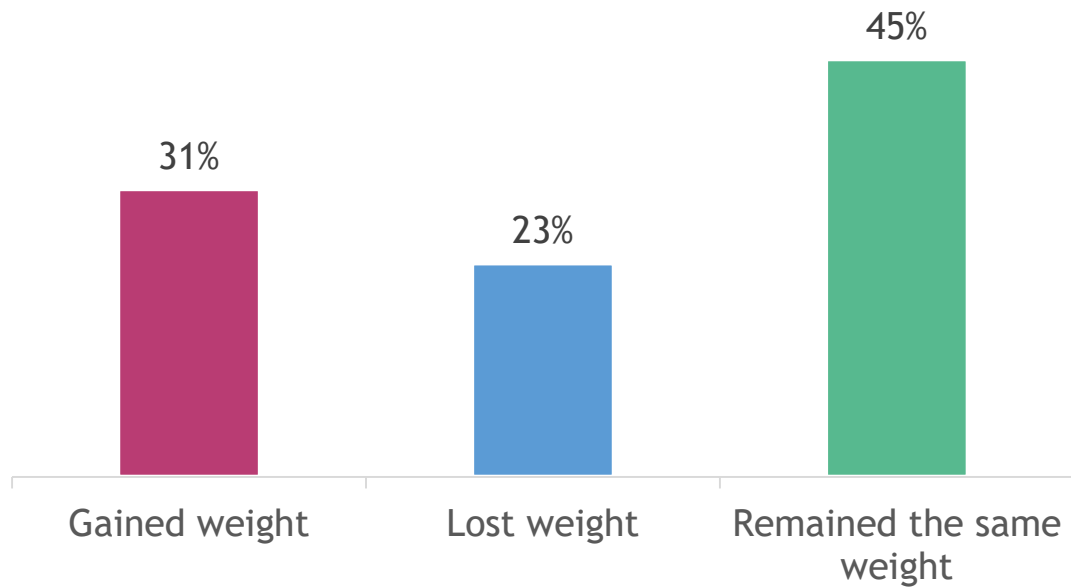
As a result of coronavirus, have you or anyone in your household...

	Yes
Been suspended from work on lower or no pay (e.g. furloughed)	28%
Had their income considerably reduced through getting less work or reduced hours	14%
Lost their job permanently	5%

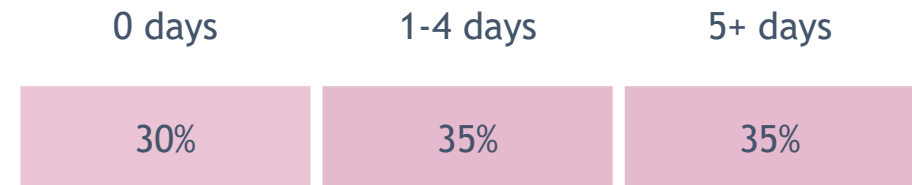
As a result of coronavirus restrictions, would you say your current financial situation is?

Worse	17%
The same	66%
Better	16%

Since lockdown started, would you say you had....



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



How are we feeling?

Feeling healthy

How healthy do you feel today?

0 = Very unhealthy; 10 = Very healthy

0-3

6%

4-6

30%

7-10

64%

Feeling happy

How happy do you feel today?

0 = Not at all happy; 10 = Completely happy

0-3

6%

4-6

22%

7-10

72%

Feeling anxious

How anxious do you feel today?

0 = Not at all anxious; 10 = Completely anxious

0-3

49%

4-6

29%

7-10

22%

How are we feeling?

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

	Lonely	Isolated
Never	69%	68%
Occasionally	21%	21%
Often	8%	7%
Always	2%	3%

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

Your mental health and wellbeing

Not at all	53%
A little	30%
A lot	17%

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Enquiries

Data and Analytics

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Analytical support

Dr Freya Glendinning

Survey Development

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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

Email

generalenquiries@wales.nhs.uk

Tel

02920 227744

Web

phw.nhs.wales

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