



Data Spotlight

Wellbeing Waterloo Region

Spotlight on data related to the impacts of COVID-19

A great deal of information is available on the impacts of COVID-19, and the information is constantly evolving.

In order to keep the WWR network informed on the emerging data and issues related to the impacts of COVID-19, in each issue of the WWR newsletter, we will share some current and timely data highlights and relevant links to Canada wide and local data sources and articles.

Readers are encouraged to visit the data source for more information about each study's methodology and full findings.

If WWR network members have suggestions for data highlights and resources to share in an upcoming issues of the newsletter please let us know by sending an email to wellbeingwr@regionofwaterloo.ca

Topic	Highlights	Source
Indigenous peoples' mental health and COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When asked how their mental health has changed since physical distancing began, 60% of Indigenous survey participants indicated that their mental health has become “somewhat worse” or “much worse” • Higher percentages of Indigenous women than Indigenous men (64% compared to 54%) reported that their mental health was “somewhat worse” or “much worse” since the start of physical distancing. • Higher proportions of Indigenous participants reported fair/poor mental health than non-Indigenous participants (38% compared to 23%). 	Indigenous people and mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic. StatCan COVID-19, July 2020.
Gaps in COVID-19 data collection for Indigenous communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous Services Canada collects data on COVID-19 cases but this does not include the number of recovered cases, the number or names of First Nations communities affected, or account for First Nations members who live off-reserve, including in long-term care facilities. • "There's all these ways in which lived realities of First Nations are not captured and represented fairly. Clearly, First Nations have less access to health care, reporting, transparency. It's frustration because you want to see people treated fairly, and considered equally." 	Data gaps exist on COVID-19 cases in Indigenous communities, says research fellow. CBC News, May 2020.
Economic impacts of COVID-19 on Indigenous communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Among those employed prior to the pandemic, 37% of Indigenous participants experienced job loss or reduced work hours, compared to 35% of non-Indigenous participants. • Among those who experienced job loss or reduced work hours, 65% of Indigenous participants reported a strong or moderate financial impact, compared to 56% among non-Indigenous participants. 	Economic impact of COVID-19 among Indigenous people. StatCan COVID-19, July 2020.

<p>Indigenous communities' sense of safety during COVID-19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Among Indigenous participants, 41% reported that they were “very” or “extremely” concerned about the impact of confinement on family stress, compared to 28% among non-Indigenous participants.• Over 1 in 5 Indigenous participants (22%) felt that people are being harassed or attacked because of their race, ethnicity or skin colour “often” or “sometimes” in their neighbourhood. In comparison, 11% of non-Indigenous participants felt the same.• Finally, 22% of Indigenous participants and 9% of non-Indigenous participants contacted resources (excluding police) for reasons related to crime, with counselor, psychologist and social worker services the most commonly reported.	<p>Perceptions of safety of Indigenous people during the COVID-19 pandemic. StatCan COVID-19, August 2020.</p>
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